Cervical Scan

Delivery occurring before 37 weeks poses a threat to baby.THis risk of spontaneous preterm birth increases as the length of the cervix (neck of the womb) decreases. Ultrasound scanning may be used to assess the length of the cervix in women at high risk of preterm birth.

This risk is more in women who have:

• Prior very preterm birth (<32 weeks gestation)

• Previous cervical surgery (eg. cervical cone biopsy)

• Women with a cervical suture

• Women with suspected cervical incompetence

• Multiple pregnancies

normal cervical length in pregnancy is :

• At 20 weeks gestation the average cervical length is 40mm
• At 34 weeks gestation the average cervical length is 34 mm

A cervix is labelled as short when its length is less than 25mm.

How the cervical length is assessd?

A transvaginal ultrasound examination is required to accurately measure the length of the cervix. We check for the following:
• Length of the cervix (normally >25mm)
• Funneling of the membranes at the internal os.
• Dilatation of the cervix
• Location of a cervical suture (if present)

What if the cervix is short?

Is such a case your obstretiican will look into your history and will suggest either a medicine like Progesterone or put a stich.The stich will help to hold onto pregnancy till baby is sufficiently mature.

Please discuss such a result with your doctors before jumping to any conclusions on your own

PLEASE PRINT THIS PAGE AND WRITE DOWN IF YOU HAVE POINTS TO ASK DOCTOR

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