

Fetal thoracic abnormalities

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Outline

- Normal fetal chest imaging
- Fetal pleural effusions
- Echogenic lung lesions
 - Solid/cystic
- Congenital diaphragmatic hernia

Normal fetal chest imaging

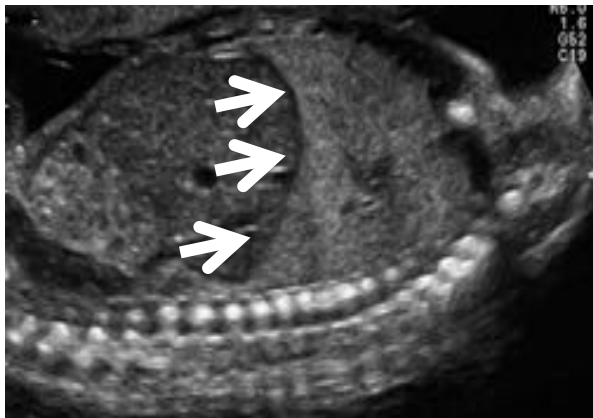
4-chamber view

- Axial (single ribs)
- Cardiac axis/mediastinal shift
- Echogenicity (lung>liver)
- Anechoic/cystic structures

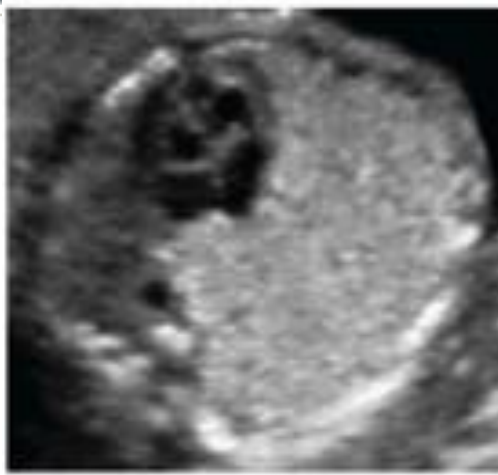


Sagittal view

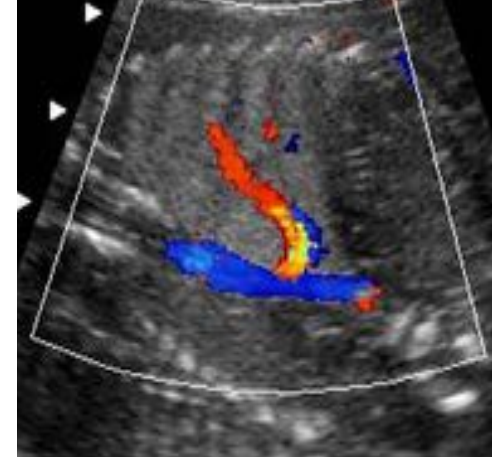
- Hypoechoic/dome-shaped diaphragm



1. Mediastinal shift



2. Abnormal echogenicity



3. Cystic lesions/
fluid collections



Pleural effusions

Antenatal Evaluation

1: 15 000

Primary effusions (chylothorax)

Exclude secondary causes

- Immune/non-immune hydrops
- Genetic/structural abnormalities
- Infections
- Fetal anemia



Maternal

CBC, Group & screen, Hb electrophoresis

Betke-Kleihauer

TORCH, PB₁₉ serologies

Fetal

Detailed anatomical survey

- Structural malformations (10-15%)
- Congenital infection
- Anemia (MCA PSV)

Echocardiogram

Karyotype, microarray, Noonan syndrome

- Aneuploidy ~ 4.5-9.5% (T21, 45 X0)

Thoracocentesis/ shunt

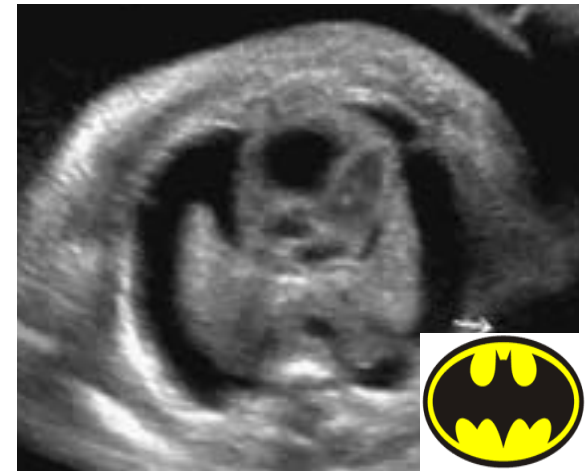
- Lymphocytes >80%?
- Genetic testing, TORCH PCR

U/S features

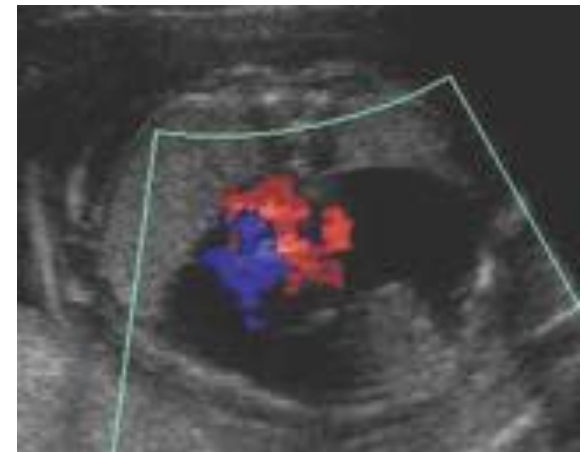
- ☐ **Freely floating lungs (“bat wing”)**
- ☐ **Unilateral vs. bilateral**
- ☐ **Mediastinal shift**
- ☐ **Hydrops (60-70%)-** 2ry to pleural effusions?
 - Serial progression
 - Upper body edema
 - Pleural fluid > other compartments
 - No placentomegaly/ structural abnormalities

Poor prognostic indicators:

Rapid progression
Significant mediastinal shift
Hydrops
Associated structural/genetic malformations



Pleural effusion



Pericardial effusion

Primary pleural effusions: Outcomes



Spontaneous resolution (~20%)¹

- Small, unilateral, no hydrops

Progression (↑ intrathoracic pressure)

- Pulmonary hypoplasia
 - Predictors? Duration/onset of effusion?
- Esophageal compression
 - Polyhydramnios → PPROM/PTL
- Fetal hydrops
 - Cardiac/mediastinal compression & ↓ venous return → heart failure → death

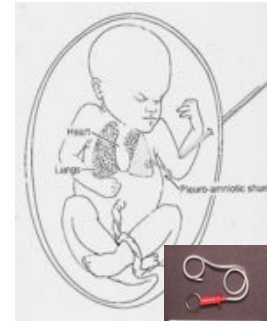
Without treatment, overall survival ~60%²

- ~75% in non-hydropic fetuses
- ~35% in hydropic fetuses

¹Aubard et al. Fetal Diagn Ther 1998; 13: 325-33

²Rustico et al. Prenat Diagn 2007; 27: 793-799

Management: Primary pleural effusions



- Expectant management
 - Small, primary effusions
 - Minimal mediastinal shift/ no hydrops
 - **WEEKLY US surveillance**
- Pleural decompression
 - Thoracocentesis (re-accumulate ~75%)
 - Pleuroamniotic shunting (PAS) (↑ survival)
 - *Pleurodesis (OK-432)²
- Predictors of survival:
 - Hydrops reversal, GA at delivery



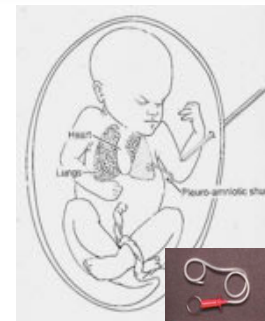
Hydrops or severe mediastinal shift, polyhydramnios

¹Aubard et al. Fetal Diagn Ther 1998; 13: 325-33

²Rustico et al. Prenat Diagn 2007; 27: 793-799

³O'Brien et al. Fetal Diagn Ther 2015; 37(4): 259-66

Management



Comparison of outcomes between large single-center pleural shunt series for primary pleural effusions.

References	Number of cases		GA at delivery (weeks)	Hydrops resolution %	Perinatal survival		
	Total	Hydropic %			Overall %	Hydropic %	Nonhydropic %
Pettersen et al. (1997) [38]	69	59	36 (23–41)	46	68	46	100
Picone et al. (2004) [37]	47	100	34 (22–40)	89	66	66	—
Smith et al. (2005) [36]	21	76	32 (22–40)	N/A	48	44	60
Rustico et al. (2007) [11]	53	81	N/A	N/A	64	58	90
Yinon et al. (2010) [12]	132	62	34 (19–42)	47.5	65.2	38	62
& unpublished data)							
Walsh et al. (2011) [43]	15	60	N/A	N/A	53	33	83
Pellegrinelli et al. (2012) [39]	27	74	31 (27–35)	78	52	47	85
Miyoshi et al. (2013) [44]	15	73	NA	N/A	60	46	100
Total	335	59-100%	32.7	46-89%	48-68%	33-66%	60-100%

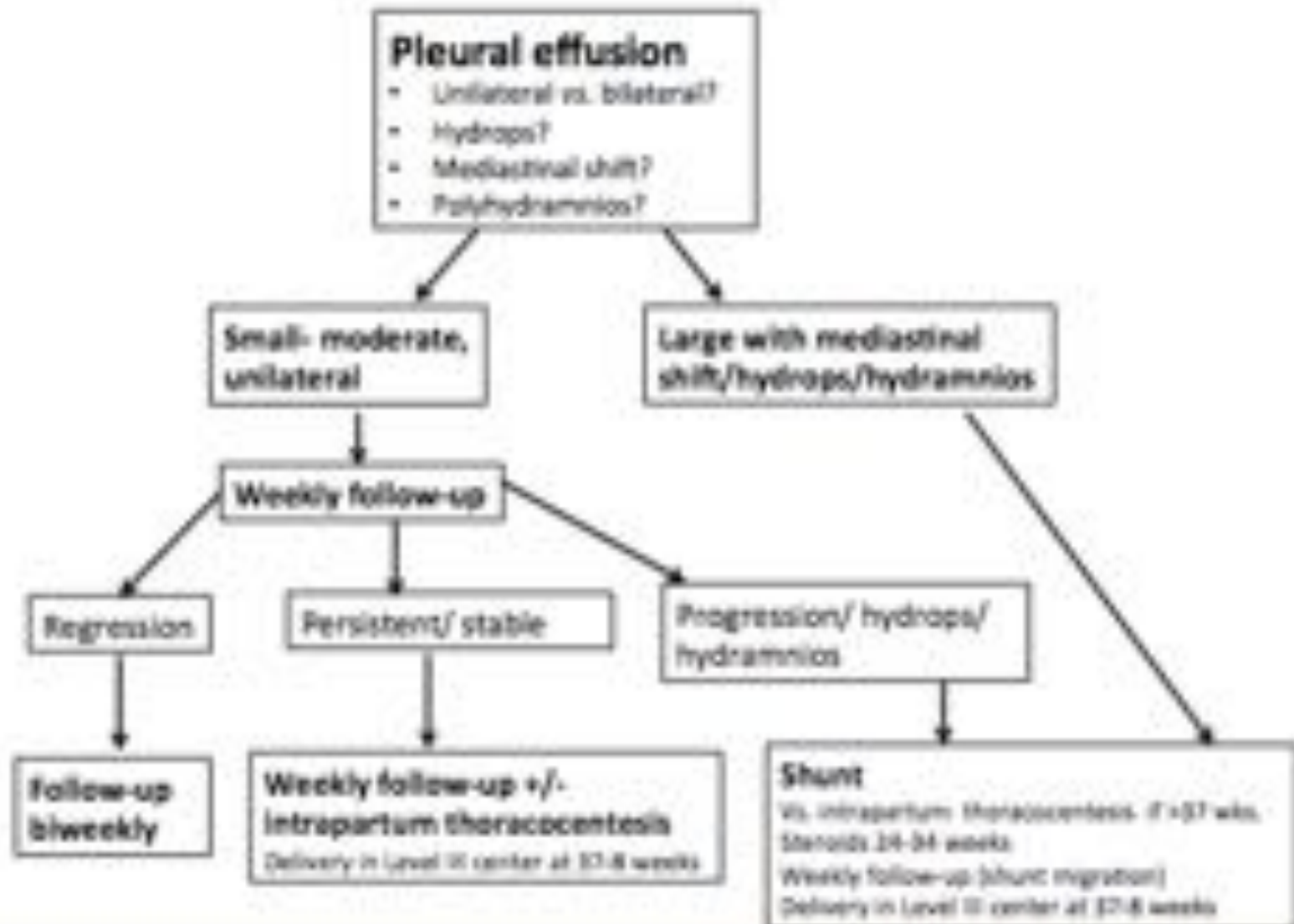
Predictors of survival:

- ↑ GA at delivery
- Hydrops resolution

Complications (~9%)

- PTB <37 wks 80%
- PPROM 6-15%, chorioamnionitis ~9%
- Shunt dislodgment 7-15%

Pleural effusions: Summary



Echogenic lung lesions

Echogenic lung lesions

Solid lesions

Cystic adenomatoid malformation (microcystic)
Bronchopulmonary sequestration
Mediastinal teratoma
Rhabdomyoma
Right sided congenital diaphragmatic hernia
Tracheal/laryngeal atresia

Cystic lesions

Cystic adenomatoid malformation (macrocytic)
Bronchogenic cyst
Mediastinal encephalocele
Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
Pericardial and pleural effusions
Congenital lobar emphysema

Bush *et al.* Prenat Diagn. 2008; 28: 604-611

Most common lesions:

1. Congenital cystic adenomatoid malformations (CCAM)
2. Pulmonary sequestration (PS)
3. Congenital high airway obstruction (CHAOS)

Although prenatal prediction of pathologic diagnosis (CCAM/ BPS) is poor, management of echogenic lung lesions is similar

CCAM/Congenital pulmonary airway malformation (CPAM)

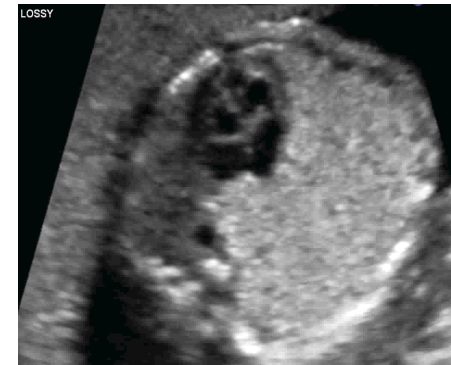
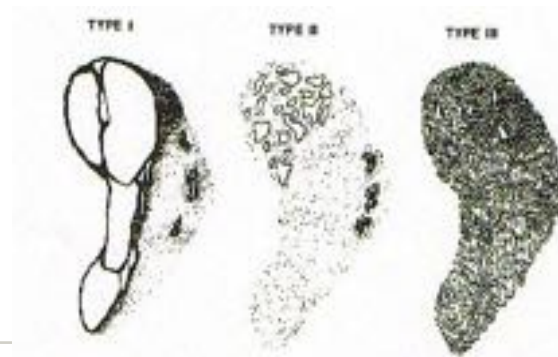
- Bronchiolar-like airspace proliferation
- Lack normal alveoli/vascular supply
- Tracheobronchial tree communication

Histological (Stocker)¹

Type I Few large cysts

Type II Multiple small cysts

Type III Large “solid” mass



Ultrasound²

Macrocystic (22%)

- Single/multiple cysts > 5mm

Microcystic (53%)

- Cysts < 5mm/solid echogenic mass

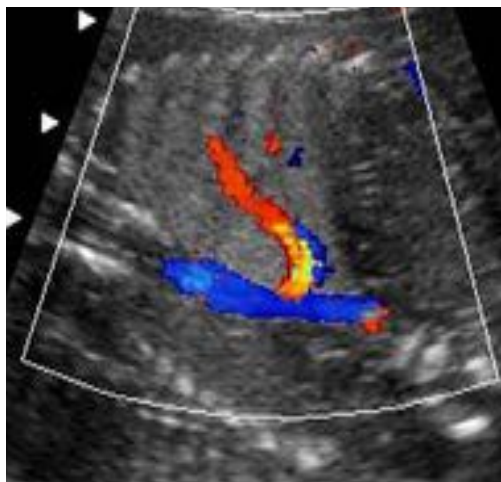
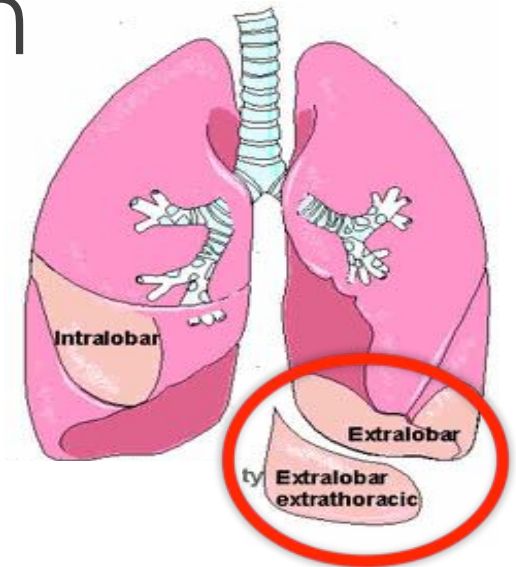
Mixed (~25%)

¹ Stocker JT. Hum Pathol. 1977;8(2):155-71

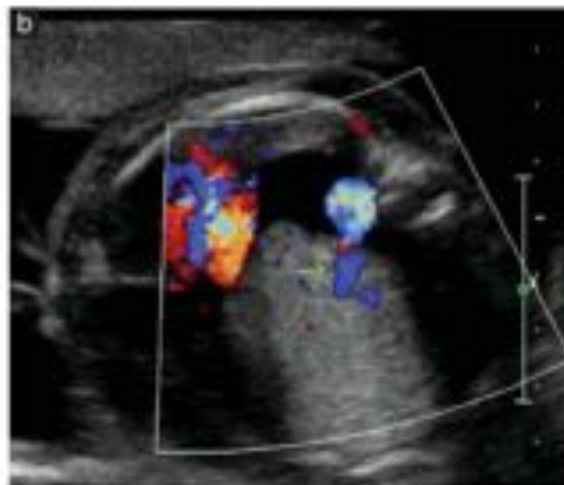
² Adzick S. J Ped Surg 1985;20:483

Pulmonary sequestration

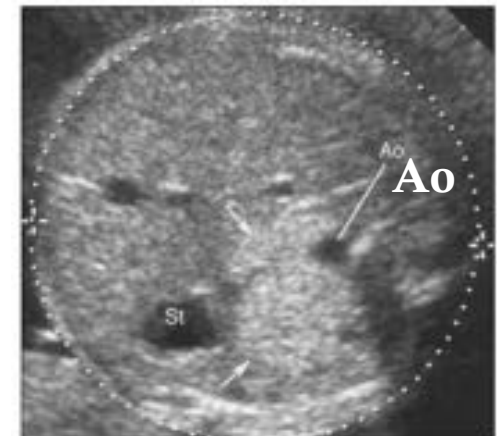
- Non-functioning bronchopulmonary tissue
- No communication to tracheobronchial tree
- Solid, triangular, echogenic mass
 - Left>Right
 - Supradiaphragmatic (90%)
- Associated anomalies (CDH*, bronchopulmonary foregut malformations)



Systemic feeding vessel



Pleural effusion (6-10%)



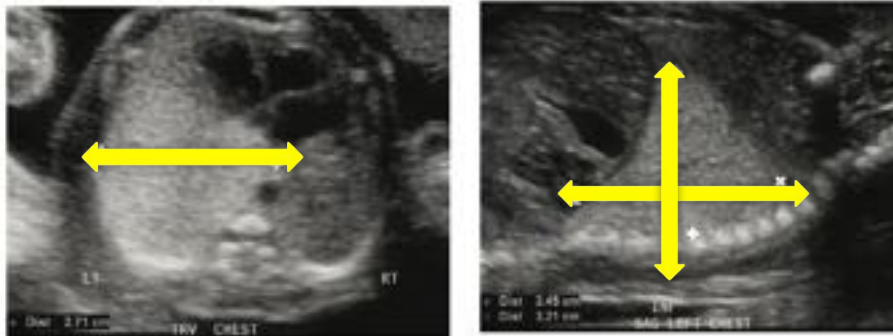
Subdiaphragmatic PS

CCAM & PS: Natural history

	Antenatal regression	Overall survival (no treatment)
PS (n=95)	40%	96%

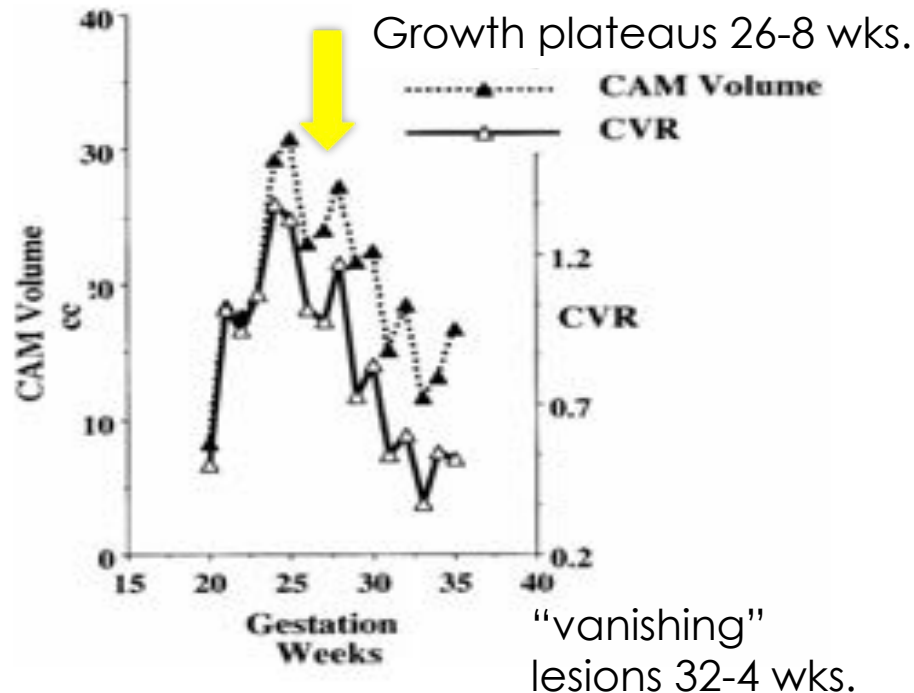
CCAM (n=645)	~30% (mostly microcystic)	97% Postnatal Sx ~60%
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CCAM volume ratio (CVR)



$$\text{CVR} = \frac{\text{AP} \times \text{TRV} \times \text{length} \times 0.523}{\text{Head circumference}}$$

(all measurements taken in centimeters)



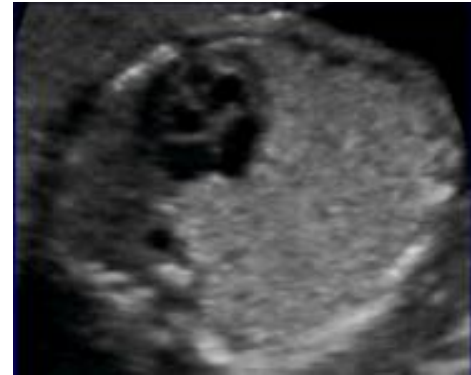
CVR ≤ 1.6:
3% risk of hydrops in
absence of a dominant
cyst*

CVR > 1.6:
~75% hydrops

***Macrocytic CCAM:**
Differing growth of cystic
components & sudden
increase in cyst size less well
tolerated

US Assessment

- ☐ **Micro- vs. macrocystic vs. mixed**
- ☐ **Vascularity** (pulmonary vs. systemic)
- ☐ **Mass effect**
 - ☐ Mediastinal shift
 - ☐ Flattening/inversion of diaphragm
 - ☐ Polyhydramnios
 - ☐ CVR
- ☐ **Hydrops**
- ☐ **Structural anomalies (*PS)**



Microcystic



Mixed



Macrocystic



Flattening/inversion of diaphragm



Prenatal management: CCAM & PS

Hydrops or
severe mediastinal
shift, CVR>1.6,
polyhydramnios

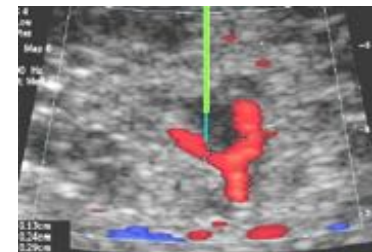
Fetal lobectomy¹

- Survival 52% (28/54)
- *Risks PPRM, PTL, abruption, pulmonary edema, hemorrhage, uterine rupture/dehiscence



Steroids²

- Induce maturation of pulmonary cells/ interrupt lesion growth
- Survival 93% (single course) vs. 86% (multiple)



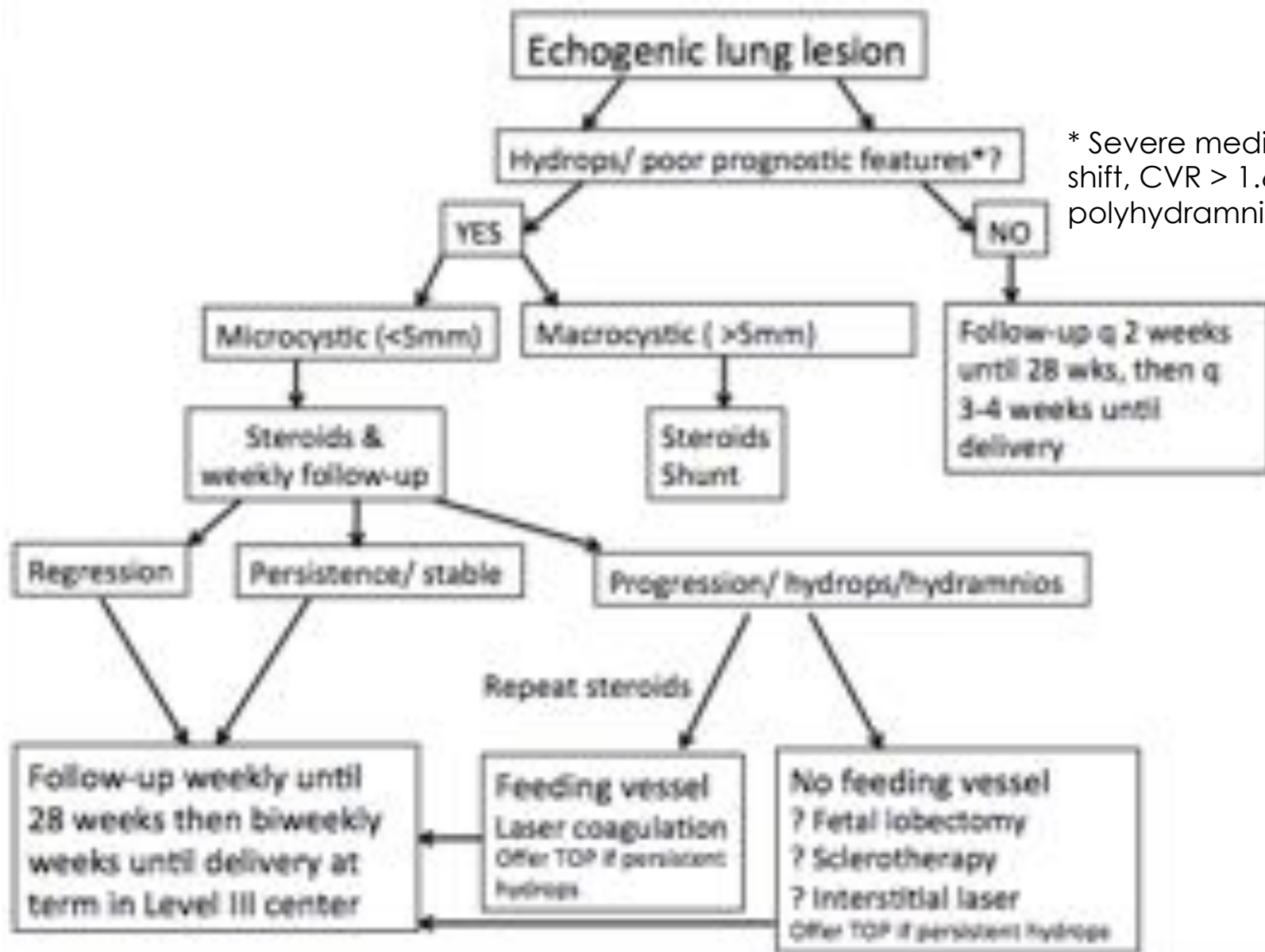
600 μ Nd:YAG laser fibre

Minimally invasive therapy³

- Shunts (macrocytic CCAM, PS + effusion)
- Laser, RFA, sclerotherapy

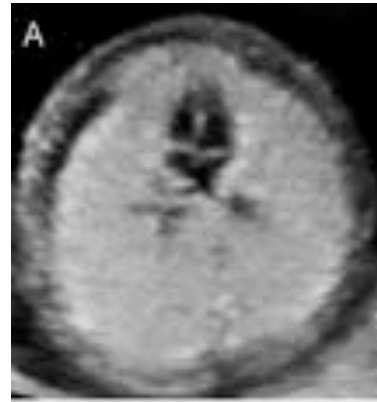


Radiofrequency ablation (RFA)



Congenital High Airway Obstruction (CHAOS)

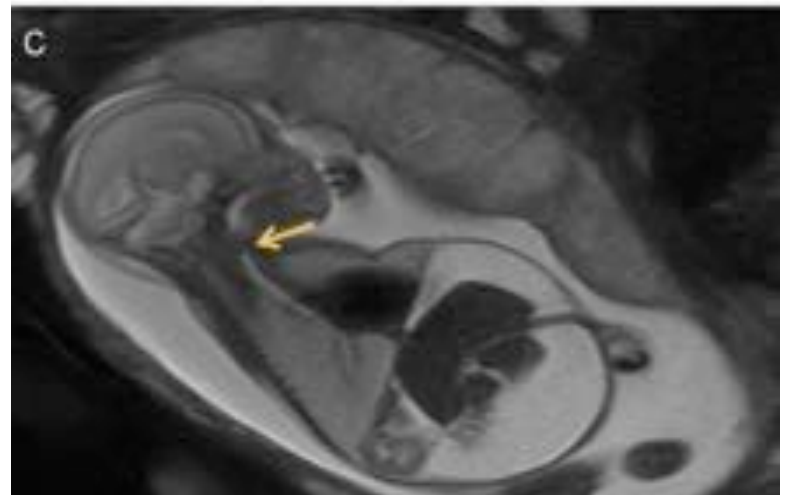
- Laryngeal/tracheal atresia/stenosis
- Laryngeal webs/ cysts
- US features:
 - Enlarged, echogenic lungs
 - Dilated tracheobronchial tree
 - Anteriorly, displaced heart
 - Hydrops/polyhydramnios/ “mirror”
- Highly lethal



Central heart



Dilated trachea



Inverted diaphragm, ascites

Congenital diaphragmatic hernia

CDH- background

1/2500-1/5000 (*hidden mortality)

- ~85% left sided
- 13% right sided
- 2 % bilateral
- Rarely: eventration/ complete diaphragmatic agenesis

© UZ Leuven



LCDH liver 'down'

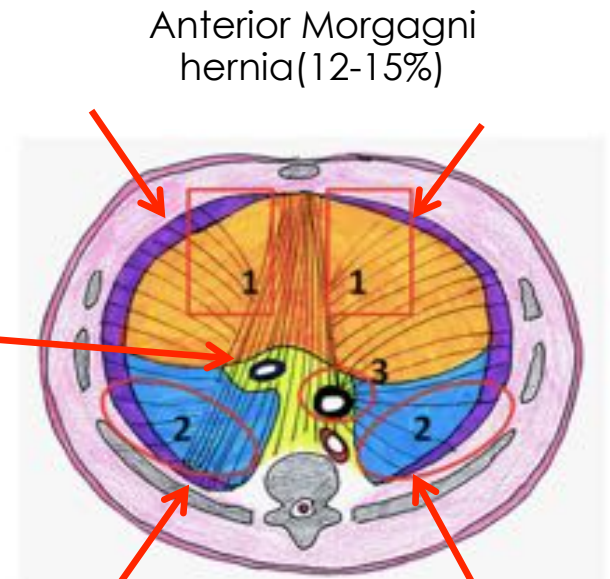


LCDH liver 'up'



RCDH

Central
hiatal
hernia
(2-5%)



Anterior Morgagni
hernia(12-15%)

Posterior Bochdalek hernia
(70-90%)
Small bowel, stomach spleen,
liver

Associated abnormalities

Genetic abnormalities¹

Chromosomal Anomalies

1. Aneuploidies

Tetrasomy 12p (Pallister-Killian syndrome) CDH, cardiac defects, shortened limb, central nervous system anomalies, craniofacial dysmorphism, nuchal skin edema, skin pigmentation, hydrops, polyhydramnios¹¹

Full trisomies Trisomy 21, 18, 13, 22, 16

Translocation der (22) t(11; 22) (q23; q11) CDH, cardiac defects, craniofacial dysmorphism, growth restriction⁴⁸

Monosomy 15q CDH, cardiac defects, growth restriction, pulmonary hypoplasia, facial dysmorphism, clinodactyly and brachydactyly, talipes and a single umbilical artery¹²

Partial deletion/monosomy 4p (Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome) CDH, facial dysmorphism, microcephaly, cardiac defects, growth restriction¹³

Deletions Chromosome 11p23.1, chromosome 1q41-1q42,¹⁴ Xp21-Xp22¹⁵

Microdeletion syndromes 16p11.2 deletions,¹⁶ 15q24 deletions¹⁷

2. Mendelian disorders

GPC3; Xq26 (Simpson-Golabi-Behmel syndrome) CDH, macrosomia, craniofacial dysmorphism, postaxial polydactyly, hypoplastic nails, developmental delay¹⁸

IGF2/H19/p57KIP2 and other genes: 11p15.5 Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome CDH, macrosomia, omphalocele, macroglossia, neonatal hypoglycemia¹⁹

HCCS; Xp Microphthalmia with linear skin defects CDH, cardiomyopathy, microphthalmia, dermal aplasia²⁰

PORCN; Xp22 Goltz syndrome CDH, focal dermal hypoplasia, dental hypoplasia, syndactyly²⁰

EFNB1; Xp22 Craniofrontonasal syndrome CDH, coronal synostosis, hypertelorism, digital anomalies²¹

WT1; 11p13 Denys-Drash syndrome CDH, nephromegaly, glomerulopathy, growth 90th centile, male pseudohermaphroditism²¹

Syndromes with unknown genes

Fryn's syndrome Left-sided CDH, pulmonary hypoplasia, hypoplasia of the distal phalanges and nails, facial dysmorphism, orofacial clefting, hydrocephalus and neuronal heterotopias, cardiac defects, renal dysplasia and genitourinary malformations²²

Gershoni-Baruch syndrome CDH, omphalocele and radial ray malformations²³

Carroll's pentalogy Anterior CDH, omphalocele, bifid sternum, ectopia cordis and congenital heart defects as ventricular septal defects and ventricular dilatation²⁴

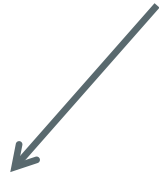
- Isolated ~ 60-70%, survival ~60%
- Associated structural and genetic abnormalities in 30-40%, survival ~15%¹
 - Cardiovascular (25-50%)
 - GU (5-10%)
 - CNS (1-10%)
 - MSK (1-15%)
 - GI (2-10%)
 - Chest (BPS/CCAM 2-5%)

Largest CDH series (n=256 CDH), chromosome & subchromosome abnormalities in ~6%²

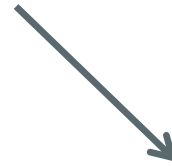
¹Russo *et al.* Prenatal Diagnosis. 2018;38:629–637

²Yu *et al.* J Med Genet 2012; 49: 650-59

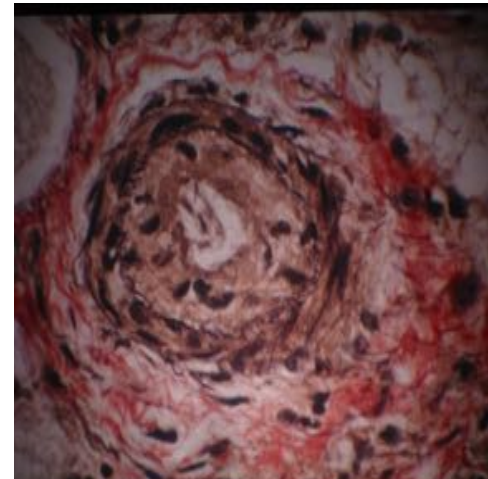
Neonatal morbidity & mortality



Pulmonary hypoplasia

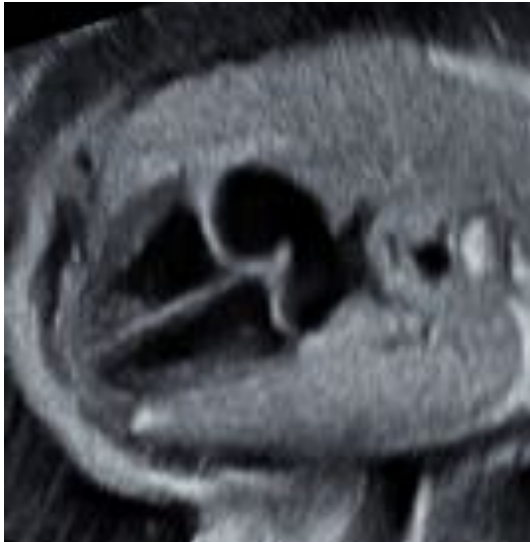


Pulmonary hypertension



Antenatal prognostication

Mediastinal shift



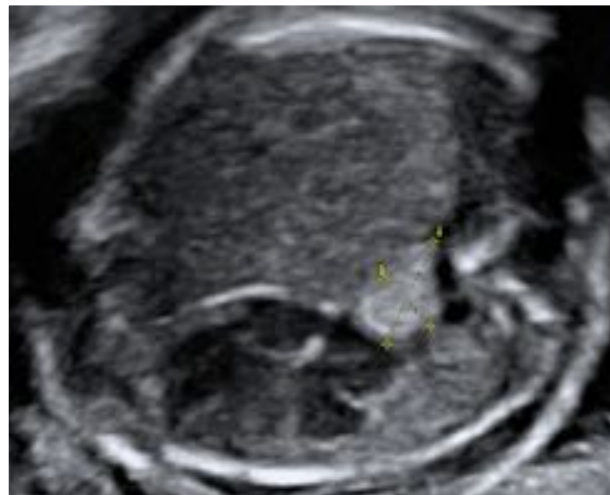
Abnormal
echogenicity



Left CDH (isolated
"dextrocardia"/dextroposition)



Left CDH- Stomach up



Right CDH

Left CDH- Stomach down



Dextrocardia/ dextroposition



Gall bladder & bladder



Stomach & bladder

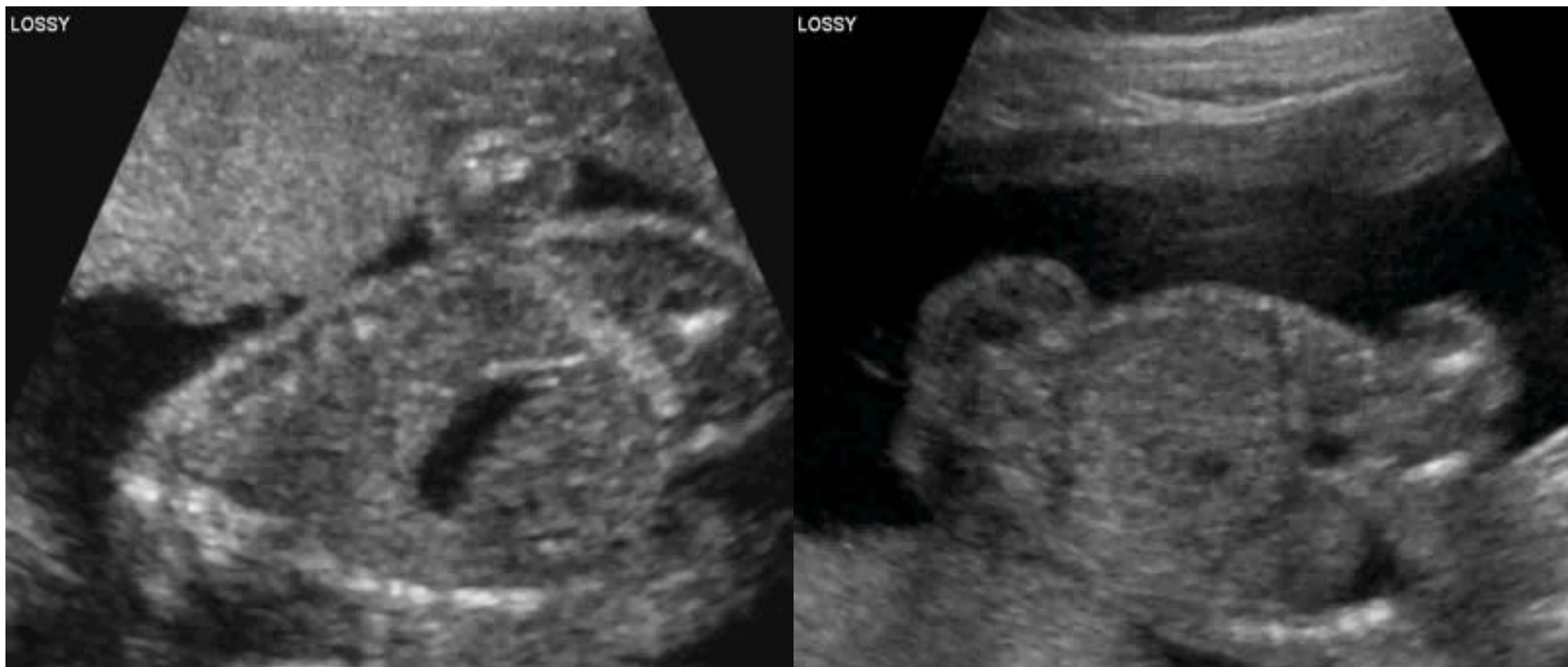


Gall bladder, stomach & bladder

Normal fetal
breathing



Paradoxical
Respiration



Normal
Diaphragm



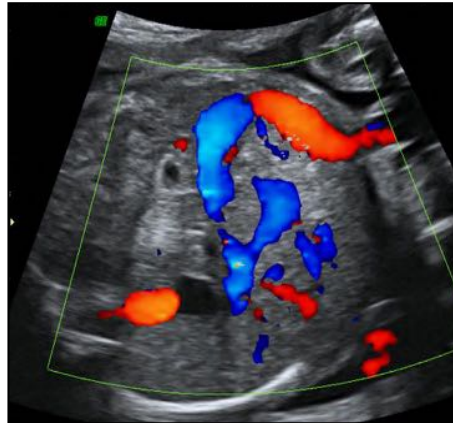
Left CDH



Liver herniation



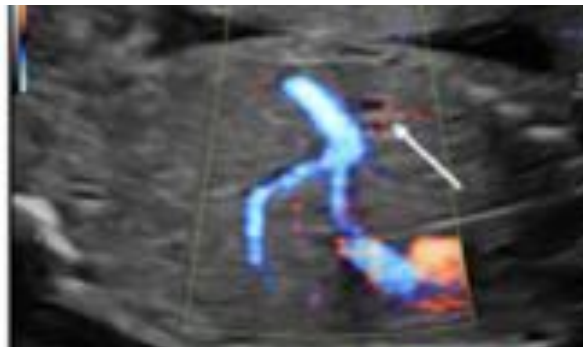
Abnormal gall bladder & ductus venosus position



Retrocardiac
stomach position

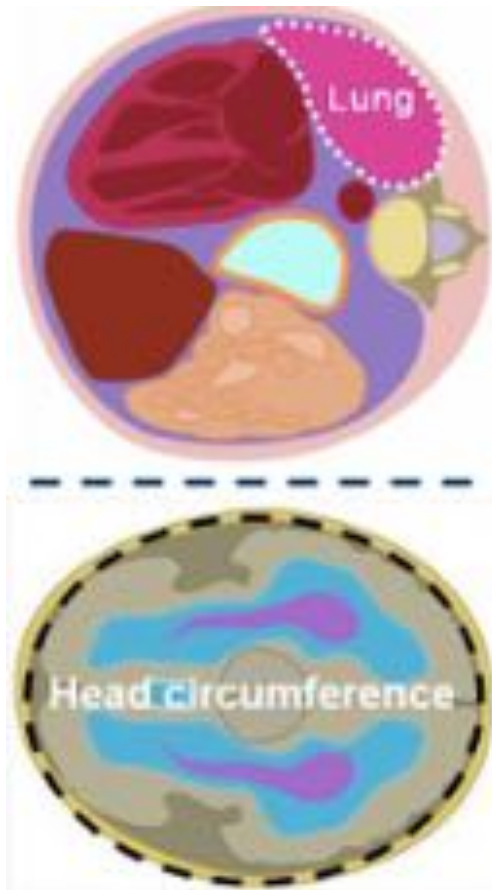


Bowing of portal vein



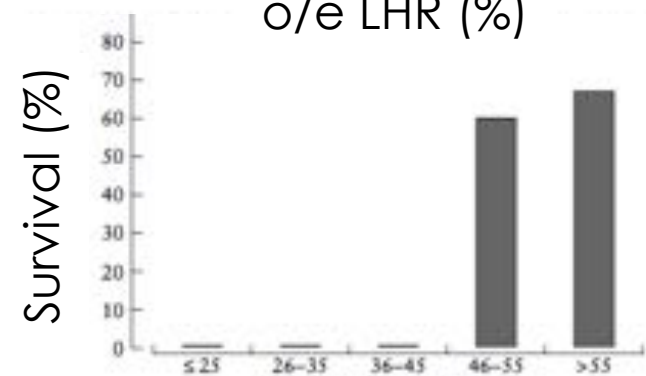
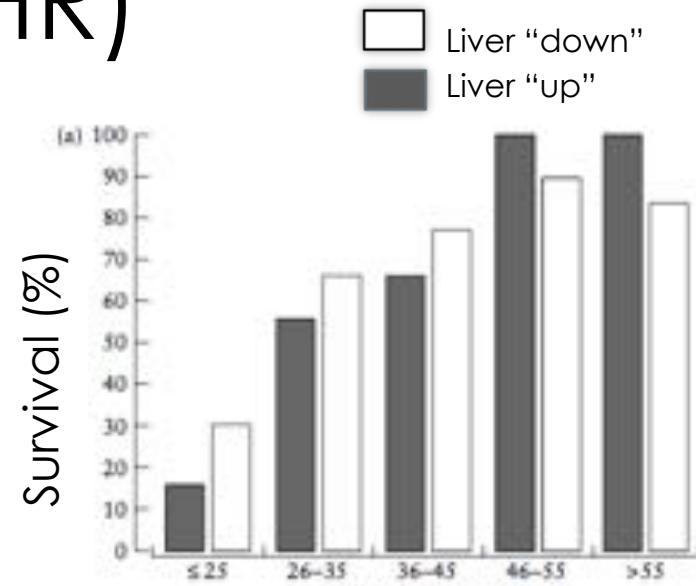
Hepatic vessels up toward
diaphragmatic ridge

observed-to-expected LHR (o/e LHR)



www.totaltrial.eu

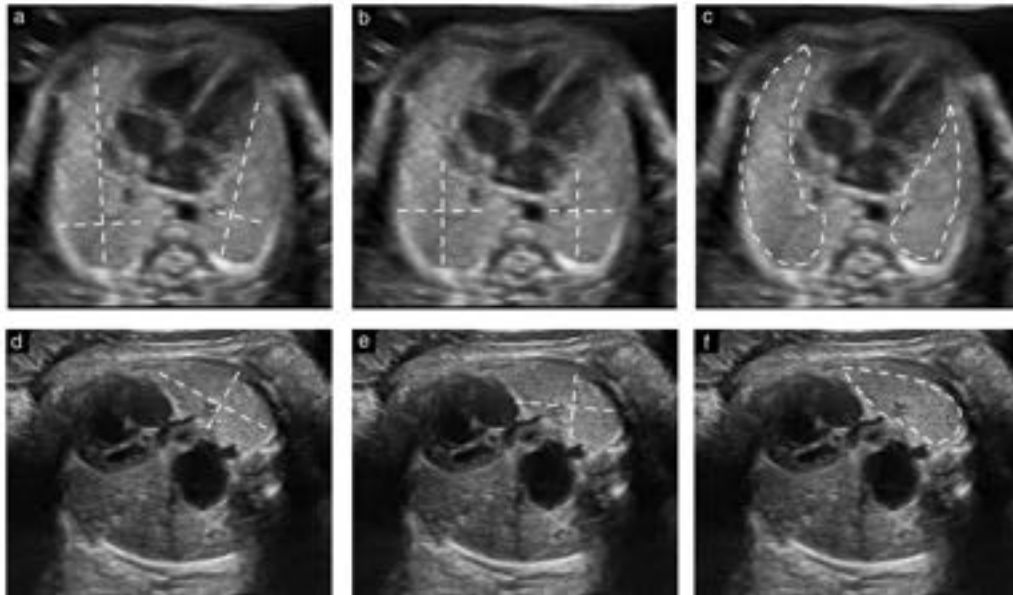
Lung-to-head ratio (LHR)



o/e LHR (%)

o/e LHR (%)

The problem with o/e LHR...



Longest

Antero-posterior (AP)

Trace

Standardization?



		AP	Longest	Trace
Agreement (ICC)	FETO centers [†]	0.83 (95% CI 0.67, 0.94)	0.89 (95% CI 0.75, 0.97)	0.94 (95% CI 0.83, 0.98)
	Non-FETO centers [‡]	0.54 (95% CI 0.1, 0.91)	0.57 (95% CI 0.12, 0.90)	0.86 (95% CI 0.79, 0.93)



How to measure o/e LHR: Image selection

- ❑ **Axial section** (single rib, 4 chamber view * valves) & **take sweep**
- ❑ **Spine at 3 or 6 o'clock** with contralateral lung to CDH closest to transducer
- ❑ Scan through intercostal space (avoid rib shadow)
- ❑ **Optimize image** (i.e.: depth, focus, high frequency probe 5-9MHz)
- ❑ **Magnification (chest ~75% of screen)**





How to measure o/e LHR

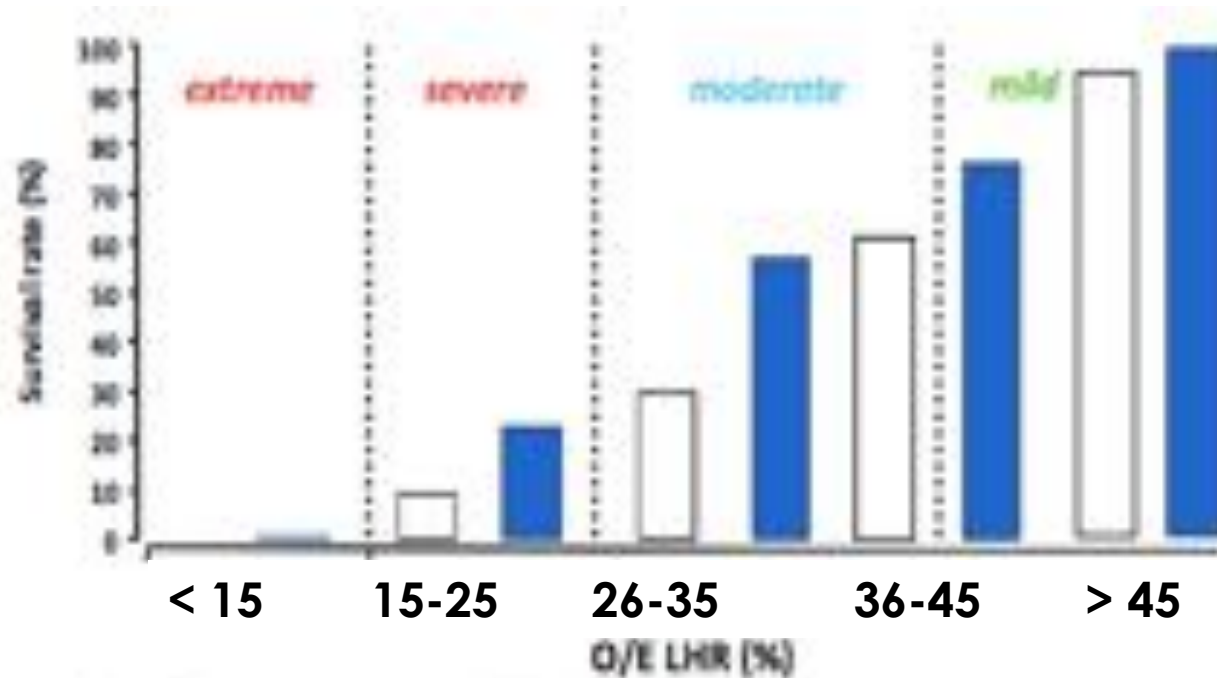
- ❑ **Measure contralateral lung using the TRACE method**
 - Do **NOT** include cardiovascular structures or mediastinal vessels, bony structures (ribs/vertebrae)
- ❑ 2-3 measurements
 - **Use qualitatively best image**
- ❑ **Measure head circumference (ellipse)**
 - CSP, thalami, posterior horns of lateral ventricles & midline falx dividing brain into 2 symmetrical hemispheres.
 - NO cerebellum/posterior fossa.
- ❑ **Calculate o/e LHR**
(www.totaltrial.eu)



Mediastinal vessels



Prognostication and management



- Standard postnatal repair
- Termination of pregnancy
- Fetal intervention?



**Fetal
Endoscopic
Tracheal
Occlusion**
vs. postnatal
surgery
for mod-severe
CDH

□ liver in thorax ■ liver in abdomen



Conclusion

- Suspect fetal thoracic pathology on 4CH view
 - Mediastinal shift
 - Abnormal echogenicity
 - Cystic lesions/fluid collection
- Increased intrathoracic pressure →
 - Pulmonary hypoplasia
 - Polyhydramnios/prematurity
 - Hydrops/death
- Prognostic indicators
 - Hydrops, CVR (CCAM/BPS), o/e LHR (CDH)
- Role of prenatal intervention