

Section: Division of Nursing

* PROCEDURE *

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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MATERNAL SERVICES
(Scope)

TITLE: AMNIOTOMY

PURPOSE: To outline procedure for amniotomy, which may used to induce and stimulate labor and to facilitate delivery of baby.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: Patient will be placed on electronic fetal monitoring for 20 minutes prior to amniotomy for fetal heart baseline and to observe any sudden change in FH associated with amniotomy. The presenting part of the fetus should be engaged and well applied to the cervix prior to procedure to prevent umbilical cord prolapse, as evaluated by provider.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Sterile gloves
2. Lubricant per provider
3. Sterile amnihook
4. Chux Pads
5. Bedpan per provider preference

CONTENT

PROCEDURE STEPS:

KEY POINTS:

1. Explain procedure.
2. Place patient in lithotomy position.
3. Arrange blanket so that patient is properly draped.
4. Open amnihook wrapper for patient care provider.
5. Place lubricant jelly on gloved fingers of patient care provider.
6. Amniotomy is performed by patient care provider
7. Check FHT immediately and assess fetal response on the FHR tracing on fetal monitor
8. Clean perineum and change linen as needed
9. Assess maternal temp every 2 hours
10. Evaluate women for signs and symptoms of infection.

Keep under pad under bedpan.

Provide support/comfort to the patient, as the procedure may be uncomfortable
He/she will have on sterile gloves

Don't use betadine solutions, as that will affect the color of the amniotic fluid, unless requested.
Assess color, consistency and odor of the fluid and amount.
Cord might be compressed or possibly prolapse.

Meconium-stained fluid may be a sign of some fetal distress. Large amount of fluid may be a sign of polyhydramnios and possible fetal abnormalities.

DOCUMENTATION:

1. Note time artificial rupture of membrane time in CPN/fetal monitoring system.
2. Note which patient care provider performed amniotomy .
3. Color, consistency and amount of fluid obtained should be charted.
4. NOTE: FHT after amniotomy.

Reference:

AWHONN Perinatal Nursing, Simpson & Creeham, 2001, p 342.
Maternity and Women's Healthcare, Mosby-Lowdermilk and Perry, 2004 page 1009