

PROTOCOL FOR: Emergency Cesarean Delivery

- POLICY:**
1. In the event of an obstetric emergency requiring emergency cesarean delivery, the delivery will be performed as quickly and safely as possible and within 30 minutes of the decision to operate.
 2. In-house obstetric, neonatal and anesthesia coverage is available to the labor and delivery unit 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

DESIRED PATIENT

- OUTCOMES:**
1. Safety of the patient and fetus will be maintained.
 2. Delivery of the neonate will occur as quickly and safely as possible.
 3. Patient will sustain no infectious process during the postoperative period.

**CLINICAL
ASSESSMENT AND**

- CARE:**
1. When the decision is made for an emergency cesarean delivery by the obstetric attendant, all required personnel will be summoned stat to labor and delivery.
 2. All assessments and care will be carried out as swiftly and safely as possible. Please refer to the PROTOCOL: Cesarean Section: Immediate Preoperative and Intraoperative Care of the Patient.
 3. When the surgical team is present, a momentary pause for a "time-out" will be called.
 4. In the event that initial surgical counts were not performed before the cesarean delivery, an abdominal x-ray must be obtained prior to the patient's the leaving the operating room in accordance with PROCEDURE: Surgical Counts.

- DOCUMENTATION:**
1. Follow PROTOCOL: Cesarean Section: Immediate Preoperative and Intraoperative Care of the Patient for documentation.
 2. Document on the Nursing Operative Record that the delivery is an emergency and that "time-out" was done.

APPROVAL: Pending Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/08

REVISION DATES: