

PROCEDURE FOR: Amniotomy (Artificial Rupture of Membranes): Assistance with

PURPOSE: To provide an outline of the nursing responsibilities during an amniotomy.

POLICY: Artificial rupture of membranes (AROM) will be done only by a physician.

EQUIPMENT: Sterile gloves
Sterile lubricant (clear)
Amniotomy hook or scalp electrode
Electronic fetal monitor

DOCUMENTATION: 1. Document: Physician's name, time of amniotomy, clarity, color and amount of amniotic fluid, assessment of fetal heart rate and vaginal exam findings on unit flowsheet and monitor strip.
2. Document patient's response to care in patient flowsheet or nursing notes per unit/department's documentation standards.

PROCEDURE:

ACTION

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Prepare patient for procedure. | 1. Physician will explain procedure. |
| 2. Assure that patient is on continuous fetal monitoring. | |
| 3. Position patient in dorsal recumbent position with knees bent and soles of feet together. | |
| 4. Give sterile gloves to physician and apply sterile lubricant to gloves. | |
| 5. Aseptically open amniotomy hook or scalp electrode package and allow physician to remove wrapping. | |
| 6. Continuously monitor and assess rate for variable or prolonged decelerations. | |
| 7. Make patient comfortable and keep dry by changing pads frequently. | |

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee
L&D and OB-GYN Standards Committee

CREDENTIALS: RN, MD

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/79

REVISION DATES: 10/93, 3/97, 6/02, 6/04

REVIEWED DATES: 1/09