

1962

CASE 7

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severe

This section is taken from a newborn twin, term, female delivered via low forceps and apparently normal immediately after birth. Prolapse of the umbilical cords with knotting and twisting was noted in the delivery room.

The infant was considered normal until five hours after birth, at which time brief apneic episodes were noted. Improvement occurred following stimulation and suction. Suction produced bloody mucus which continued until death. At approximately seven hours, the infant developed respiratory stridor. Tracheal intubation and suction resulted in clinical improvement; however, bright red blood continued to be sucked from the nose and mouth. Respiration became labored and shallow, and apneic episodes increased. Patchy areas of atelectasis were noted by x-ray examination.

At this time, it was noted that the anterior fontanel was tense, and there was discoloration of the scalp and a cephalhematoma in the left parietal region. Subdural taps were normal. Apneic episodes continued, and the heart rate slowed and ceased eleven hours after birth.