



Obstetrical Labor and Childbirth

Assessment

History:

- Due date of LMP
- Time contractions started & how often
- Rupture membranes
- Time / amount of any vaginal bleeding
- Sensation of fetal activity
- Past medical and delivery history
- Gravida / Para status
- Medications
- If known high risk pregnancy

Signs & Symptoms:

- Episodic pain
- Vaginal discharge or bleeding
- Crowning of urge to push
- Meconium
- Urge to defecate

Differential:

- Abnormal presentation:
 - Buttock
 - Foot
 - Hand
- Prolapsed cord
- Placenta previa
- Abruptio placenta
- Premature labor

Clinical Management Options

P	P	P	P	P	P
L	L	L	L	L	L
1	2	3	4	5	6

- [Oxygen](#), target SpO₂ to 92-96%
- When the newborn's mouth appears over the perineum, immediately suction mouth then nose.
- If post-partum hemorrhage, then fundal massage and encourage infant to breast feed.
- Skin to skin contact for mother and baby.
- See Clinical Procedures for [Birthing and Position Complications](#), and [APGAR Scoring](#)
- [Vascular access](#) with [Isotonic Crystalloid](#) titrated to effect for vaginal hemorrhage
- [Tranexamic Acid](#) for hypotension due to significant hemorrhage following delivery or delayed placenta delivery

Consult Online Medical Control As Needed

Pearls:

- Refer to drug formulary charts for all medication dosing for both adults and pediatric patients.
- **Contact OLMC with all indicated Complications of Labor**
- Document all times (delivery, contraction frequency, and length). Record APGAR at 1 minute and 5 minutes after birth.
- If maternal seizures: refer to the Obstetrical Emergencies Guideline. Eclampsia can occur up to 2 months post-partum.
- After delivery, allowing child to nurse and massaging the uterus (lower abdomen) will promote uterine contraction and help to control postpartum bleeding.
- Post-partum hemorrhage defined as blood loss > 1000mL or > 500mL with signs/symptoms of hypotension. The perineum should be checked for bleeding from vaginal tears. Bleeding should be controlled by direct pressure over the laceration.
- The most common cause of post-partum hemorrhage is uterine atony due to prolonged labor, or multiple gestations