

Table 1. Characteristics and grouping of fetuses used in the study (Some of the pathological fetuses suffered from more than one pathology). Gestational age was estimated by mother's last menstrual period (LMP)

Group	Number of fetuses (n)						Pathology
	Total	Gestational trimester			Sex		
		First	Second	Third	Male	Female	
A	15	0	13	2	15	0	No pathology
B	4	0	3	1	2	2	Chromosomal abnormalities
C	21	1	15	5	13	8	Congenital disorders
A+B+C	40	1	31	8	30	10	

Group A: fetuses with no pathological findings were considered 'normal'. Group B: pathological fetuses with chromosomal abnormalities. Down syndrome (n=3), Edward syndrome (n=1), acute non-specific chorioamnionitis (n=1), hydropic degeneration of chorionic villi (n=1). Group C: pathological fetuses with congenital disorders of visceral cranium/face (n=6), skeleton (n=3), heart/central vessels (n=1)*, lungs (n=2), nervous system (n=7) and abdominal wall (n=1). Two fetuses suffered from hydropic degeneration of chorionic villi, 8 from acute chorioamnionitis, 2 from acute placentitis, 2 from recessive fetal development and 1 from oligohydramnios.

*Heart pathology: presence of interventricular foramen, right ventricle hypertrophy and aortic translocation astride the interventricular septum.