Reviewer’s report

Title: Shearing-Force Injury of a Kidney Transplant Graft During Cesarean Section: A Case Report and Review of the Literature

Version: 0 Date: 05 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Alex Farr

Reviewer's report:

This is a very interesting case-report regarding a case with an injured transplant graft at the time of repeated c-section due to adherence of the organ to the fascia. Generally, the topic is increasingly important, the manuscript is easy to read and well-written. However, there are some minor points which I would like to address, in particular regarding the conclusions that are drawn from one single case.

- The authors are reporting one single-case of an injured transplant graft. Due to this case, I would not draw any conclusions, especially not giving any recommendation concerning the incision. It is well known that a horizontal Pfannenstiel incision is superior to the vertical incision that the authors do recommend in this context, e.g. due to wound healing and cosmetic reasons. I would therefore soften the conclusion, as well as the title of the paper. The title could e.g. be adapted to "Shearing-force injury of a kidney transplant graft during cesarean section: a case report".

- There is an impressive body of literature available regarding pregnancies and deliveries after renal transplantation. One study in particular reports on "ultra-high-risk pregnancies" (Farr et al. EJOGRB 2014), where e.g. women after renal transplantation plus e.g. placenta percreta, twins, previous cardiac transplantation, etc. undergo uneventful c-section. I would include this reference and refer to their patients, as well as to the methods they used, including preoperative MRI to better plan the c-section.

- At our department we routinely (i) read the operation report of the kidney transplantation, (ii) perform ultrasound to better localize the graft, and - if necessary - (iii) perform MRI to better localize the graft. This is part of the preoperative counseling to better plan the c-section and avoid complications. This point should be highlighted in the manuscript, rather than giving a recommendation for a vertical incision.

- More literature regarding c-section incisions (Pfannenstiel vs vertical) should be included, to extend the case-report to a "case-report and review of the literature" article. This is currently lacking in this context.

- I would appreciate the perinatal and neonatal outcome parameters in a table.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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