# Trauma in Pregnancy

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## Objectives

- 1. Discuss anatomic and physiologic alterations of pregnancy and effects on patient management.
- 2. Establish assessment and treatment priorities for the mother and the fetus.
- 3. Identify elements of intimate partner violence.

#### Assessment

- · Ask her!
- Enlarged uterus?
- Pregnancy test

# Changes and Risks

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## Changes and Risks

- What changes to anatomy and physiology occur with pregnancy, and what are the unique risks?
- ▶ 12<sup>th</sup> week
- Uterus becomes an abdominal organ
- ▶ 20<sup>th</sup> week
- At umbilicus
- → 34 36 weeks
- At costal margin
- → 38 40 weeks
- Head engages pelvis

## Changes and Risks

- **▶**Third Trimester
  - Uterus is thin-walled
  - Maternal abdominal viscera displaced
  - Inferior vena cava compression
  - Risks:
    - Pelvic fractures with maternal hemorrhage and direct fetal injury
    - Abruptio placentae
    - Amniotic fluid embolism
    - Isoimmunization

### Physiologic Changes

- Increased
- Minute ventilation
- Heart rate and cardiac output
- Blood volume
- Glomerular filtration rate
- Gastric emptying time

- Decreased
- · Pco<sub>2</sub>
- Hematocrit

## **Primary Survey and Risks**



**Aspiration risk** 

**Difficult ventilation** 

Failure to recognize blood loss early

**Eclampsia** 

With maternal blood loss, fetal distress precedes changes in maternal vital signs.

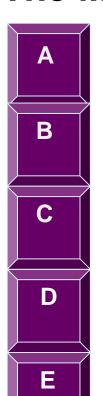
## **Evaluation and Management**

#### How do I evaluate and treat two patients?

- Primary survey / resuscitation of mother
- Fetal assessment
- Secondary survey of mother
- Definitive care of mother and fetus
- Rh-negative mothers receive immunoglobulin therapy (unless injury remote from uterus)
- Early OB consult

## **Evaluation and Management**

#### The Mother



Same as nonpregnant

Same as nonpregnant Caution – chest tube placement

Displace uterus and volume infusion Caution – fetal shock

Eclampsia vs. brain injury

Same as nonpregnant

## **Evaluation and Management**

#### The Fetus

- Resuscitate the mother
- Monitor fetal heart tones
- Consider fetal injury with
  - Vaginal bleeding
  - Abruptio placentae
  - Uterine tenderness
  - Uterine rupture
  - Labor

# Thanks for attention