

## A foreign body (gossypiboma) in pregnancy: first report of a case

R. M. F. van der Weiden

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Dane et al. [1] state that the word gossypiboma, a mass within the body that is composed of a cotton matrix, is derived from the Latin word *Gossypium* for cotton and from the Kiswahili word *boma* for “place of concealment.” The reference to *Gossypium* is correct [2, 3], but it is unlikely that medical terms would be derived from the Kiswahili language. Cocheton [3] objected against the use of the name gossypiboma for a “textiloma” and found after a MEDLINE search (1990–1998) that it was predominantly

used by Anglo-Saxon authors, whereas other European authors used textiloma. Since these cases more than once give rise to gossip, a relation between the English noun “gossip” and gossypiboma might explain this finding.

### References

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R. M. F. van der Weiden (✉)  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,  
Sint Franciscus Gasthuis,  
3045 Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
e-mail: r.vanderweiden@sfg.nl