Ectopic pregnancy

Current Care Summary
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Working group set up by the Finnish Medical Society Duodecim and The Finnish Gynaecological Association

Ectopic pregnancy should be suspected if a woman of fertile age has lower abdominal pain and irregular vaginal bleeding. Symptoms range from almost none to shock.

The diagnosis is based on a quantitative serum pregnancy test (hCG) and transvaginal ultrasound.

An acute situation requires emergency surgery, whereas patients with mild symptoms should be treated polyclinically by follow-up or a single intramuscular dose (1mg/kg) of methotrexate. No folic acid supplementation is needed. In later pregnancies their location should be verified by transvaginal ultrasound done by the seventh gestational week at the latest.

Juha Mäkinen (Chair)
Mira Töyli
Marko Niemimaa
Pekka Kulju
Tarja Sokka
Piia Vuorela

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