A 39-year-old woman, with a low risk pregnancy and normal ultrasound findings during the first and second trimesters, performed an ultrasound at 32 weeks that revealed a large anechogenic tubular structure, located in the midline of the fetal brain, supratentorial and non-pulsatile with a characteristic keyhole appearance (Fig. 1) and an internal turbulent flow (Fig. 2), suggesting the diagnosis of aneurysm of the vein of Galen.1-3 This is a rare arteriovenous anomaly, comprising less than 1% of all intracranial vascular malformations, usually diagnosed during the third trimester with ultrasound color Doppler.3 Intrauterine signs of congestive cardiac failure are common and worsen the prognosis.4,5 In this case, fetal echocardiograms revealed cardiomegaly with progressive right sided cardiac dilatation and tricuspid regurgitation; signs of heart failure (ascites and pericardial effusion) emerged. At 39 weeks, a 3038 g female infant was delivered by cesarean section and died nine hours later due to multi-organ failure.

REFERENCES

PROTECTION OF HUMANS AND ANIMALS: The authors declare that the procedures were followed according to the regulations established by the Clinical Research and Ethics Committee and to the Helsinki Declaration of the World Medical Association.
DATA CONFIDENTIALITY: The authors declare having followed the protocols in use at their working center regarding patients’ data publication.
INFORMED CONSENT: Obtained.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: All authors report no conflict of interest.
FUNDING SOURCES: The authors declare that there were no external sources of study for the performance of this article.