ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVE: To assess the importance of predicting amniotic fluid index in postdated pregnancies as early in the third trimester to avoid adverse perinatal outcomes and reduce the rate of instrumental and caesarean deliveries.

STUDY DESIGN: It was a prospective study conducted at Govt. Mohankumaramangalam Medical College, Salem with a sample size of 300 patients who were postdated antenatal women.

METHODS: All patients of postdated antenatal women admitted at Government Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College, Salem who fulfilled the selection criteria were evaluated, laboratory investigations done, amniotic fluid index calculated by four quadrant technique using ultrasonogram, monitored intrapartum and were followed up until 28 days postnatally.

CONCLUSION: From this study, we understand the lack of education and awareness prevailing among rural women regarding the adverse effects of oligohydramnios in postdated pregnancies which increases the foetal complication. Thus AFI helps in predicting the fetal tolerance in labour. Hence this study helped greatly in knowing that there is high significance of association between advanced gestational age, mode of induction and delivery, colour of liquor, indication for LSCS in postdated and amniotic fluid index in postdated pregnancies. We must be able to achieve this right from antenatal counselling and evaluation and individualised decision regarding the timing and mode of delivery which helps in reducing the rate of caesarean section thereby helping in a better perinatal and maternal outcome.