

ABSTRACT

Biochemical Variables In The Prediction Of Preeclampsia In Trinidad

Vitra Gian Kaur Bahadoorsingh

Serum calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, creatinine and uric acid and urinary calcium, magnesium, phosphorus and creatinine were monitored at monthly intervals in a group of one hundred previously normotensive pregnant women. In patients who developed preeclampsia, urinary calcium, magnesium and creatinine decreased significantly in the third trimester of pregnancy, but not in the second trimester. On the other hand, levels of phosphorus in urine, and levels of all biochemicals monitored in serum were not significantly changed in preeclampsia as compared to normotensive levels. In a continued study, eighty primigravidas were monitored bi-weekly. Patterns of urinary calcium, magnesium and creatinine levels during the third trimester can allow prediction of preeclampsia by 3-4 weeks. However, several samples are required to allow the changes to be accurately monitored, and prediction of the onset of preeclampsia to be made. Determination of plasma fibronectin during the third trimester did not predict preeclampsia in mild hypertensives, but can be used to assess the severity of the condition.