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EDITORIAL

Announcing the winner of the John J. Sciarra IJGO Prize Paper Award for 2010

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CLINICAL ARTICLE

Induction of labor with vaginal misoprostol plus oxytocin versus oxytocin alone

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To compare the effect of an oxytocin infusion alone or preceded by an intravaginal application of misoprostol for labor induction in women with term pregnancies and a low Bishop score. **Methods:** This study randomized 100 multiparous women with singleton pregnancies over 38 weeks and a Bishop score less than 6 to receive either a single 50- μ g dose of misoprostol intravaginally 3 hours before initiation of the oxytocin infusion or only an oxytocin infusion. The time from induction to delivery, the route of delivery, and maternal and fetal outcomes were analyzed. **Results:** The mean time from induction to delivery was 9.36 ± 1.97 hours in the misoprostol plus oxytocin group and 11.08 ± 3.23 in the oxytocin alone group ($P=0.002$). The rates of vaginal delivery, 1- and 5-minute Apgar scores, placental abruption, and postpartum hemorrhage were similar between the 2 groups, as were the rates of admission to the neonatal intensive care unit. There were no cases of perinatal asphyxia. **Conclusion:** A 50- μ g intravaginal application of misoprostol before starting the oxytocin infusion is a more effective method of labor induction than an oxytocin infusion alone for our study population.

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The editors of the *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* (IJGO) are pleased to announce the winner of the prize award for the best clinical research paper from a low/middle-income country published in the IJGO during 2010. The winning paper is by O. Balci, A.S. Mahmoud, S. Ozdemir, and A. Acar from the Meram School of Medicine, Selcuk University, Konya, Turkey. The paper is "Induction of labor with vaginal misoprostol plus oxytocin versus oxytocin alone" *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 110(1): 64–67. It was published in the July 2010 issue of the IJGO.

This award brings with it a stipend of €1000, a 1-year subscription to ScienceDirect, Elsevier's web database of journals, reference works, and book series (www.sciencedirect.com), and an award certificate for each of the authors.

All clinical research articles submitted to the IJGO from low/middle-income countries that were published in 2010 were considered for this prize. The paper was chosen from over 100 qualifying

articles. Selection was made by the editors and was endorsed by the editorial board of the IJGO.

Additional papers that are worthy of special recognition are awarded an honorable mention. While the honorable mention recognition does not include a financial award, each author receives a certificate of recognition and a letter of commendation from the editors of the IJGO.

The IJGO Prize Paper Award was established in 1998 for the purpose of encouraging investigators, especially young scientists, from low/middle-income countries to submit their best clinical research articles for publication in the Journal. The IJGO is the official publication of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), the primary international organization for the specialty of obstetrics and gynecology. FIGO is dedicated to enhancing the healthcare of women worldwide.

The following 12 papers receive an honorable mention.

Honorable mentions 2010

Malawi

B. Makanani, J. Kumwenda, N. Kumwenda, S. Chen, A. Tsui, T.E. Taha. Resumption of sexual activity and regular menses after childbirth among women infected with HIV in Malawi. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 108(1): 26–30.

Nepal

K. Regmi, J. Madison. Ensuring patient satisfaction with second-trimester abortion in resource-poor settings. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 108(1): 44–47.

China

L-Y. Hou, H-Y. Qiu, Y-Z. Zhao, X-S. Zeng, Y-M. Cheng. A crossover comparison of two types of female condom. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 108(3): 214–218.

India

P. Chaudhuri, G.B. Banerjee, A. Mandal. Rectally administered misoprostol versus intravenous oxytocin infusion during cesarean delivery to reduce intraoperative and postoperative blood loss. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 109(1): 25–29.

Tunisia

M. Fekih, K. Fathallah, L.B. Regaya, S. Bouguizane, A. Chaieb, M. Bibi, H. Khairi. Sublingual misoprostol for first trimester termination of pregnancy. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 109(1): 67–70.

Colombia

R. Murillo, J. Luna, O. Gamboa, E. Osorio, J. Bonilla, R. Cendales; INC Cervical Cancer Screening Study Group. Cervical cancer screening with naked-eye visual inspection in Colombia. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 109(3): 230–234.

Uruguay

E. Castillo-Pino, A. Sasson, J.E. Pons. Comparison of retropubic and transobturator tension-free vaginal implants for the treatment of stress urinary incontinence. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 110(1): 23–26.

Pakistan

Z. Shaikh, R.M. Abbassi, N. Rizwan, S. Abbasi. Morbidity and mortality due to unsafe abortion in Pakistan. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 110(1): 47–49.

Thailand

P. Phusaanantakul, P. Promsonthi, B. Chanrachakul. Effect of isosorbide mononitrate for cervical ripening before surgical termination of pregnancy in the first trimester. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 110(2): 145–148.

Kenya

M.M. Obimbo, J.A. Ogeng'o, H. Saidi. Variant anatomy of the uterine artery in a Kenyan population. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 111(1): 49–52.

Iran

F. Bazarganipour, M. Lamyian, R. Heshmat, M.A.J. Abadi, A. Taghavi. A randomized clinical trial of the efficacy of applying a simple acupressure protocol to the Taichong point in relieving dysmenorrhea. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 111(2): 105–109.

Egypt

R. Dabash, M.C. Ramadan, E. Darwish, N. Hassanein, J. Blum, B. Winikoff. A randomized controlled trial of 400- μ g sublingual misoprostol versus manual vacuum aspiration for the treatment of incomplete abortion in two Egyptian hospitals. *Int J Gynecol Obstet* 2010; 111(2): 131–135.

Timothy R.B. Johnson

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