## Health Promotion of the Newborn and Family

Barbara I. Wheeler



## **Adjustment to Extrauterine Life**

The most profound physiologic change required of neonates is transition from fetal or placental circulation to independent respiration. The loss of the placental connection means the loss of complete metabolic support, especially the supply of oxygen and the removal of carbon dioxide. The normal stresses of labor and delivery produce alterations of placental gas exchange patterns,