



- a. Obstetrical history [See [Childbirth Guideline](#)]
- b. Abdominal pain – onset, duration, quality, radiation, provoking or relieving factors
- c. Vaginal bleeding – onset, duration, quantity (pads saturated)
- d. Syncope/lightheadedness
- e. Nausea/vomiting
- f. Fever or history of recent fever
2. Monitoring
 - a. Monitor EKG if history of syncope or lightheadedness
 - b. Monitor pulse oximetry if signs of hypotension or respiratory symptoms
3. Secondary survey pertinent to obstetric issues
 - a. Constitutional: vital signs, skin color
 - b. Abdomen: distension, tenderness, peritoneal signs
 - c. Genitourinary: visible vaginal bleeding
 - d. Neurologic: mental status

Treatment and Interventions

1. If signs of shock or orthostasis:
 - a. Position patient supine or in the left lateral recumbent position if third trimester and keep patient warm
 - b. Place large bore IV
 - c. Volume resuscitation: crystalloid 1–2 liters IV wide open
 - d. Reassess vital signs and response to fluid resuscitation
 - e. Save all possible tissue so that the receiving team can assess
2. Disposition – transport emergently to closest appropriate receiving facility – notify en route if possible so the receiving team may prepare

Patient Safety Considerations

1. Patients in third trimester of pregnancy should be transported on left side or with uterus manually displaced to left if hypotensive
2. Do not place hand/fingers into vagina of bleeding patient except in cases of prolapsed cord or breech birth that is not progressing

Notes/Educational Pearls

Key Considerations

Syncope can be a presenting symptom of intraabdominal hemorrhage from ectopic pregnancy or antepartum hemorrhage from spontaneous abortion, placental abruption, or placenta previa

Pertinent Assessment Findings

1. Vital signs to assess for signs of shock (e.g., tachycardia, hypotension)
2. Abdominal exam (e.g., distension, rigidity, guarding)
3. If pregnant, evaluate fundal height

Quality Improvement

Associated NEMSIS Protocol(s) (eProtocol.01) (for additional information, go to www.nemsis.org)

- 9914159 – OB/GYN - Gynecological Emergencies
- 9914161 – OB/GYN - Pregnancy Related Disorders