Miscarriage, Stillbirth & Perinatal Loss

Objectives

- Define miscarriage
- Discuss assessment and management of women at risk who has experienced a miscarriage
- Summarize the epidemiology and risk factors associated with stillbirth
- Discuss strategies in trust that can be fostered between nurses and parents who have experienced a perinatal loss
- Identify way the nurse can support parents, siblings and others to develop a relationship with the baby and a positive lasting memory
- Outline follow up care issues following perinatal loss

Content Outline

1. Miscarriage
   1.1 Definition
   1.2 Causes
   1.3 Evaluation
   1.4 Management

2. Stillbirth
   2.1 Epidemiology
   2.2 Definition
   2.3 Risk factors
   2.4 Prevention/Barriers
   2.5 Trends in stillbirth rates

3. Perinatal Loss
   3.1 Relationship Centered Care
   3.2 Building Trust Between Nurse and Parents
   3.3 Supportive Measures for Parents, Siblings and Others
   3.4 Strategies to Create a Positive Memory
   3.5 Follow up Care Following Perinatal Loss

Reading Material Resources

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

“Recurrent Miscarriage”, Branch, MD, D. Ware, et al., The New England Journal of Medicine, Volume 363, No. 18, October 28, 2010, pp. 1740-1747

“Stillbirth Epidemiology, Risk Factors, and Opportunities for Stillbirth Prevention”, Fretts, MD, Ruth, al Obstetrics and Gynecology, Volume 53, No. 3, September 2010, pp. 588-596