

o-4 IMMINENT DELIVERY (COMPLICATIONS)

PRIORITIES:

- ABCs
- Identify the signs of shock
- Determine stage (trimester) of pregnancy (If pregnant)
- Determine the degree of physiologic distress, estimate amount of blood loss
- Assure an advanced life support response

Breech Presentation

Presentation of buttocks or feet.

1. Ensure a patent airway (suction as necessary)
2. Be prepared to support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts;
3. OXYGEN THERAPY – Begin oxygen at 6 liters/minute by nasal cannula or 10 liters/minute by mask. If there is a history of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), observe for respiratory depression and support respiration as needed. DO NOT withhold oxygen from a patient in cardiorespiratory distress because of a history of COPD;
4. Allow delivery to proceed passively until the baby's waist appears;
5. Rotate baby to face-down position (do NOT pull);
6. If the head does not readily deliver in 4 – 6 minutes, insert a gloved finger into the vagina to create an air passage for the infant;
7. Monitor vital signs frequently;
8. Assist advanced life support personnel with patient packaging and movement to ambulance.

Prolapsed Cord

Cord presents first and is compressed during delivery compromising infant circulation.

1. Ensure a patent airway (suction as necessary)
2. Be prepared to support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts;
3. OXYGEN THERAPY – Begin oxygen at 6 liters/minute by nasal cannula or 10 liters/minute by mask. If there is a history of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), observe for respiratory depression and support respiration as needed. DO NOT withhold oxygen from a patient in cardiorespiratory distress because of a history of COPD;
4. Insert gloved hand into vagina and gently push presenting part off of the cord. Do NOT attempt to reposition the cord. Cover cord with saline soaked gauze;
5. Place mother in Trendelenberg position with hips elevated;
6. Monitor vital signs frequently;
7. Assist advanced life support personnel with patient packaging and movement to ambulance.