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**ULTRASOUND DIAGNOSIS IN THREATENED PRETERM LABOR IN WOMEN OF YOUNG REPRODUCTIVE AGE**

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**Relevance.** Preterm labor is an actual problem in practical obstetrics due to severe complications, especially for the fetus (newborn). Medico-social significance of preterm labor is determined by high perinatal morbidity and mortality of premature infants. The highest proportion of premature births (55.3%) falls on the gestation period of 34-37 weeks, while at 22-27 weeks of pregnancy it does not exceed 5.7%. Stillbirth in preterm labor is observed by 8-13 times more than in term birth. Threatened preterm labor is characterized by a slight pain in the lower abdomen or in the sacrum. Sometimes presentation is asymptomatic. Palpation identifies increased tone of the uterus and its excitability.

**Purpose**. To study the features of ultrasound diagnosis in threatened preterm labor in women of young reproductive age.

**Materials and methods.** The study was carried out at the clinical base of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pediatric Gynecology, KhNMU, in the municipal healthcare facility “Kharkiv City Maternity Hospital No. 1”. The study involved examination of 50 pregnant women of young reproductive age referred by their obstetrician due to threatened preterm labor in the 2nd-3rd trimester of pregnancy with pain in the abdomen. The women underwent comprehensive clinical, laboratory and instrumental examination.

**Results of the study.** Ultrasound examination showed segmental contractions of the anterior uterine wall in 10 women (20%), posterior uterine wall in 8 women (16%), segmental contractions of both uterine walls (in the form of an hourglass) in 15 women (30%), low fetal head position in 11 women (22%), shortening of the cervix to 23 mm in 6 women (12%). It should be noted that women with segmental contractions of the anterior, posterior and both walls of the uterus were found to have a redistribution of amniotic fluid.

**Conclusions.** Ultrasound is one of the main and informative diagnostic methods that help to identify signs of threatened preterm labor in women of young reproductive age.