

Second-trimester miscarriage and the second pregnancy outcomes—A Chinese cohort study

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Abstract

Objective: This study sought to determine whether second-trimester miscarriage was associated with an increased risk of recurrent second-trimester loss and spontaneous preterm birth in the second pregnancy of Chinese gestational women. Secondary objective was to examine whether different gestational weeks of second-trimester miscarriage had different effects on the second pregnancy outcomes. **Study Design:** A retrospective cohort study was undertaken in a larger, tertiary-referral university hospital (6500 deliveries per annum). Primiparous women with a second-trimester miscarriage (n=75), a spontaneous preterm birth (n=115), and a full term delivery (n=781) were identified from January 2015 to December 2017. Medical notes were reviewed and the number of complications among the three cohorts were identified. **Results:** 1. Frequencies of subsequent second-trimester loss were 33.3%, 4.3%, and 1.2% in the second-trimester miscarriage, spontaneous preterm birth, and full-term delivery cohorts, respectively. Frequencies of subsequent spontaneous preterm birth were 24%, 38.3%, and 10.6% in the same 3 cohorts. Patients with a prior second-trimester miscarriage were 9.9 times more likely to have poor obstetric outcome, compared with those with prior full-term delivery (confidence interval 6.0 to 16.5, $P < 0.0001$). 2. Women with cerclage have lower frequency of recurrent second-trimester loss and spontaneous PTB ($P < 0.05$). 3. The frequency of poor obstetric outcome in women was 46% vs 65% vs 54% in those with index loss at less than 18 weeks, 18+1-22 weeks and longer than 22 weeks. ($P = 0.5$)

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