

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In a series of 20 cases of breech presentation at or near term with no apparent clinical cause for this malpresentation we have demonstrated by ultrasound that the placenta was situated at the cornual-fundal region in 90% of cases.

In a series of 30 cases of cephalic presentation, cornual-fundal insertion of the placenta was found in only 3.3 %. Thus one can conclude that cornual-fundal implantation of the placenta reverse the ovoid shape of amniotic sac and fetal head tends to accomodate itself to the smaller pole of the amniotic sac ovoid i.e. the uterine fundus. Therefore it appears that cornual implantation of the placenta is the principal cause of breech presentation in absence of other clinical causes of breech presentation. It was also observed that the placenta was implanted in the left cornual region in 55 % of our cases, compared to 35 % in the right cornu.

Parity appears to play a role in determining whether a breech presentation persists until term or not multiparity with its more relaxed uterus tends to nullify the power of the cornual implantation of the placenta. Spontaneous cephalic version occurs more easily.