# 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?
- 12<sup>th</sup> week
- Uterus becomes an
- abdominal organ
- 20<sup>th</sup> week
- At umbilicus
- ▶ <u>34 36 weeks</u>
- At costal margin
- <u>38 40 weeks</u>
- Head engages pelvis

# Changes and Risks

### Third Trimester

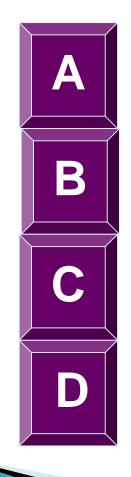
- Uterus is thin-walled
- Maternal abdominal viscera displaced
- Inferior vena cava compression
- Risks:
  - Pelvic fractures with maternal hemorrhage and direct fetal injury
  - Abruptio placentae
  - Amniotic fluid embolism
  - Isoimmunization

### **Physiologic Changes**

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

- Decreased
- 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.

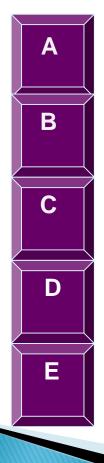
## **Evaluation and Management**

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