

Intraoperative Surgical Difficulties Encountered During Repeat Caesarean Section

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Abstract

Background: Repeat caesarean sections (CS) are associated with increased intraoperative difficulties due to adhesions, abnormal placentation, and other complications. This study aims to analyze the intraoperative challenges encountered in repeat CS and assess their impact on maternal and neonatal outcomes.

Methods: A prospective observational study was conducted at KIMS & RF, Amalapuram, from December 2022 to November 2023. A total of 200 pregnant women undergoing repeat CS were included. Data were collected on intraoperative complications, adhesion severity, placental abnormalities, and surgical duration. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS software.

Results: The most common intraoperative complication was mild adhesions (48.5%), followed by dense adhesions (35%), thin lower uterine segment (26%), and uterine scar dehiscence (6.5%). The mean surgical duration was significantly higher in women with multiple previous CS (78.9 ± 33.87 mins) compared to those with a single prior CS (47.48 ± 21.35 mins, $p < 0.001$). The mean time to deliver the baby was also prolonged in women with multiple CS (4.07 ± 1.46 mins vs. 2.73 ± 1.25 mins, $p < 0.001$). Neonatal outcomes remained largely unaffected.

Conclusion: The risk of intraoperative complications increases with the number of previous CS, necessitating meticulous surgical planning and antenatal counseling to mitigate risks. Preventive strategies should focus on reducing primary CS rates and improving adhesion management techniques.