
Preface

One learns from teachers to graduate, from books during post-graduation, and from patients to become an experienced specialist.

Most of the textbooks have a chapter on ruptured uterus where the classical symptoms and signs are enumerated. I have worked in various hospitals in various capacities. While working, I came across many cases of ruptured uterus. Each case had something different. In many of these cases, the classical symptoms and signs were hidden, and various features camouflaged the classical ones. These different features act as a background for the chameleon of ruptured uterus to change its colour, and spotting the chameleon or in other words diagnosing the rupture becomes a challenge.

I conceived this book to bridge the experience gap among those who work day in and out in the emergency rooms and labour rooms. I have therefore narrated the cases I came across over the last 25 years to bring out the different colours of presentation of ruptured uterus. The details presented would help the practitioners of obstetrics to relate to the cases and become aware of the various manifestations of ruptured uterus and hence have a high index of suspicion for ruptured uterus. For this reason, some of the photographs have been photoshopped to depict the scenarios that happened many years back because the intraoperative documentation was not easy those days and most of them are vividly imprinted only in my memory.

The literature on ruptured uterus is extensive. There are many guidelines available for selecting and monitoring cases for TOLAC. I have brought these wherever appropriate. I have also quoted many cases from literature to complete the possible aetiologies, presentations, and management of ruptured uterus.

Puducherry, India

Gowri Dorairajan

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Dorairajan, G.

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