

Efficacy of combination therapy with methotrexate and misoprostol in termination of pregnancy in the first trimester

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Abstract

Background: Induced abortion is the medical or surgical termination of pregnancy before fetal viability. It has maternal or fetal indications. The aim of the present study was to evaluate the efficacy of the combination of methotrexate and misoprostol for termination of the pregnancy in the first trimester. Methods: This analytic study was performed on ۱۰۰ women at the first trimester of pregnancy (<۱۴th week), during ۲۰۰۴-۲۰۰۶. Each woman received intramuscular methotrexate (۰.۰ mg/m^۲) and intravaginal misoprostol (۸۰۰ µg) ۷۲ hours after methotrexate administration. The second dose of misoprostol was administered if abortion did not occur after ۲۴ hours. Abdominal ultrasonography was performed ۷ days after abortion. Results: Of the ۱۰۰ women, ۷۶ had gestational age >۹ weeks and ۲۴ has gestational age <۹ weeks. Eighty one women (۸۱%) had successful medical abortion and ۱۹% women required curettage. Fifty nine patients with gestational age >۹ weeks and ۲۲ patients with gestational age <۹ weeks had complete abortion. Failure rate was higher in missed abortion. Required dose of misoprostol and duration of conceptus expulsion were higher in pregnancies with missed abortion. Conclusion: Combination therapy with methotrexate and misoprostol represents a safe and effective alternative to invasive methods for termination of the pregnancy in the first trimester.

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Author keywords

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Indexed Keywords

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