Objectives

- Identify effects of antiepileptic drugs on the fetus and newborn
- Review actions to take when a postpartum woman experiences an epileptic seizure
- Summarize study results on using transdermal estradiol for treatment of postpartum depression
- List the side effects and risks of transdermal estradiol
- Describe the relationship between induction of labor and postpartum hemorrhage
- Discuss the treatment of postpartum hemorrhage
- Explain types of genitourinary changes that occur during the postpartum period

Content Outline

1. Epilepsy in the Postpartum Woman
   1.1. Risks and complications
   1.2. Use of antiepileptic drugs
      - Effects on fetus
      - Effects on newborn
   1.3. Lactation issues
   1.4. Management of postpartum epileptic seizures

2. Transdermal Estradiol for Postpartum Depression
   2.1. Summary of research study results
   2.2. Selection criteria for use of transdermal estradiol for postpartum depression
   2.3. Side effects and risks of transdermal estradiol use in the postpartum woman
   2.4. Adjunct therapies

3. Early Postpartum Hemorrhage After Induction of Labor
   3.1. Early postpartum hemorrhage
   3.2. Treatment of postpartum hemorrhage

4. Postpartum Genitourinary Changes
   4.1. Genital tract trauma
   4.2. Denervation injury
   4.3. Pelvic floor injury
   4.4. Urinary incontinence
   4.5. Obstetric fistula
   4.6. Operative injuries
   4.7. Urinary retention
   4.8. Anal incontinence
   4.9. Pelvic organ prolapse
Reading Material Resources

This self assessment module is based on the resources listed below. A copy of each article is included with the module.

“Meeting the Needs of the Postpartum Woman With Epilepsy”, Rousseau, Jennifer B., Maternal and Child Health, Volume 33, No. 2, March/April 2008, pp. 84-89

