infection and metabolic disorders. Some authors have suggested placental hypoxia as the main causative factor for this syndrome [5].

This serious complication occurs only if the placenta is grossly edematous as was seen in our case, while it is rare if the fluid accumulation is limited to the fetal body. It may be difficult to distinguish between Ballantyne syndrome and preeclampsia. Platelet count, aspartate transaminase, alanine transaminase and haptoglobin are usually not affected in this syndrome and this may be used to distinguish it from the hemolytic anemia, elevated liver enzyme and low platelet count (HELLP) syndrome. When the specific cause of fetal hydrops can be identified and corrected by in utero treatment, reversion of Ballantyne syndrome has been reported [6]. Total or partial reduction of the placental edema may be responsible for this reversion. When specific cause can not be identified or corrected, immediate delivery is necessary in order to avoid fetal death and maternal complications.

Conflicts of Interest

None identified

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Book Review

Atlas of Surgical Techniques for the Upper Gastrointestinal Tract and Small Bowel. Michael J R, Jeffrey R P. Publisher: Saunders Elsevier, 1600 John F Kennedy Blvd, Ste 1800 Philadelphia PA 19103-2899. Pages: 242; Price-US \$249. Hardbound, Year of Publication: 2010 First Edition. Illustrations: More than 300 colour. ISBN: 978-1-4160-5278-4.

Upper gastrointestinal surgeries, conventional as well as laparoscopic, are common operations undertaken by surgeons. Advances in laparoscopy and stapling techniques have changed the art, craft and extent of surgery and therefore atlases that include these are popular. Step-by-step including use of staplers and

laparoscopic approach to various surgeries is a useful feature. The authors have also examined likely causes of complications and have provided useful tips on avoidance of these pitfalls.

The book is useful for all surgical residents and surgeons dealing with gastrointestinal tract surgery. It bridges the gap between available atlases on conventional surgery and laparoscopic surgeries. Pre and post operative imaging is an added feature of the book. Access to full text online with procedural videos is an added advantage to the user.

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IAL Textbook of Leprosy. Kar HK, Kumar Bhushan. JAYPEE Brothers Medical Publication : 2010 First edition. Pages: 624. ISBN: 978-81-8448-8524.

A comprehensive text book on leprosy brought out by the Indian Association of leprologists at a time when there are apprehensions that the interest in leprosy as a clinical and scientific challenge is diminishing. It was a long felt need for revision of the existing books on the subject by Indian leprologist which has been fulfilled.

This multi author book with rich contribution from the renowned leprologists covering the entire gamut of epidemiology, pathology,

clinical aspects, management, social and legal aspects and rehabilitation is the most up-to-date collection of the material on the subject.

The book will serve as an important reference material to all clinicians, researchers and medical students and is a must for post graduates and libraries.

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