

Abstract

Background:

always cesarean. However, predicting success of VBAC following Trial of Scar (TOS) is still a difficult task due to the lack of a validated prediction tool. In addition to this, feto-maternal outcome was

of association) with 95% CI was used to see the associations. A $P < 0.05$ was considered as statistically significant in all types of tests to declare significance.

Results :

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Background

Cesarean delivery is an operation done to deliver a baby through procedure worldwide. Cesarean section is one of life saving procedures and an intervention attributed to decrement of the maternal mortality and morbidity rates [1].

that, in the absence of a contraindication, a woman with one previous low transverse cesarean deliver be counseled attempt labor in a subsequent pregnancy [1]. These attempts were highly successful rates of Vaginal Birth After previous Cesarean (VBAC) increase from 3.4% to 28.3%, along with a concomitant decline in total cesarean deliver rates for the United States [2].

Vaginal Birth After Cesarean section (VBAC) is associated with shorter maternal hospitalizations, less blood loss and fewer transfusions, fewer infections and fewer thromboembolic events than cesarean deliver. Several reports have indicated that the absolute risk of uterine rupture attributable to a trial of labor is about 1 per 1000 [1-4]. A 60% to 80% success rate of vaginal birth after previous cesarean section has been reported by many authors if the primary cesarean was done for nonrecurring indications [1]. Some of the non-recurring indications for cesarean section are: poor labor progress, fetal distress, placenta previa, transverse lie, breech presentation, oblique lie, pregnancy-induced hypertension and twins [1,3,4-6].

British figures indicate that among women with a prior cesarean section, 33% will successfully achieve vaginal birth in the subsequent pregnancy. Again there was considerable variation across institutions ranging from 6% to 64% [7]. One study in Lahore reported successful vaginal deliver in 70% of the patients and repeat emergency cesarean section in 30% of the patients. The leading indications for the repeat cesarean sections were: failure to progress, fetal distress and scar tenderness. There were no maternal and fetal complications occurred. The conclusion is that VBAC is a safe practice [8].

Both, attempting a vaginal birth and opting for an Elective Repeat Cesarean Section (ERCS) are associated with different risks for the mother and newborn and deciding a deliver plan involves a difficult weighing of those cases. For years, researchers have maintained an interest in the elective prediction or identification of factors, which can influence the outcome of a TOS. The ability to predict the outcome of an attempted trial of vaginal deliver plays an important role in initial counseling of pregnant women with previous one cesarean deliver [9].

Studies on predictors of success are few and most of them conducted in developed countries and difficult to generalize for resource limited setting. There is no study that assessed fetal/maternal outcome and factors associated among mothers with previous one cesarean scar at Attat Catholic primary hospital. Hence, the objective of this study was to determine the fetal/maternal outcome of pregnancy among women with previous cesarean section who gave birth at Attat Catholic hospital and associated factors. More specifically, to assess the common mode of deliver among mothers with the previous one cesarean scar, to determine the outcome of VBAC and associated factors.

Materials and Methods

Study setting and design

The study was conducted at Aattat primary hospital Gura Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia, which is 175 km away from Addis Ababa and 410 km from regional city, Awasa.

The hospital was established in 1961 E.C by Catholic Missionaries and still now administered by them. The catchment population is 800,000, of which 51.2% females and 48.8% males. The zone has 40 health centers and 2 newly established hospitals which are government owned and all referred to this hospital. It is one of a affiliate hospital training IEOS students in conjunction with SNNPR. It has 100 beds with deliver room, which give services for parturient mothers and

other patients. The hospital has multidisciplinary staffs (Gynecologist, General Surgeon, emergency surgeon students, pharmacist, Lab. Technologist, midwives and clinical nurses). Through all the 24 hours of the week the services are provided free of charge for all laboring mother.

Hospital based cross-sectional retrospective study design was used from October 01/2015 to September 30/2016. All mothers with previous one cesarean scar who gave birth in Attat Catholic hospital were source population and all mothers with one previous cesarean scar who gave birth in Attat Catholic hospital within the study period were study population. Women with one previous lower segment cesarean section, singleton pregnancy, cephalic presentation and term gestation were included in the study. However, those women with two or more cesarean sections, previous uterine surgery like myomectomy and classical section were excluded.

Sample size

All mothers with one previous cesarean scar who gave birth within the specified period in St. Luke Catholic primary hospital were included which is 16.

Study variables

Dependent variable is success of VBAC and independent variables were age, residence, gravida, parity, LMP, AFI, follow up, GA, duration of labor, FB, cervical dilatation, station, pre-operation CT, previous indication for cesarean section, time of passage of liquor and history of vaginal birth after cesarean.

Method of data collection

Data were collected using structured, standardized data extraction format/checklist to collect patient information from deliver registration books, operation registration books and individual charts.

The checklist was prepared in English and information abstracted from medical record books. Eight data collectors were participated in the data collection process after training them for one day. Before the actual data collection, the checklist was pre-tested on 5% of the total sample size. Data collection supervision was carried out during the whole period of data collection by the supervisor. At the end of each day, the questionnaire was reviewed and cross-checked for completeness, accuracy and consistency by the investigator and corrective discussion were undertaken with collectors.

Data processing and analysis

The collected data was being checked for its completeness, entered using EpiData version 3.1 and exported to SPSS 20 for analysis. Frequency distributions of both dependent and independent variables were worked out and the association between independent and dependent variables was measured and tested using chi-square and AOR. To identify candidate predictors of VBAC, bivariate analysis was done. AOR was used at 5% confidence interval and 5% level of precision to check level of significance.

Operational definitions

Gestational age is calculated from the LMP or fundal height that was documented on the card, if not from the duration of amenorrhea documented from mothers recall and is rounded to the nearest weeks. Amenorrhea of 9 months was taken as 37-42 weeks gestation for all mothers.

Cesarean section means deliver of the fetus, membrane and placenta after 28 weeks of gestation by opening of abdomen and uterus.

Elective cesarean section operation that is done at a pre selected time before onset of labour, usually at complete 37 week.

Elective Repeat cesarean section cesarean section done at a pre selected time before onset of labour in presence of previous cesarean section.

Successful VBAO A vaginal delivery (spontaneous or assisted) in a woman had previous one cesarean section.

Parity number of births (both live birth & stillbirth) of at least 28 weeks of gestational age.

TOL trial of labor after cesarean section to achieve VBAO.

Station Degree of engagement of the presenting part, measured as distance in centimeters or between the fetus (s) T0(t) 5 (im)tf nme f0b0 (a) (r)13 (e) 6 (a)8. 0 (a) si1 7 (fg)18p0 0 sc35 T1[(p)22 (a) (r) 6 n.

Maternal and neonatal outcome

There was no maternal death during the study period, laparotomy were done for three scar dehiscence (2%) and 6 (3.6%) of mother had hemoglobin <7 and transfused blood. Majority of neonate with birth weights between 2500-4000 gm 161 (5%), 127 (75.1%) of neonate with first minute APGAR score of ≥ 7 and 3 (1.8%) fetal death occurred (Table 4).

Factors associated with success of VBAC

The association between independent variables and success of VBAC was checked by binary logistic regression model to identify candidate variables ($p < 0.25$). During bivariate analysis, parity (OR 13.12, 5% CI: 4.34, 75), passage of liquor at admission (OR 0.230, 5% CI: 0.116, 0.457), the indication for previous cesarean section (OR 0.53, 5% CI: 0.14, 0.1), cervical dilation at admission (OR 3.6, 5% CI: 1.877, 6.03) and history of vaginal birth after cesarean section (OR 0.46, 5% CI: 0.020, 0.103) were candidate variables identified for the final model.

In multivariate logistic regression after it was adjusted for the variables in the model, women who had passage of liquor at admission (AOR: 0.25, 5% CI: 0.084, 0.733), history of vaginal birth after cesarean (AOR: 1.88, 5% CI: 0.084, 0.733), cervical dilation at admission (AOR: 8.171, 5% CI: 3.303, 34.473) and type of indication for previous

cesarean section (AOR: 0.703, 5% CI: 0.014, 0.364) were significant factors associated with success of VBAC.

One fourth (75%) of mothers who had passage of liquor at admission were less likely to have successful VBAC when compared to no history of passage of liquor at admission. These mothers who had history of vaginal birth after cesarean section were almost 2 times more likely to have successful VBAC than counterparts. These mothers who had dilated cervix at admission (≥ 4 cm) were 8 times more likely to have successful VBAC than counterparts. One third (30%) of mothers with RF as an indication for previous cesarean section were less likely to have successful VBAC than those mothers with unknown indication (Table 5).

Discussions

Previous cesarean section was said to constitute the highest single indication for repeated cesarean section because obstetricians still regard vaginal birth after previous cesarean section as a high risk option. This study revealed that common mode of delivery was repeated cesarean section 104 (61.5%) and PPD was the major indication for repeated cesarean section that may be due to inappropriate diagnoses of PPD. This study was conducted with the main objective of identifying factors associated with successful vaginal delivery on mothers on elective trial of labor after previous one lower segment cesarean section. Significant factors were passage of liquor at admission, history of vaginal birth after cesarean, cervical dilation at admission and type of indication for previous cesarean section were significant factors associated with success of VBAC.

The VBAC success rate varied from place to place 45.5% (in our study) was approximately similar with reported from three teaching hospitals such as Agha Ababa, Begum, Nigeria 4%, 43.2% and 50% respectively [5, 10]. But our finding is lower than the rate of VBAC in Tanzania which was 55%, 6% in Avana Nigeria teaching hospital, 62.3% in India and 72.1% in Kuwait and higher than the reported from USA 2% [3, 4, 11-13]. This discrepancy may be due to the variety type of indication diagnosed and applied for the previous cesarean section. Most probably, if true PPD is an indication for the previous cesarean section, VBAC will fail. Other indications may not appear during trial of VBAC that is why the success rate is near to half. Our study revealed that successful VBAC was observed in 65 (45.5%) which was relatively lower than the standard accounts 60-80%.

In this study, the strongest predictor determining success of VBA2 was cervical dilatation at admission. Those who were admitted with cervical diameter greater ≥ 4 cm (Active first stage of labour) had a strong likelihood of vaginal delivery than those admitted at cervical diameter of < 4 cm (latent first stage of labour). This is due to high frequency of false labour and slow progress in the latter which is the same finding with another study done in Addis Ababa, Malawi, Kuwait [4,8,10]. Many authors reported previous vaginal birth was the single best predictor for successful VBA2 [1,3,8-10].

Those mothers with fetal distress were indicated for previous cesarean section has been found associated with high success of VBA2 than unknown indication. Prolonged and failed progress of labor were the main cause of failure which was the same result with Awana Specialist Hospital, Lagos, teaching hospitals in India [14,15]. Passage of liquor at admission was good prognostic factor which was having same finding with research done in Addis Ababa and other studies in Kuwait [4,]. In our case parity is not a significant factor at the national model. However, multiparity were associated with high success rate of VBA2 in another study. This discrepancy might be happened due to the sample size smaller in our case and other studies emphasized that increases in the number of vaginal deliveries increases the chances of having a successful VBA2, the same finding with Abu Dhabi and opposite to study in Addis Ababa [8,].

In this study, maternal age, gestational age, duration of labor at admission, station at the time of admission and birth weight were not found significant determinants. However, Birth weight was one of the major predictor in another study [4,8]. Gestational age was not found as significant predictor of success of VBA2 in our study. There are reports which found that gestational age above ≥ 40 weeks is associated with poor success [4,8]. In our case, the finding could also be confounded by high number of unknown dates and ascertainment of correct date was not possible.

Perinatal and maternal outcome of labor were recorded among women who had trial of VBA2 in this study were 3 scar rehescence similar with research done in Tanzania 2%, India 2% and 3 perinatal death and no maternal death occurred which is similar finding with

Malawi 2 deaths [12,16]. Infection 5 (4.8%), pph 4 (3.8%) were the major intra and post operation short term complication observed. However, when we compare these complications, it was higher than occurred during vaginal birth (VBA2). There is no difference in the first and minimum APGAR score.

Possible limitations of this study were the clinical part of data abstracted from the secondary data or patient's chart. This finding may be biased by the physician's knowledge and skill who followed and performed the procedures as well as documenting reliable information on the chart. In addition, we might miss other important variables due to incompleteness and unavailability of formats in the chart. The design is not strong enough to show cause and effect relationship rather it reveals with temporary factors which affect the outcome observed at a time. This finding may not be generalizable to the target population because of non-probability sampling technique used at a single facility.

Conclusion

Out of 16 mothers with previous one cesarean scar, 104 (61.5%) of them were undergone Trial of Labor (TOL). Of this, successful VBA2 was observed in 65 (45.5%) which was relatively lower than the standard 60-80%. Passage of liquor at admission, history of vaginal birth after cesarean section, cervical dilatation at admission > 4 cm and indication (RF R) for previous cesarean section were significant factors associated with success of VBA2.

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Consent to Publish

Availability of Data and Materials

All authors declare that they have no financial and non-financial competing interests. None of the authors of this paper has a financial or personal relationship with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence or bias the content of the paper. It is to specifically state that "No Competing interests are at stake and there is No Conflict of Interest" with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence or bias the content of the paper.

Authors Contributions

and Mahlet Tesfaye worked a lot in acquisition of data and reviewed the manuscript for the intellectual content. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

References