SUMMARY

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Abortion is defined as the spontaneous or operative termination of pregnancy before fetal viability. The legal definition of viability varies from one location to another.

Spontaneous abortions are common and their exact incidence is difficult to assess, since many are clinically inapparent. It has been estimated that as many as 50% of conceptuses fail to complete their development. The etiology of spontaneous abortion is diverse, and may result from either fetal or maternal factors

The factors associated with early abortion are fetal, primarily chromosomal abnormalities and an ill defined group of immunologic incompatibilities.

Maternal factors (Cervical incompetence, developmental abnormalities in the genital tract and infections) are associated more often with mid-trimester abortions.

Previous studies were done to correlate the histopathological findings to abnormal chromosomal patterns.

This study was made to determine the histopathology of failed pregnancy in clinically symptomatic women in order to provide base line data, and to determine whether the histology of the conceptus following abortions could predict a normal or abnormal outcome.

There had been many pathologic findings in spontaneous abortions. The data set included both tissues passed spontaneously or obtained by dilatation and curettage. Samples of tissues had been submitted for routine histologic preparation and hematoxyline - eison staining.

Careful examination of products of conception might provide insight into the etiology of chromosomally normal losses, and can give a clue to the diagnosis of certain chromosomal abnormalities which have abnormal karyotypes

Characteristics of the villous circulation, placental erythrocytes, villous morphology, perivillous fibrin deposition and decidual vascular histopathology were evaluated and proved to be characteristic yet non specific for they are shared by many systemic and or fetal disorders which make the way open for further studies to correlate between the different etiologies of abortion and their specific histopathologic findings.