INTRODUCTION:

Expertise in the management of "medical complications of pregnancy" (otherwise known as Obstetric Medicine) is an expectation for trainees completing residency training in Internal Medicine in Canada, as outlined in the Objectives of Training and Specialty Training Requirements in Internal Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. This objective is meant to be achieved despite the lack of a formal or standardized national framework for training in obstetric medicine, along with infrequent and regionally variable clinical experience in caring for pregnant women with medical disorders. The great majority of Internal Medicine residents will not have received any systematic instruction about the assessment and management of medical problems in pregnancy, thereby failing to link the curriculum to certification requirements and health care needs, as advocated by experts in curriculum design. A recent survey of Canadian graduates of General Internal Medicine residencies confirmed that obstetric medicine is one of the areas within the CanMEDS competencies which showed the greatest perceived gap between importance (high) and preparation (low) among new specialist physicians (Card et al., 2006). In response to similar concerns in other countries, the International Society of Obstetric Medicine (ISOM) recently began a process to: outline the body of knowledge in Internal Medicine of particular relevance to pregnancy, identify specific conditions unique to pregnancy, and to define the context in which training in this knowledge should occur.

Recognizing the abundance of talented obstetric medicine physicians in Canada, as well as the unique scope of practice of training and in General Internal Medicine in this country, a national curriculum validation project was undertaken to synthesize a comprehensive Obstetric Medicine Curriculum for training of specialty residents in Canada. This document is the product of that process.

This Canadian Obstetric Medicine Curriculum is a summary of the attitudes, abilities and knowledge which should be imparted to Canadian Internal Medicine trainees in the domain of Obstetric Medicine. The information is organized in three sections: general principles, competencies specific to each organ system and tabular data. The competencies are presented in CanMeds format. The curriculum document may serve as a blueprint for the creation of curricular objectives, may guide the selection of appropriate instructional strategies, and may stimulate the development of valid alternative educational strategies (ie. for rare conditions) and assessment methods. It may also assist in defining the context in which training should occur, and serve as a model for local curricula adapted to the level of the trainees involved.

Toronto, April 24th, 2010 Annabelle Cumyn, M.D., MHPE Paul S. Gibson, M.D.

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

CanCOM Obstetric Medicine Curriculum

This table describes the competencies required to practice Obstetric Medicine. The content of this curriculum blueprint is based on several sources including the curriculum endorsed by the International Society of Obstetric Medicine, validated by subject-matter experts across Canada, and adapted to reflect the educational standards of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

SECTION 1: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. CanMEDS COMPETENCIES FOR OBSTETRIC MEDICINE

1.0 Medical Expert

Medical expert is the central role and refers to the application of medical knowledge, clinical and professional skills. This role will be developed for each discipline under section 2.

1.1 Communicator

1.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Establishes effective rapport, trust and ethical therapeutic relationships with:

Patient and family

Multidisciplinary team and allied health professionals

Accurately obtains, synthesizes and conveys relevant data from:

Patient, family, colleagues and other professionals

Develops a common understanding on issues, problems and plans with:

Patient, family and multidisciplinary team

Provides accurate and sensitive information:

During preconception counseling of women with chronic medical disorders

On risk:benefit profile of medication use in pregnancy and breastfeeding

On risk:benefit of various diagnostic and therapeutic options in pregnancy

On the need to discuss the reliability of information obtained from the internet

1.2 Collaborator

1.2.1 CONCEPTS

Consults effectively with inter-professional healthcare team

Understands and respects the role of each healthcare provider

Contributes effectively to other interdisciplinary activities and meetings

Facilitates care and coordination of follow-up during the pregnancy and post-partum

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

1.3 Manager

1.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Organizes investigations within an acceptable time frame, taking into consideration the availability of resources

Works efficiently within a health care organization

1.4 Health advocate

1.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Provides accurate and sensitive counseling on:

Impact of smoking, alcohol, and recreational drugs on health of mother and fetus

Tools available in pregnancy for a healthier lifestyle

Psychological impact of a complicated pregnancy on mother and family

Promotes preventive health care in the setting of preconception care, pregnancy and the post-partum

Responds to the individual patient's and community health needs

1.5 Scholar

1.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Seeks and critically appraises medical information to answer clinical questions

Facilitates learning of patients, families, and other health professionals

Demonstrates leadership in the development of appropriate protocols for care, when possible

Consults available resources for medication risk-benefit profile in pregnancy and lactation

1.6 Professional

1.6.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates commitment to patients and profession through an ethical practice

Recognizes the predominant ethical dilemmas in Obstetric Medicine

Delivers quality care with integrity and compassion

Recognizes limitation in knowledge and skills, and appropriately consults another health professional in:

Caring for patients with rare or complex medical conditions (for example: cancer, transplant, obstetric complications)

2. PHYSIOLOGY OF PREGNANCY

2.1 Cardiovascular changes

2.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on blood volume, vascular resistance, and cardiac output

Impact of normal hemodynamic changes on symptomatology, physical findings and laboratory parameters (table I)

Hemodynamic changes associated with labor, delivery, and the postpartum period

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

2.2 Respiratory physiology

2.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on respiratory rate, lung volumes and normal symptomatology

Impact of pregnancy on sleep quality, architecture, and time

2.3 Renal physiology

2.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of the increase in renal blood flow on kidney size and function (table I)

Changes in renal collecting system due to hormonal and mechanical factors

Impact of pregnancy on renal tubular function and findings on urinalysis

Impact of placental vasopressinase on ADH metabolism

2.4 Metabolic changes

2.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Normal metabolic and endocrine changes associated with pregnancy

Impact of placental hormones on maternal glucose and lipid metabolism

Relative insulin resistance and hypercorticolism associated with pregnancy

3. PHARMACOLOGY OF PREGNANCY AND LACTATION

3.1 General principles

3.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Background risks of congenital anomalies, spontaneous abortion, and fetal complications

Etiologies related to congenital anomalies

Notion of critical period for anomalies specific to each organ system

Importance of antenatal counseling to reduce risk of congenital anomalies

Impact of pregnancy of drug pharmacodynamics

Factors that affect drug transfer into breast milk

Drugs that influence milk supply

Importance of an evidence-based approach when communicating risks and benefits of a pharmacotherapeutic agent with a patient

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

4. DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC RADIATION IN PREGNANCY

4.1 Diagnostic imaging

4.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Potential impact of fetal radiation exposure according to timing during pregnancy

Expected fetal radiation exposure associated with common radiological examinations (refer to table II)

Approach to imaging with intravenous contrast agents or radiopharmaceuticals during breastfeeding

4.2. Therapeutic radiation

4.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk:benefit of radiation therapy during each trimester of pregnancy

5. ACUTE CARE AND MATERNAL RESUSCITATION

5.1 Acute respiratory failure

5.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates understanding of:

Expected changes in blood gas parameters associated with pregnancy

Impact of pregnancy and medications on risk of pulmonary edema

5.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on approach to intubation

Risk of mucosal friability associated with nasal intubation

Appropriate investigation and treatment of the pregnant patient with acute shortness of breath

Target pO2 and pCO2 in the intubated pregnant patient

Indications for ICU consultation and assisted ventilation

5.1.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk of maternal complications associated with inadequate ventilator parameters

Impact of position, hypovolemia and alkalosis on uteroplacental flow

5.2 Cardiopulmonary resuscitation

5.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of:

The impact of pregnancy on mucosal friability and chest compliance

The impact of aortocaval compression on venous return and effectiveness of resuscitation efforts

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

5.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of:

ACLS in pregnancy including left lateral displacement of the uterus, early intubation, use and placement of adhesive pads for defibrillation, and removal of fetal monitor to avoid electrical arcing

The role of caesarian delivery after 4 minutes of unsuccessful resuscitation for cardiac arrest in a patient at 20-24 weeks gestation or more

The coordination of care in the ICU setting and the importance of glycemic control and thromboprophylaxis

6. SURGICAL AND ANAESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS

6.2 General principals

6.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Most common indications for surgery and ideal timing for surgical intervention in pregnancy

Impact of pregnancy on presentation of acute abdomen

Variety of anaesthetic approaches and impact on maternal physiology

Maternal and fetal risks associated with various surgical and anesthetic procedures in pregnancy

Impact of the pregnancy on risk of hypoxemia, aspiration and intubation

6.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Indications for thrombotic and antibiotic prophylaxis

Specific maternal and fetal considerations such as volume replacement, positioning, and monitoring

7. RELEVANT OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGIC CONDITIONS

7.1 Septic pelvic vein thrombosis

7.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Typical presentation, risk factors, and types of septic thrombosis

Associated risk of pulmonary embolism or regional extension

7.1.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Approaches to diagnosis

7.1.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic modalities

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

7.2 Amniotic fluid embolism

7.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Major clinical findings in AFE

Hemodynamic alterations associated with AFE

7.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Supportive measures taken to correct hypoxemia and hypotension

7.3 Endometritis

7.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Prevalence and risk factors for endometritis in the postpartum period

Differential diagnosis of fever in the postpartum

Prevalence of polymicrobial infection with sexually transmitted infections

7.3.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Usual approach to treatment

7.3.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Possibility of lethal toxic-shock syndrome associated with rare Clostridial infections

7.4 Postpartum hemorrhage

7.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates an understanding of:

Most common causes of early and delayed PPH

7.4.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Circumstances in which medical etiologies or contributing factors should be sought

7.4.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates an understanding of the:

Sequence of non-operative and operative interventions for the treatment of PPH

7.5 Assisted reproduction technology (ART)

7.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates an understanding of the:

Variety of options available to patients with fertility problems

Obstetrical and medical complications associated with ART

Risk factors and classification of ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome (OHSS)

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

7.5.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates an understanding of the:

Indications for thromboprophylaxis in OHSS

Treatment modalities for OHSS

7.5.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates an understanding of the:

Complications associated with ART and grade III OHSS

SECTION 2: SPECIFIC DISORDERS

8. HYPERTENSIVE DISORDERS

8.1. Chronic hypertension

8.1.1 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Baseline investigations to be done prior to or at the onset of pregnancy in a woman with hypertension

Work-up of secondary causes of hypertension as it pertains to pregnancy

Physiologic changes to BP in pregnancy

Associated conditions that may alter BP targets, and related complications

Demonstrates skills in the:

Appropriate approach to BP measurement in the pregnant woman

8.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Current national guidelines on the management of hypertensive disorders in pregnancy

Safety profile of antihypertensive medications during pregnancy and breastfeeding

Approach to BP control and indications for drug therapy

Appropriate antenatal and post-partum follow-up of hypertensive women

Strategies to reduce the risk of preeclampsia

Laboratory investigations for diagnosis of preeclampsia

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Role played by uteroplacental doppler ultrasound in obstetrical management

8.1.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates competency in:

Counseling mothers regarding the risk of maternal complications

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Fetal complications associated with maternal chronic hypertension

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Accurately educates the mother on the:

Symptoms and signs of preeclampsia

8.2 Gestational hypertension / Preeclampsia

8.2.1 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Definitions based on latest Canadian consensus guidelines

Pathophysiology of preeclampsia

Risk factors that place women at a higher risk of preeclampsia

Definition of significant proteinuria in pregnancy

Differential diagnosis of atypical preeclampsia

8.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Appropriate investigations and follow-up of women with suspected preeclampsia

Maternal indications for therapy and hospitalization

Appropriate recognition and management of severe hypertension

Adequate management of peripartum fluid balance

Appropriately collaborates in the:

Multidiscliplinary discussion around optimal timing for delivery

8.2.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge in the:

Appropriate recognition and management of associated major maternal complications including HELLP syndrome, DIC, acute renal failure, hypertensive encephalopathy, pulmonary edema, eclampsia and other related medical emergencies

Develops an understanding of the:

Indications for MgSO4 use in the prevention and treatment of eclampsia

8.2.4 POSTPARTUM MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Post-partum evolution of BP in preeclampsia

Natural evolution and appropriate follow-up of laboratory abnormalities postpartum

Indications for investigation of thrombotic predisposition

Provides accurate and sensitive counseling on the:

Risk of recurrence of preeclampsia in future pregnancies

Association between placental disorders and increased risk of long-term metabolic, renal and cardiovascular disease

Strategies including lifestyle modifications and regular follow-up to reduce risk of metabolic and cardiovascular disease

Seeks and critically evaluates data on the:

Prevention of preeclampsia in subsequent pregnancies

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

9. CARDIOLOGY

9.1 Evaluation of palpitations, presyncope and syncope

9.1.1 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates skills in the:

Performance of a physical examination of the cardiovascular system of the pregnant woman

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Appropriate evaluation and investigations for palpitations, presyncope and syncope

9.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Appropriate treatment of the most prevalent arrhythmias in pregnancy (symptomatic sinus tachycardia, SVT, AF, and atrial flutter)

Presence of an increased risk of arrhythmia, pulmonary edema, hypotension during labour

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Importance of educating mothers on the normal cardiovascular symptoms in pregnancy

9.2 Acquired and Congenital Heart Disease

9.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates an understanding of the:

Impact of pregnancy associated hemodynamic changes on different types of congenital and acquired pathologies

Impact of cardiac disease on pregnancy outcome

Features associated with a higher maternal risk

Increased risk of fetal cardiac malformations with family history of cardiac malformations

Various approaches to anticoagulation for prosthetic cardiac valves during pregnancy, labour, and the postpartum

Period of highest risk for warfarin teratogenicity

9.2.2. MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Role of folic acid for woman with a personal or family history of congenital cardiac anomaly

History, physical examination, and investigations to detect deterioration in cardiac function

Usefulness of a variety of maternal monitoring devices during labour and post-partum period

Management of maternal cardiac complications

Indications for endocarditis prophylaxis

9.3 Cardiomyopathies

9.3.1 EVALUATION

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Risk factors associated with an peripartum cardiomyopathy (PPCM)

Diagnostic features of peripartum cardiomyopathy

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of pulmonary edema in pregnancy

Risk of maternal and fetal complications of acute and chronic heart failure

9.3.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Investigations for the evaluation of heart failure

Cardiac medications acceptable for use in pregnancy

Treatment of congestive heart failure in pregnancy

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Impact of cardiac disease on delivery plan

Role of prophylactic anticoagulation in women with a depression LVEF

Possible pathogenic role of prolactin in PPCM

9.3.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Risk of recurrence of peripartum cardiomyopathy or deterioration of cardiac function in subsequent pregnancies

Approaches to evaluate and counsel women on the risk of cardiac complications in subsequent pregnancies

10. ENDOCRINOLOGY

10.1 Pregestational diabetes

10.1.1 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Preconception and baseline evaluation of glycemic control, medication use, and history of severe complications

Adjustment of medications in preparation for pregnancy

Preconception target in HbA1C and impact on risk of miscarriages and fetal malformations

Evaluation of target organ damage at baseline and during the course of pregnancy

Evaluation of comorbidities associated with type 1 and 2 diabetes

Importance of preconceptional folic acid use at an appropriate dose

Provides accurate and sensitive counseling on the:

Risk of maternal complications such as hypoglycemic and hyperglycemic episodes, DKA, progressive retinopathy and nephropathy, preeclampsia

10.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Treatment modalities in pregnancy and targets for glycemic control

Expected changes in insulin requirements during the course of pregnancy, following steroid administration and the early post-partum period

Management of diabetes during labor and the postpartum period

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

10.1.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Management of maternal complications

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Impact of poor glycemic control on fetus, neonate and longer term risk of metabolic disease

Possible impact of valsalva maneuvers during delivery on severe retinopathy

10.2 Gestational diabetes

10.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Pathophysiology of insulin resistance in pregnancy

Risk factors for gestational diabetes

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Contribution of cultural and religious background to diet and lifestyle habits

10.2.2 SCREENING:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Canadian Diabetes Association guidelines for impaired glucose tolerance and gestational diabetes

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Indications for early screening, usual screening and repeat screening

Optimal timing for screening for high risk populations

10.2.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Baseline assessment at time of diagnosis of GDM

Contribution of a consultation with dietitian and exercise therapist

Nature of follow-up and targets for glycemic control

Non-pharmacological approach to glycemic control

Indications to start pharmacological therapy

Risks and benefits of selected medications

Recommendations for postpartum follow-up

10.2.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Associated risk of gestational hypertension

Long-term risk of type 2 DM

Risk of occurrence in subsequent pregnancies

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Obstetric and delivery complications associated with untreated gestational diabetes

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Counsels on the:

Lifelong risk of obesity, diabetes and other adverse maternal outcomes

Importance of early screening before and during a next pregnancy

Promotes health by explaining:

Required lifestyle changes and optimal follow-up of other cardiovascular risk markers

10.3 Obesity and metabolic syndrome

10.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of obesity on insulin resistance, oxygen demand, and cardiac work

Associated risk of aspiration, sleep disorders, and restrictive lung disease

Appropriate pre-conception counseling

Demonstrates accurate and sensitive counseling on:

Appropriate nutrition and weight gain during pregnancy

10.3.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Importance of early screening for GDM

Approach to the patient with prior bariatric surgery according to type of intervention

10.3.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Appropriate follow-up for placental-mediated disorders and other complications

10.3.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk of adverse fetal and maternal outcomes during pregnancy and delivery

10.4 Thyroid disorders

10.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Normal variations of TSH and T4 levels in pregnancy

Differential diagnosis of hypothyroidism in pregnancy

Differential diagnosis of hyperthyroidism in pregnancy

Impact of pregnancy on Grave's disease

Link between abnormal thyroid results, hyperemesis gravidarum, and molar pregnancy

Interaction between iron, calcium and levo-thyroxine absorption

Provides accurate and sensitive counseling on the:

Possible association between inadequately treated hypothyroidism and cognitive deficits in the newborn

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

10.4.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Possible need for increased thyroid replacement therapy at onset and during pregnancy

Appropriate follow-up of TSH, T4 and goals of therapy

Treatment choices for hyperthyroidism in pregnancy and breastfeeding

Options for follow-up and adjustment of thyroid replacement therapy after delivery

10.4.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Link between thyroid disorders and obstetrical complications

Benefits of treating subclinical and frank hypothyroidism on maternal and fetal outcomes

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Recognition and management of post-partum thyroiditis

Recognition and management of thyroid storm in pregnancy and the peripartum period

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Options for fetal surveillance when maternal TSI antibodies present in high titer

10.5 Pituitary disorders

10.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Return of fertility after treatment of prolactinomas

Impact of pregnancy on prolactinoma size

Variability in presentation of Sheehan syndrome in the post-partum period

Importance of considering mild hypopituitarism in women with difficulty lactating

10.5.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Possibility of hypopituitarism in the patient with severe post-partum hemorrhage and ongoing hypotension

10.5.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Management of prolactinoma during pregnancy, the preconception period and during lactation

10.5.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Clinical presentation of an increase in prolactinoma size

Typical presentation of pituitary apoplexy

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

10.6 Adrenal disorders

10.6.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on clinical presentation of Cushing's syndrome

10.6.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Approach to diagnosis of Cushing's syndrome in pregnancy

10.6.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic options for the treatment of Cushing's syndrome in pregnancy

Indications for stress dose steroids at the time of delivery

10.6.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

High rate of complications associated with untreated Cushing's syndrome in pregnancy

10.7 Diabetes insipidus

10.7.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Changes in ADH physiology in pregnancy

Typical presentation of gestational DI

Different etiologies and associations of DI in pregnancy

10.7.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic options for DI in pregnancy

11. HEMATOLOGY

11.1 Anemia

11.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of anemia in pregnancy

11.1.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Diagnostic value of serum ferritin

11.1.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Treatment of iron-deficiency in pregnancy and indications for parenteral iron therapy

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

11,2 Thromboembolic disorders

11.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Thromboembolic predisposition associated with pregnancy and the early post-partum period

Additional factors which increase risk of venous thromboembolism

Mortality associated with thromboembolic disorders

Interpretation of d-dimers in pregnancy

11.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Appropriate investigations for VTE

Management of VTE in pregnancy, labour, and the post-partum period

Approaches for monitoring laboratory markers of anticoagulation

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Indications for thromboprophylaxis in pregnancy and the post-partum period

Impact of anticoagulation on anaesthetic and obstetric management at the time of delivery

11.2.3 COMPLICATIONS

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Maternal and fetal complications associated with anticoagulation therapy

11.3 Thrombophilias

11.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Additional hypercoagulable states and their respective thrombotic risk

Impact of pregnancy on laboratory results of components of the coagulation cascade

Seeks and critically evaluates data on:

Thrombophilic predispositions and obstetrical complications

11.3.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Implications of thrombophilic predisposition on management during pregnancy and the post-partum period

Different heparin regimen and their respective indications

11.4 Thrombocytopenia

11.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of thrombocytopenia in pregnancy

11.4.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk of bleeding associated with various levels of thrombocytopenia

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Treatment of ITP in pregnancy

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Risk of fetal thrombocytopenia associated with maternal ITP

Demonstrates effective collaboration with:

Obstetrics and Anaesthesia to plan mode of delivery and regional anesthesia and analgesic choices

11.5 Bleeding disorders

11.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of:

When investigate with a personal or familial bleeding history

Impact of pregnancy on VWD

11.5.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Management of VWD in pregnancy and the peripartum period

Indications for transfusion therapy

Management of consumptive coagulopathies

Accurate counsels on the:

Risks associated with various blood products

11.6 Hemoglobinopathies

11.6.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Complications associated with sickle cell anemia in pregnancy

Differential diagnosis of a low MCV

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Importance of offering families with hemoglobinopathies a consultation with medical genetics

11.6.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Preconception evaluation of the patient with an hemoglobinopathy

11.6.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Management of sickle cell patients in pregnancy

Acute care of the pregnant patient with a sickle cell crisis or acute chest syndrome

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Importance of multidisciplinary care for patients with sickle cell anemia

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

12. RESPIROLOGY

12.1 General principles

12.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of acute shortness of breath in pregnancy, labour and the post-partum period

Appropriate evaluation of respiratory symptoms in pregnancy

Increased prevalence of obstructive sleep apnea in pregnancy

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Impact of physiological changes on exercise tolerance

12.2 Asthma

12.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Factors which increase risk of asthmatic exacerbation

Impact of asthmatic exacerbation on pregnancy outcome

12.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Adequate control of asthma in pregnancy and breastfeeding

Management of other frequent causes of respiratory complaints in pregnancy such as allergic and gestational rhinitis

Promotes health by educating on the:

Importance of developing a self-management plan

Importance of compliance and of early self-referral for persistent asthmatic symptoms

12.3 Cystic fibrosis

12.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of disease severity on adverse maternal outcomes

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Importance of genetic counseling

12.3.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Importance of optimal, stable pulmonary function prior to conception

12.3.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Importance of multidisciplinary care including close follow-up of maternal nutrition and weight gain

Importance of early screening for gestational diabetes

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

13. NEPHROLOGY

13.1 Physiological changes

13.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of physiologic changes in morphology

Normal proteinuria, albuminuria and serum creatinine in pregnancy (Table I)

Risk factors for nephrolithiasis and pyelonephritis

13.2 Acute renal failure

13.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of acute renal failure (ARF) in pregnancy

13.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Evaluation and management of ARF in pregnancy

Importance of avoiding nephrotoxic medications and considering drug adjustments

13.2.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Increased risk of acute tubular necrosis in the context of hypovolemia, preeclampsia and bleeding

13.3 Chronic renal failure

13.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of renal dysfunction on maternal and fetal outcomes

Impact of pregnancy on renal dysfunction

Role of prenatal creatinine clearance in preconception counseling

Risks associated with ACE inhibitors and ARBs in pregnancy

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Importance of prenatal counseling for women with chronic renal failure (CRF)

Modifications to hemodialysis regimens in pregnancy

Role of genetic counseling in inherited renal disorders

13.3.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of renal disease on target for BP control

Adequate follow-up of renal function in pregnancy

13.3.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Factors associated with a risk of progression to end stage renal failure

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

14.TRANSPLANT MEDICINE

14.1 General principles

14.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Maternal and fetal risks associated with anti-rejection medications and pregnancy

Ideal time delay between transplant and pregnancy

Importance of reviewing vaccination history

14.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Investigations prior to conception and during pregnancy

Importance of early recognition of rejection

Management of infectious complications such as CMV reactivation

15. GASTROENTOROLOGY

15.1 Hyperemesis gravidarum

15.1.1 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of nausea in pregnancy

Biochemical anomalies associated with HG

Risk factors for severe HG

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Psychosocial consequences of HG

15.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Indications for hospitalization

Therapeutic approaches including risk and benefits of hyperalimentation

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Value of a multidisciplinary approach with experts in high-risk pregnancy, pharmacy, psychology, social work, and nutrition

15.1.3 COMPLICATIONS

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Maternal and fetal complications associated with severe HG

15.2 Dyspepsia

15.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Effects of pregnancy on gastrointestinal physiology

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Differential diagnosis of dyspepsia in pregnancy

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Impact of dyspepsia during the pregnancy

15.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk and benefit profile of available non pharmacological and pharmacological treatment modalities

Indications and risks of gastroscopy in pregnancy

15.3 Hepatitis and liver dysfunction in pregnancy

15.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of abnormal liver enzymes and liver function tests in pregnancy

Impact of pregnancy on prevalence of cholestasis, cholelithiasis, and cholecystitis

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Impact of obstetric cholestasis on maternal and fetal pregnancy outcomes

Morbidity and mortality of acute fatty liver of pregnancy (AFLP)

Association of AFLP with DI and cross-over with preeclampsia and HELLP syndrome

15.3.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Evaluation of abnormal liver enzymes and liver function tests in pregnancy

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Characteristic presentation of AFLP

15.3.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of:

Therapeutic approaches to obstetric cholestasis (OC)

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Role of fetal surveillance in OC and optimal timing for delivery

Management of viral hepatitis in pregnancy

Management of AFLP

Role of LCHAD testing for counseling on risk of recurrence

15.3.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Maternal and fetal complications associated with maternal hepatitis, cholestasis or hepatic dysfunction

Risk factors associated with fulminant hepatitis in pregnancy

Magnitude of perinatal transmission associated with the different viral hepatitides

Role of active and passive immunization to decrease vertical transmission of hepatitis B

Risk of severe hepatic failure in AFLP and indications for hepatic transplant

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

15.4 Cirrhosis

15.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on liver function and portal hypertension

Impact of chronic liver disease on pregnancy

15.4.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Contribution from upper endoscopy in antenatal counseling

15.4.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Indications for beta-blocker prophylaxis against variceal hemorrhage

15.5 Inflammatory bowel disease

15.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Importance of stabilizing disease prior to conception

Usual course during pregnancy and the postpartum period

Maternal and fetal complications of IBD exacerbation during pregnancy

Demonstrates appreciation of:

Importance of prenatal counseling of patients with IBD

15.5.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Importance to evaluate the presence of extra-intestinal manifestations of IBD

Risk and benefits of endoscopy in pregnancy

15.5.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic approaches to IBD during pregnancy and the post-partum period

Appropriate assessment and management of patients with symptoms of exacerbation

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Importance of nutritional counseling

15.5.4 COMPLICATIONS

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Management of complications during pregnancy

Potential for malabsorption of fat soluble vitamins if distal ileal resection

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

16. NEUROLOGY

16.1 Headaches

16.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of headache in pregnancy

Natural history of headaches in pregnancy and the post-partum period

Prevalence of post-epidural headaches

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Impact of headaches on quality of life in pregnancy

16.1.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Evaluation of headache in pregnancy

Indications for imaging

16.1.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Non pharmacological management of benign chronic headaches

Safety profile of analgesics and other pharmacologic agents in pregnancy

Management of post-epidural headaches

16.2 Seizures

16.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of seizures in pregnancy

Factors which modify the risk of seizures in women with epilepsy

Importance of preconception counseling

Impact of antiepilectic drugs on folic acid metabolism

Factors which increase the teratogenic potential of anticonvulsivants

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Increased risk of epilepsy in children born to mothers or fathers with epilepsy

Accurately counsels patients on the:

Impact of seizures and medications on maternal and fetal pregnancy outcomes

16.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge in:

Pharmacological and non pharmacological approaches to decrease risk of seizures

Approaches to drug monitoring

Management of acute seizures in pregnancy

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

CanCOM Obstetric Medicine curriculum[©] 2010

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Importance of counseling women regarding the transmission of antiepilectic medications in breast milk, contraception, and safe approaches when caring for neonate

16.2.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Increased risk of drug toxicity in first months postpartum

16.3 Cerebrovascular disease

16.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk factors for stroke in pregnancy

Differential diagnosis of hemorrhagic and ischemic stroke in pregnancy

Clinical presentations of hypertensive encephalopathy and reversible posterior leukoencephalopathy syndrome

16.3.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Diagnostic evaluation of cerebrovascular symptoms in pregnancy

16.3.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Approach to patient with a history of prior stroke

Approach to patient with stroke in pregnancy and the post-partum period

16.4 Nerve compression syndromes

16.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk factors for nerve compression and entrapment syndromes in pregnancy

Time course for symptom resolution in the post-partum period

Increased prevalence of Bell's palsy in pregnancy

Impact of pregnancy on outcome of Bell's palsy

16.4.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Typical presentation of carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS), sciatica and meralgia paraesthetica

16.4.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Available therapeutic modalities to diminish CTS and sciatica symptoms in pregnancy

Indications for treatment of Bell's palsy and available medications in pregnancy

16.4.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Possible association of Bell's palsy with pre-eclampsia

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

16.5 Myasthenia gravis

16.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Factors associated with the highest risk for MG exacerbation

Demonstrates an understanding of the:

Impact of MG on fetus development and risk of neonatal MG

Impact of MG on second stage of labour and the importance of planned multidisciplinary care

16.5.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Baseline evaluation of pregnant patients with MG

16.5.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Necessity to treat infections promptly

Possible for dose adjustment of acetylcholinesterase inhibitors in pregnancy

16.5.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Initial symptoms associated with a myasthenic crisis

Relative contraindication for use of MGSO4 in this patient population

First line therapy for antihypertensive treatment in pregnant patients with MG

16.6 Multiple sclerosis

16.6.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on MS

Impact of MS on pregnancy

Factors which may increase risk of relapse in the post-partum period

16.6.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Management of acute attacks in pregnancy

17. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

17.1 Infections in general

17.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Pathogens associated with an increased risk of obstetric complications (TORCH)

Pathogens associated with an increased risk of maternal morbidity and mortality

Most common causes of sepsis in pregnancy

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

17.2.1 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Evaluation and management of the febrile pregnant woman

Management of various antibiotics and antivirals in pregnancy

17.2 Urinary tract infections

17.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Factors which increase the risk of urinary tract infections in pregnancy

Predominant causative organisms

17.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Most commonly used antibiotic regimens for lower and upper urinary tract infections

Indications for prophylactic regimens

Importance of cultures post treatment to confirm resolution

17.2.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Complication associated with untreated asymptomatic bacteriuria

Maternal complications associated with pyelonephritis

17.3 Respiratory infections

17.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of cough in pregnancy

Importance of measuring oxygen saturation in woman with suspected pneumonia

Morbidity and mortality associated with viral pneumonias in pregnancy

17.3.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Evaluation and management of respiratory infections in pregnancy

17.3.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on the risk of a complicated pneumonia

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

17.4 Tuberculosis

17.4.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of pregnancy on risk of latent TB reactivation and course of active disease

17.4.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Indications for testing of latent tuberculosis in pregnancy

17.4.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Approach to patient with positive tuberculin skin test in pregnancy

Agents to avoid when treating active tuberculosis

17.5 Human immunodeficiency virus

17.5.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Risk of vertical transmission to fetus during pregnancy, delivery, and the postpartum period

Impact of HAART on the risk of vertical transmission

Safety profile and principal side-effects of antiretrovirals

Importance of interdisciplinary management with auxiliary care (social work, dietician, pharmacist

Provides accurate and sensitive counseling on the:

Risk of HIV transmission during breastfeeding

17.6 Immunizations

17.6.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Guidelines for immunization prior to pregnancy, in pregnancy, and in the post-partum period

Importance of addressing vaccination gaps

Effectiveness of immunization in pregnancy

Types of vaccines and safety profile in pregnancy

18. IMMUNOLOGIC DISORDERS

18.1 Systemic lupus erythematosus

18.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of SLE on adverse maternal and fetal outcomes

Impact of pregnancy of disease markers

Factors which increase the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Importance of prenatal counseling on factors which decrease risk of flare-up during pregnancy

18.1.2 EVALUATION:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Baseline assessment of function and disease markers

Importance of regular clinical and laboratory follow-up

Evaluation of proteinuria and renal dysfunction in these women

18.1.3 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic options for disease control

Impact of early treatment of exacerbations

Risk of exacerbation when discontinuing antimalarials

18.1.4 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Manifestations of other complications of SLE in pregnancy

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Fetal surveillance associated with the presence of anti-SSA and anti-SSB antibodies

18.2 Antiphospholipid syndrome

18.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Diagnostic criteria for APLS

Impact of APLS on adverse maternal and fetal outcomes

Association with other autoimmune disorders

18.2.2 EVALUATION

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Impact of inter laboratory variations on diagnosis

Indications for testing and follow-up

18.2.3 MANAGEMENT

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic approaches in pregnancy

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Clinical features of catastrophic antiphoslipid syndrome

Provides accurate and relevant counseling on the:

Possibility of developing non-obstetrical manifestations in the future

18.3 Rheumatoid arthritis

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

18.3.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of symmetrical and asymmetrical arthritis in pregnancy and the postpartum period

Impact of pregnancy on RA disease activity

Safety profile of RA medications in pregnancy and lactation

Provides accurate counseling on the:

Risk of post-partum exacerbation

18.3.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic approaches in pregnancy and the postpartum period

Available data regarding biologic agents

19. NEOPLASTIC DISORDERS

19.2 General principles

19.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Most common types of pregnancy-associated cancers

Impact of pregnancy on the interpretation of cytological specimens

Risk of transplacental metastases

Importance of pre-conception counseling including cardiac evaluation in patients with history of thoracic radiation or anthracyclin therapy

19.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Spectrum of therapeutic options in pregnancy and impact on mother and fetus

Impact of delaying delivery after chemotherapy for fetal bone marrow recovery

20. DERMATOLOGY

20.1 Dermatoses related to pregnancy

20.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of pruritus in pregnancy

Differential diagnosis of skin lesions in pregnancy

Usual presentation of PUPPP

Demonstrates appreciation of the:

Impact of pruritus on quality of sleep and quality of life

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

20.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Therapeutic modalities for the relief of pruritus

Evaluation and management of bullous lesions in pregnancy

20.1.3 COMPLICATIONS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Risk of neonatal complications in herpes gestationis

Risk of recurrence of herpes gestationis in future pregnancies or when taking oral contraceptive agents

21. Psychiatric illness

21.1 Chronic psychiatric conditions

21.1.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Importance of preconception counseling in women with a history of chronic psychiatric conditions

Demonstrates accurate and empathetic counseling on:

The effect of pregnancy on pre-existing psychiatric illness

The risk benefits of psychiatric medication during pregnancy

Demonstrates appreciation of:

The role of multidisciplinary care with specialists with an expertise in mood disorders

21.1.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

How and when to screen for sexual, psychological, and physical abuse

When to contact local psychiatric services

21.2 Acute psychiatric conditions

21.2.1 CONCEPTS:

Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:

Differential diagnosis of psychosis in pregnancy

Risk factors for development of postnatal depression and puerperal psychosis

21.2.2 MANAGEMENT:

Demonstrates understanding of the:

Assessment and treatment of the pregnant patient with psychiatric symptoms

Importance of evaluating for medical or substance abuse comorbidities

Importance of involving psychiatric specialists and family in care of patient

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

21.2.3 COMPLICATIONS:
Demonstrates appreciation of the:
Importance of assessing actual suicidal and homicidal risk
21.3 Substance abuse disorders
21.3.1 CONCEPTS:
Demonstrates understanding of the:
Importance of addressing the possibility of substance abuse objectively and openly with patients
Impact of smoking on the pregnancy and fetus
Legal implications of substance abuse
21.3.2 MANAGEMENT:
Demonstrates competence and empathy in:
Discussing safety of different smoking cessation techniques in pregnancy
Counseling women about the impact of substance abuse on the pregnancy
Importance of referral to a substance abuse disorder clinic
Demonstrates applied knowledge of the:
Management of acute intoxication and withdrawal in pregnancy
Importance of screening for HIV and hepatitis C when relevant
Importance of multi-disciplinary care including anaesthesia and neonatology
21.3.3 COMPLICATIONS:
Demonstrations applied knowledge in the:
Evaluation of symptoms of withdrawal or intoxication

TABLE I: Impact of pregnancy on physical examination, normal laboratory values, and radiological findings

SECTION 3: TABLES

DISCIPLINE	NORMAL FINDINGS IN PREGNANCY	COMMENTS
Physical exam	Decrease in BP by 12 th week gestation with return to	Mean BP decreases
	normal by term	by 10-15 mm Hg
	Increase in heart rate by 10-20 beats/min with full	An increase of 10-
	brisk bounding pulses	20%
	Decrease in systemic vascular resistance	Decreased by 25-30%
	Midsystolic ejection flow murmur	Increased volume in outflow tracts
	Two physiologic continuous functional murmurs	
	(mammary and suprasternal hum)	
	Jugular venous distension	Increased

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

		intravascular volume
	Lower extremity edema	Increased
		intravascular volume,
		IVC compression,
		decreased oncotic
		pressure +/- changes
		in capillary
		permeability
	Increased respiratory rate from increased minute	Related to increased
	ventilation	drive, basal metabolic
		rate, and oxygen
		consumption
	Pulmonary bibasilar rales that open on deep	Occasionally in late
	inspiration	pregnancy
	No significant change in pulmonary artery pressure	
	or pulmonary capillary wedge pressure	
Haematology	Hemoglobin: 100-130 g/L	Physiologic anemia
	Hematocrit	Decreased because
		plasma volume
		expansion is greater
		than increased
		erythrocyte mass
	Leucocyte count: 10-15 X 10 ⁹ /L	Increased
	Platelet count: 115-150 X 10 ⁹ /L in 10% pregnancies	Nadir near term
Coagulation	INR	Unchanged
	PTT	Unchanged
	Fibrinogen: superior to 2.0 g/L	Increased
		plasminogen activator
		inhibitors
	D-dimers: less than 300 ug/L	Increased
	vWF factor: group O: 0.40-1.75 U/mL	Increased
	non group O: 0.70-2.10 u/mL	
	Factor VIII: 0.6-1.95 U/L	Other coagulation
		factors (V, VII, X)
		also increased by 20-
		_
		100% by term)
	Protein C: 0.70-1.20 U/mL (antigen)	_
	Protein C: 0.70-1.20 U/mL (antigen) Protein S: 0.57-1.20 U/mL (antigen)	100% by term)
	, , , , , ,	100% by term) Usually unchanged
	Protein S: 0.57-1.20 U/mL (antigen)	100% by term) Usually unchanged Decreased

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

1	11	5
	Urea	Decreased
	Sodium: 133-135 meq/L	5 meq/L decrease
	Potassium	Unchanged
	Bicarbonate: 18-22meq/L	Decreased
	pH: 7.40-7.45	Respiratory alkalosis
	Uric acid	Decreased
	Plasma osmolality: 270 mosmol/lg	
	24 hour urine protein: up to 300mg	2 fold increase
	Creatinine clearance: 120-160ml/min	2 fold increase by T2
	Renin/angiotensin level	20-40% increase
Hepatic	AST	Unchanged
1	ALT	Unchanged
	Total bilirubin	Unchanged
	GGT	Lower in second and
		third trimester
	Alkaline phosphatase: increased	From placental origin
	Albumine: 30-32mg/L	10-20% decrease in
		oncotic pressure
Endocrine	TSH: 0.03-2.5 in T1; 0.03-3.0 in T2; 0.03-3.5 in T3	Values may vary
		according to
	Free T4: levels may be decreased in second half of	laboratory assay Difficult to measure
	pregnancy depending on assay used (analog method	reliably in setting of
	less reliable than equilibrium dialysis method)	elevated TBG
	T3	Unchanged
	Prolactin	Increased up to 10
		times normal
	GH	Increased from
	A C'T'I I	placental production
	ACTH	Increased from placental production
		of CRH
	Cortisol	Increased
	Aldosterone	4-6 fold increase by T3
	Angiotensin II	Increased
	ADH	Decreased from
		increased circulating
		vasopressinase
	Cathecholamines	No change

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

Metabolic	Fasting glucose: mean of 4.2	Decreased from active placental transport
	Triglycerides: 2.37 mmol/L	3 fold increase
	Total cholesterol: 6.5 mmol/L	1.5 fold increase
	LDL: 3.8 mmol/L	1.5 fold increase
	HDL: 1.7 mmol/L	1.2 fold increase
	VLDL: 0.65 mmol/L	2.5 fold increase
ABG and pulmonary function tests	PaO2 increased to 100-105 Hg at sea level	Probably from increased cardiac output; can decrease in supine position
	Increased alveolar-arterial gradient to 20	In late stages of pregnancy
	Mild respiratory alkalosis with decreased PaCO2 to 28-32 mm Hg	From increased minute ventilation
	HCO3 decreased to 20-21	Compensatory increase in renal excretion
	pH: 7.40-7.45	Compensated respiratory alkalosis
	Lung volume subdivisions show an increase in tidal volume and a decrease in expiratory reserve volume and residual volume	Decreased FRC with little change in inspiratory capacity
	Decreased lung compliance	From decreased chest wall compliance
	Spirometry is largely unchanged	
CXR	Increased pulmonary vascular markings	Common
	Cardiac silhouette suggestive of cardiomegaly	From heart rotation and hypervolemia
	Straightened left upper cardiac border with more horizontal heart position	
	Small pleural effusion	In post-partum period in particular
EKG	15-20 degree left shift of axis	From elevation of diaphragm
	Periods of SVT and ESV	Occasional
	Q wave in lead III; minor ST-segment depression; T inversion in inferior and lateral leads	From changes in chest dimensions and

Author: Annabelle Cumyn

		diaphragm position
Cardiac ultrasound	Physiologic multivalvular regurgitation	Predominantly right- sided
	Chamber enlargement (5-15% increase in chamber size)	Resulting from a 30- 50% increase in blood volume
	Small asymptomatic pericardial effusion	Occasionally found in T3; resolve by 6 weeks postpartum
	Increase in cardiac output of 30-60% (5-7 L/min/m ²)	Combined increase in preload, heart rate and stroke volume

TABLE II: Mean Radiation Exposure to fetus associated with common imaging procedures. Adapted with permission from Table 8-2: Robert L. Barbieri, MD, Medical Care of the Pregnant Patient, 2nd edition. Rosene-Montella K, Keely EJ, Lee RV, Barbour LA, eds. Philadelphia: American College of Physicians; 2007

Procedure	Mean radiation exposure to fetus (mGy)	Comments
Head CT	<0.01	Test of choice for SAH, subdural, epidural or intraparenchymal hemorrhage
Spine CT	<0.01	
Chest CT	0.06	
Abdominal CT	8	
Chest X-ray	<0.01	
Sinus X-ray	<1	
Lumbar spine	1.7	
Abdominal X-ray	1.4	
Mammography	<1 per breast	Less sensitive in pregnancy
Cerebral angiography	Depends on length on fluoroscopy	
Pulmonary angiography	Brachial approach : <0.5 Femoral approach : 2-3	
Cardiac catheterization	5	Ioxaglate as IV contrast reassuring risk profile in animal models
Cerebral MRI	None	Long-term data not yet available; ideal for PRES, cerebral vein thrombosis, pituitary, AVM
Other MRI	None	
Ultrasound	None	
Perfusion-ventilation scan	V: 0.1-0.3 Q: 0.4-0.6	
Cardiac radionuclide imaging	≤8	
IVP	Can be limited to 1.7 Otherwise 2.9-6.8	Concern about iodine toxicity to developing fetal thyroid
Radioactive uptake scanning of the thyroid	Not indicated in pregnancy	Discard milk for 24-48 hours

Author: Annabelle Cumyn