

Placento-cranial adhesion: Separate syndromic association or part of amniotic band syndrome?**Bal Chander**

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Aim: To critically examine extremely rare cases of placento-cranial adhesions and to note common features in such cases.

Method: Four intrauterine death cases showing direct attachment of placenta to fetal head were included. Complete autopsy was done and features shared by all the cases were noted.

Result: All the four cases showed placental attachment to fetal head, absence of flat bones of skull, anencephaly, dysmorphic facial features including nasal cleft, short umbilical cord and low weight for gestation and limb/digit amputation with oligohydramnios.

Conclusion: We are proposing that there are grounds for syndromic association of the features mentioned above. These cases ought to be differentiated from acrania, acalvaria and anencephaly. It might be prudent to consider placenta-cranial adhesion under separate category rather than all-inclusive amniotic band syndromes. Furthermore it is imperative that whenever such cases are identified termination of pregnancy should be considered. The article also underscores the importance of fetal autopsies.

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