** *Tishk International University Faculty of Nursing***

**Maternal and Newborn nursing care lecture**

**Maternal terminology and definition**

* **Pregnancy**: can be a time of great excitement to the patient, but it can also be a time of danger, and there are certain serious illnesses of pregnancy to be aware of.
* **Definition** -Fertilization is the union of the ovum and aspermatozoa. Fertilization must occur fairly quickly after release of the ovum because it usually occurs in the outer third of a fallopian tube.
* **Last Menstrual Period (LMP):**This date is used to work out how many weeks pregnant you are. The count starts from the first day of LMP.
* **Antenatal Care Definition**: - Antenatal care is the care given to a woman during her pregnancy.
* **Trimester:**One third of a pregnancy.
* **Gravidity:** number of times a woman has been Pregnancy
* **Parity-** refers to number of delivery
* **Primigravida** = a woman pregnant for the first time
* **Multigravida** = a woman who has had two or more pregnancies (2-4)
* **Grand multigravida** :more than 5 pregnancy
* **Nullipara =** a woman who has not given birth
* **Abortion ( Miscarrage )** termination of pregnancy before 24wks.
* **Labour :-** is described as the process by which the fetus, placenta and membranes are expelled through the birth canal
* **Breech presentation (BR):** This means your baby is lying bottom or feet down in the uterus.
* **Episiotomy:** A cut made in the mother’s perineum (the area between the vagina and anus) to allow the baby to be born more quickly and prevent tearing.
* **Engaged (ENG):** This means that the widest part of the baby’s head has passed into the pelvis in preparation for giving birth.
* **Fetus**: Medical name for the baby before it’s born.
* **Fetal heart (FH):**  means the baby’s heartbeat has been heard.
* **Fetal Movement (FM):**means the baby had been felt to movement

**Fundus:**This is the top of the uterus. The ‘fundal’ height helps assess the growth of the baby and how many weeks pregnant are. It’s the length in centimetres between the top of the uterus and the pubic bone.

**Gestational age:**  measured from the first day of your last menstrual period.

**Haemorrhage:** Sudden and severe bleeding. In pregnancy it is usually called antepartum haemorrhage and after the birth it is called postpartum haemorrhage.

**Lochia:**For a couple of weeks or more after the birth the woman loses a mixture of blood and mucus through the vagina, like a very heavy period at first but lessening over time.

**Induction:**Starting the labour artificially.

**Meconium:**The bowel contents of the baby at birth.

**Neonate:** A newborn infant.

**Oedema**: Means swelling. Fluid retention can cause swelling in the body.

**Oxytocin:**The hormone secreted by women when they are in labour which stimulates labour contractions.

* **Placenta:** The organ that develops in the uterus during pregnancy to transfer nourishment and oxygen to the baby from the mother’s system, and to take away the baby’s waste matter.
* **Placental abruption:** Premature separation of the placenta from the uterine wall.
* **Placenta Praevia:** When the placenta is low down. Sometimes it covers the cervix and blocks the baby’s exit, in which case you would need a Caesarean section.
* **Polyhydramnios:** An excessive amount of amniotic fluid.
* **Oligohydramnios:** decreaseamount of amniotic fluid
* **Position:** How the baby is lying, for example to the right
* **Presentation:**The part of the baby which is coming first (usually the crown or back of the baby’s head).
* **Postpartum:**Relating to the period of a few days after the birth.
* **Pre-eclampsia:**This is a complication of pregnancy where the blood pressure increases and protein appears in the urine.
* **Pregnancy Induced Hypertension (PIH):** This means that your blood pressure is high a result of the pregnancy.
* **Preterm:**Born before 37 weeks of pregnancy.
* **Post term (post date):** extends to 42weeks of pregnancy.
* **Quickening:** The first movements of the baby that the mother feels.
* **Term:** This used to describe the period of time at the end of a pregnancy when a baby might be expected to be born. It is 37-42 weeks which is the normal duration of a human pregnancy.
* **Full term**: 39-40weeks

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