

Objectives

- Identify the critical factors that affect the labor process
- Discuss the relationship of the maternal pelvis and presenting part
- Describe the causes and signs and symptoms of labor
- Compare and contrast the stages of labor
- Summarize the maternal and fetal responses to labor

Content Outline

1. Critical Factors that Affect Labor
 - 1.1 Passageway
 - 1.2 Passenger (fetus)
 - 1.3 Fetal attitude, lie and presentation
 - 1.4 Fetal position
2. Physiology of Labor
 - 2.1 Causes
 - 2.2 Signs and symptoms
 - 2.3 Rupture of membranes
3. Stages of Labor
 - 3.1 First
 - 3.2 Second
 - 3.3 Third
 - 3.4 Fourth
4. Maternal and Fetal Response to Labor
 - 4.1 Systemic responses
 - 4.1.1 Maternal
 - 4.1.2 Fetal
 - 4.2 Maternal pain response

Reading Material Resources

This self assessment module is based on the resources listed below.

The reading materials are in the form of a PDF file and can be accessed from the online testing center once the module is purchased.

Chapter 22, Processes and Stages of Labor and Birth, Maternal-Newborn Nursing Women's Health Across the Lifespan, Davidson, Michele, et al., Pearson Prentice Hall, New Jersey, 2008, pages 576-601.