

Fetal Assessment

Objectives

- Discuss the progression of a normal pregnancy and describe normal fetal growth throughout each trimester
- Understand the function and physiology of the placenta
- Define and interpret tests and laboratory values used for assessing fetal well-being and review electric fetal monitoring
- Identify factors that can affect fetal growth
- Explain risk factors associated with preterm delivery and management strategies

Content Outline

1. Pregnancy
 - A. Duration
 - B. First trimester
 - C. Second trimester
 - D. Third trimester
2. The Placenta and Placental Physiology
 - A. Implantation
 - B. Normal development
 - C. Abnormalities
 - D. Fetal/placental circulation
 - E. Changes at birth
 - F. Maternal circulation
 - G. Placental separation
3. Antepartum Fetal Surveillance
 - A. Overview
 - B. Initiation and frequency
 - C. Conditions
 - i. Maternal
 - ii. Pregnancy
 - D. Fetal movement counting
 - E. Non-stress test
 - F. Contraction stress test
 - G. Biophysical profile
 - H. Modified BPP
 - I. Umbilical doppler velocimetry
4. Intrapartum Fetal Monitoring

Reading Material Resources

Module GH0322: Fetal Assessment is based on the chapter listed below. A copy is included with the module.

Chapter 3, [Golden Hours: Care of the Very Low Birth Weight Neonate](#). Bissinger, R.L., Annibale, D.J., and Fanning, B.A. The National Certification Corporation (NCC), Chicago, IL 2019.