

Objectives

- Relate the potential impact of medications and supplements taken during pregnancy to maternal, fetal and neonatal effects and outcomes
- Identify specific medications administered during the peripartum period including those used to treat gestational hypertension, regulate uterine activity and address pain during labor
- Explain the action and uses of selected medications employed in cases of preterm labor and outline the role of these medications on subsequent neonatal respiratory morbidity
- Discuss the nursing interventions and patient education indicated when medications are administered during pregnancy, labor and birthing processes

Content Outline

1. Physiology of Pregnancy
2. Therapeutic Use of Drugs, Supplements, & Herbals During Pregnancy With Associated Implications for Nursing Care
 - 2.1 Supplements
 - 2.1.1 Iron
 - 2.1.2 Folic acid
 - 2.1.3 Multiple vitamins
 - 2.2 Adverse effects
 - 2.2.1 Herbals
 - 2.2.2 Substance abuse
 - 2.3 Therapeutics For minor discomforts
 - 2.3.1 Nausea & vomiting
 - 2.3.2 Heartburn
 - 2.3.3 Constipation
 - 2.3.4 Pain
3. Drugs Impacting Uterine Muscle Contractility With Associated Implications for Nursing Care
 - 3.1 Beta-sympathomimetic drugs
 - 3.2 Calcium antagonists
4. Corticosteroid Use To Enhance Fetal Lung Maturity With Associated Implications for Nursing Care
5. Therapy For Gestational Hypertension With Associated Implications for Nursing Care
 - 5.1 Comparison of stages of preeclampsia and eclampsia

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 52, Female Reproductive Cycle, Pregnancy and Preterm Labor Drugs. Pharmacology A Nursing Process Approach, Kee, et al., Saunders Elsevier, 2009, pages 809-829.