

## 1.7 Short assignments (10 minutes)

1. Preeclampsia is most likely to occur in the third trimester. What diseases should you consider with severe hypertension in the other trimesters?
2. A 24 year old G2P1 is pregnant at 24 weeks. She complains of a mild headache. Write down at least 7 questions that are important to ask, considering she might be developing hypertension. Also, explain why these questions are important.

## 1.7 Short assignments - Answer Key

Question 1:

*If severe hypertension appears in the first or early second trimester, you should exclude molar pregnancy or gestational trophoblastic disease or other serious renal/medical diseases.*

Question 2:

- *Is the headache persistent? What has she tried to take to relieve her headache?*
- *Visual disturbance? (can indicate severe preeclampsia, possible eclampsia)*
- *Persistent epigastric pain? (liver edema)*
- *Pain in right upper quadrant? (subcapsular hematoma of the liver)*
- *Difficulty breathing? (pulmonary edema)*
- *Does she feel her hands, feet and/or face are more swollen? Do family members think she appears more swollen/edematous than normal? (possible signs of preeclampsia)*
- *Fetal movement? (decreased fetal movement can indicate potential fetal jeopardy. Women with gestational HTN/preeclampsia/eclampsia are at risk for fetal growth restriction and fetal death)*
- *Does she have access to a clinic near her home where she could have her blood pressure checked a couple of times a week? (this would help see what her BP is like in her every day life and provide further data for the diagnosis of gestational HTN or preeclampsia)*
- *Did the patient have hypertension or preeclampsia during her last pregnancy? (this can increase her risk for developing these issues in this pregnancy)*