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February 2014 Newsletter

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[New Provider Course](#)

This course is designed to teach new OB nurses & residents fetal physiology, and its relationship and impact on the Fetal Heart Rate.

A note from the Peri-FACTS® OB/GYN Academy:

We are proud to roll out our *NEWS*letter to you this month, offering a new look and more content, focusing on enhancing the lives and knowledge of OB/GYN providers. Please forward to your friends or tell them to sign up for our monthly newsletter [here](#). Thanks!

This month we are featuring our... *Clinical Quandaries*

Your Clinical Quandary: We are in the process of initiating a high-risk antepartum unit. What concerns should our staff have in developing this process, and what requirements do we need for our staff? (Staffing issues and education for staff).

Our Response: The establishment of a high-risk antepartum unit is a multidisciplinary process that is designed to encompass all the disciplines that will have an impact on these women. Aside from the medical and nursing team, the input of social work, pharmacy, physical/occupational therapy, nutrition, and other specialty services should be included within this process of development.

Requirements for the nursing components of a High-Risk Antepartum unit can be found in "Guidelines for Perinatal Care" (Ed. 7) (2012). According to this publication, recommendations for a Level III High-Risk Antepartum Unit include:

- Director of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing Services at the facility with experience and training in obstetric nursing, neonatal nursing or both, as well as in the care of patients at high risk, preferably with an advanced degree.
- Antepartum Unit
 - A registered nurse for direction/supervision of nursing care within the unit.
 - All nurses working within the unit must have evidence of continuing education in maternal-fetal nursing.
 - An advanced practice nurse should be available within the unit with a master's degree to coordinate the education. (American Academy of Pediatrics, et al. 2012, 30).

To identify the education that nurses working within the unit would require, a review of the potential patient population should be made and the common diagnoses identified. Once this is accomplished, a competency education program can be developed that addresses those key elements necessary for safe/competent patient care. For those diagnoses that are seen infrequently, a "just-in-time" training program can be utilized to assist in the care of those patients.

Response by Shirley M. Warren, R.N., M.S.N.P.-BC, originally published 01/22/14

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New Course Topics Available This Month To Earn Nursing Contact Hours/CME Credits:

Obstetrics Courses Topic: *Adolescent Pregnancy*

- *Adolescents, Sex, and Pregnancy*
- *Psychosocial Issues in Teen Parenting: Predictors, Outcomes, and Interventions*

Gynecology Course Topic: *Overview of Primary Amenorrhea*

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