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MRI findings in pentalogy of Cantrell with ultrasound correlation a rare case report: Antenatal ultrasound, fetal echo and fetal MRI, post termination radiography and 3D CT findings with a clinical autopsy correlation

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Pentalogy of Cantrell consists of an extensive defect of the thoraco-abdominal wall, which has nearly always a lethal prognosis. The defect is characterized by the association of five anomalies: omphalocele, cardiac ectopia, absence of the distal portion of the sternum, absence of the anterior diaphragm and absence of the parietal diaphragmatic pericardium. It has a rare frequency of about 5.5 per 1,000,000 live births. There is a common association with intra cardiac anomalies such as ventricular septum defect, Tetralogy of Fallot and transposition of great vessels. The pathogenesis remains unclear. Here, I present an imaging finding with antenatal two dimensional (2D) and three dimensional (3D) ultrasound and fetal magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in 20 weeks of gestation with a multiple anomaly, based on which the diagnosis of complete pentalogy of Cantrell was given; with a brief literature review. Post mortem radiography, 3D computed tomography (CT) and clinical autopsy were performed additionally to enhance the visualization of fetal anomalies and to confirm the diagnosis. Extensive imaging of cardiac, thoracic and abdominal malformations by ultrasound and MRI is complementary for a clear diagnosis and counseling of the patient.

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