SEROPOSITIVITY FOR **LISTERIA MONOCYTOGENES** IN WOMEN WITH SPONTANEOUS ABORTION

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**Background:** Infections caused by Listeria monocytogenes are often seen in third trimester of pregnancy but in some causes, latent infections of Listeria Monocytogenes may complicate the pregnancy, and in these cases serologic tests are used to diagnose the disease.

**Objective:** This study is designed to assess the serologic prevalence of Listeria Monocytogenes in abortion and premature labors.

**Methods:** A number of 250 women which had a previous abortion and 200 matched controls with normal full term delivery entered the study as case and control groups. Serum samples were obtained from participants and a demographic questionnaire was also filled for each of them. All serum samples were then examined using Indirect fluorescent Ab test for Listeria monocytogen antibody. Data was analyzed, using SPSS software (chi square and t-test).

**Conclusions:** The average age was 25.6 ± 7.6 years in case group and 25.3 ± 6.5 years in control group. 89(35.6 %) samples in women with abortion and 35(17.5%) in control group were positive for Listeria monocytogen (P-value=0.001). This study showed higher prevalence of seropositivity for Listeria monocytogen in women with spontaneous abortion comparing to women with normal full term delivery.