Trauma in Pregnancy

Dr. Roozbeh Rajaei Ghafoori Associated Professor of Emergency Medicine

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

What changes to anatomy and physiology occur with pregnancy, and what are the unique risks?

Changes and Risks

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

Changes and Risks

Third Trimester

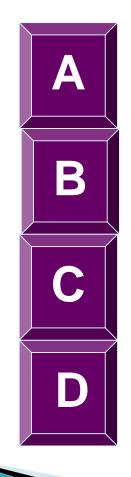
- Uterus is thin-walled
- Maternal abdominal viscera displaced
- Inferior vena cava compression
- Risks:
 - Pelvic fractures with maternal hemorrhage and direct fetal injury
 - Abruptio placentae
 - Amniotic fluid embolism
 - Isoimmunization

Physiologic Changes

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

- Decreased
- pCO₂
- 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.

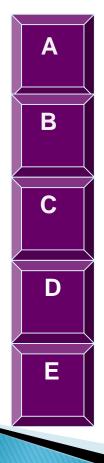
Evaluation and Management

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