

Second-Trimester Anterior Cervical Angle in a Low-Risk Population as a Marker for Spontaneous Preterm Delivery

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© 2017 S. Karger AG, Basel. Objective: The aim of this article is to assess the use of the anterior cervical angle (ACA) as a predictor of spontaneous preterm delivery (sPTD) at 20+0-24+6 weeks of gestation in an unselected population. Methods: We conducted a nested case-control study that included 93 women who later delivered spontaneously <34 weeks of gestation and 225 controls. The ACA was assessed retrospectively on all selected images using ImageJ® software. The concordance correlation coefficient was determined for the assessment of interobserver variability. Continuous variables were adjusted by maternal characteristics and expressed as the z-score or multiples of the expected normal median (MoM) of the unaffected group. Logistic regression analysis was used to evaluate whether any maternal characteristics and ultrasound variables were significantly associated with sPTD <34 weeks. Results: ACA z-score values were significantly greater in women who later delivered <34 weeks compa