

PROTOCOL #34 - Maternal Fetal Medicine, University of New Mexico

AMNIOINFUSION

A. General

There is an inverse relationship between amniotic fluid volume and FHR variable decelerations, presumably due to impairment of flow in the compressed, unsupported umbilical cord. Restoration of amniotic fluid volume may reverse this situation. Additionally, dilution of thick meconium has been shown to have a favorable impact on the incidence of meconium aspiration syndrome.

B. Indications

1. Five consecutive severe variable decelerations if mother has not responded to maternal repositioning, IV bolus of 500cc crystalloid, and O₂ administrations via face mask.
2. Thick meconium documented at the time of SRM or ARM.

C. Procedure

1. Document absence of cord prolapse.
2. Insert hollow intrauterine pressure catheter for infusion of sterile saline solution.
3. Pressure recording by a separate, or if available, a double lumen, intrauterine pressure catheter is recommended.
4. Internal fetal heart rate monitor should be in place.
5. 1,000cc of NS is connected via a stopcock to the IUPC. The NS should be at room temperature. DO NOT MICROWAVE.
6. Infusion is accomplished via an IMED pump or gravity.
7. 300-500cc of NS are infused over 1 hour to restore volume. Thereafter, a 150-180cc per hour maintenance infusion should replace vaginal leakage.
8. Infusion is continued until delivery is accomplished.
9. Ultrasonographic estimation of appropriate fluid volume should be documented after the initial bolus infusion.
10. Calculate AF loss per vagina by weighing chux or towel as needed. Dry chux weight - 100 gms. Dry towel - 215 gms. Wet item - dry item = ml output.

D. Possible Complications

1. Cord prolapse
2. Polyhydramnios
3. Increased resting intrauterine pressure
4. Abruptio placentae
5. Infection
6. AFE

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E. Contraindications

1. Severe fetal distress necessitating emergency delivery.
2. Abruption placentae
3. Placenta previa

CONSULTATION: Twenty-Four hour consultation is available by calling the Maternal Fetal Medicine service at the University of New Mexico Hospital, 1-888-866-7257.