

PREGNANCY INJURY

Mom's Scared. You're Scared. Don't Be Scared.

Other Points

- Be on the look out for intimate partner violence in all poorly explained trauma in pregnancy
- Order your normal CT scans, you can always shield the uterus but you don't want to miss a life threatening injury!

Approach to Trauma in Pregnancy

- 1) **Place mother in left lateral decubitus position** (Lie on left side) this helps to relieve pressure of the fetus on the Inferior Vena Cava.
- 2) **Palpate the Fundus**, if you can feel the fundus above the belly button the baby is most likely greater than 20 weeks old. At this age and greater you need to look out for Placental Abruption.
- 3) **OB ultrasound** to rule out abruption/free fluid and mostly will reassure mother that baby is okay and heart rate is stable.
- 4) **Type and Screen** to assess Rh status, If Rh negative mother, give RhoGAM. This will prevent Rh isoimmunization in mothers with Rh + baby's.
- 5) All pregnant women greater than 20 weeks gestational age need **fetal heart rate monitoring** (Cardio tocodynamometry). This will help to rule out Placental Abruption and uterine irritability.

References

Delorio NM. Trauma in Pregnancy. In: Tintinalli JE, Stapczynski J, Ma O, Yealy DM, Meckler GD, Cline DM. eds. Tintinalli's Emergency Medicine: A Comprehensive Study Guide, 8e. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2016. <http://accessemergencymedicine.mhmedical.com/content.aspx?bookid=1658&Sectionid=109445387>. Accessed December 02, 2016.