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The authors cannot assume any liability for patient outcomes when these cards are used.

## Family Medicine Clinical Card



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# Routine Prenatal Care

## INITIAL VISIT – CORE ELEMENTS

### History & Physical

- Estimated date of delivery: 1st day of LMP + 7d - 3 mo, adjust for cycle length
- Is this pregnancy planned or unplanned?
- Are there any safety concerns? Are there any significant health issues?
- BP, maternal weight and height

### Investigations

- Consider U/S for EDD, if uncertain LMP
- Baseline labs:
  - ABO/Rh and antibody screen
  - Hgb, urine R&M + C&S
  - varicella, rubella, syphilis, Hep B, HIV
  - gonorrhea + chlamydia (swab/urine)
- Pap test:
  - if (+) hx of abnormal results, do test if not done in past 6-12 m
  - if (-) hx, do test if last done  $\geq$  3 y
- Consider extra screening for STIs and heritable disorders

### Patient Counseling

- Advise about ongoing prenatal care (visit frequency, routine monitoring)
- Prenatal multivitamin with:
  - Fe 27-30 mg/day, stop if nausea
- Dietary Ca 1000-1300 mg/day
- Vit D supp 2000 IU/day
- Folate supp, low risk 0.4 mg/day
- Avoid: tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs
  - raw: meats/eggs/fish
  - deli meats, unpasteurized products
- Medication use ([motherisk.org](http://motherisk.org))
- Discuss non-invasive genetic screening, offer if results are desired

## FIRST COUPLE OF VISITS – CORE ELEMENTS

### Complete History, including:

- Obstetrical hx (GPTAL)
- STI hx
- Depression hx
- Psychosocial risk factors, e.g. ALPHA form (PMID: 16076821) [www.dfcm.utoronto.ca/Assets/DFCM+Digital+Assets/alpha\\_form\\_english.pdf](http://www.dfcm.utoronto.ca/Assets/DFCM+Digital+Assets/alpha_form_english.pdf)

### Patient Counseling

- Physiological  $\Delta$ s in pregnancy, including:
  - weight gain (normal prepregnant BMI = 25-35 lbs; overweight = 15-25 lbs; obese = 11-20 lbs)
  - blurry long distance vision (reversible)
  - skin moles darkening (reversible)
- Diet: well-balanced and varied
- Work: avoid rotating shift work at  $\geq$  23 wk
- Exercise: avoid high impact activity
- Sex: is generally safe
- Wear seat belt with lap belt snug across hips
- Avoid hot tubs and saunas
- Air travel: avoid at  $\geq$  36 wk, consult airlines
- Influenza vaccine, for all women who will be pregnant during flu season

### Complete Exam, including:

- Breast
- Uterus, adnexae
- Thyroid
- Lower back tattoos: epidural may be contraindicated

## FOLLOW-UP VISITS -

**FREQUENCY:**  $\leq$  30 wk = q4weeks, 30-36 wk = q2weeks,  $\geq$  36 wk = weekly

**ASK:** "ABCD" = fetal activity, vaginal bleeding, contractions & discharge.

Any abnormalities → refer to L&D.

**MONITOR:** - BP, maternal weight, SFH

- Fetal heart auscultation ( $\geq$  9-12 wk)
- Fetal presentation ( $\geq$  30-32 wk)

**TEACH:** fetal movement counts ( $\geq$  30 wk), if indicated. Count in early evening and in reclined position (not supine).

If  $<$  6 movements in 2 h → NST.

## STANDARD INVESTIGATIONS

GA (wks)	Investigations
12-16	Urine R&M + C&S
18-20	U/S for structural assessment
26-28	GDM screen (1h 50g OGCT), Hgb, Rh antibodies
28	RhIG for all Rh-ve women
36-37	GBS screen (vaginal & rectal swabs)
41-42	Offer labour induction

**ELECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS** Offer CVS or amniocentesis, if (+) genetic screening or women at increased risk based on hx

Key References: Kirkham C, Harris S, and Grzybowski S. Evidence-Based Prenatal Care: Part I. General Prenatal Care and Counseling Issues. *Am Fam Physician* 2005, 71(7): 1307-16; Kirkham C, Harris S, and Grzybowski S. Evidence-Based Prenatal Care: Part II. Third-Trimester Care and Prevention of Infectious Diseases. *Am Fam Physician* 2005, 71(8): 1555-60