

Cesarean Section

Indications for Cesarean Section

Breech Baby

- The breech presentation is when the buttocks or feet rather than the baby's head is the presenting part in the mother's pelvis.

Fetal Intolerance Of Labor

- A fetal monitor is used during labor to monitor your baby's heart rate. If your baby is not tolerating labor well, the fetal heart rate may be abnormal. If treatments to correct the abnormal heart rate are not successful, your team might recommend a cesarean section.

No Progress In Labor

- Once you are in active labor (~6cm), you should dilate about 1 cm per hour thereafter. Your labor may not progress normally if your baby is too big for your pelvis, or your pelvis is too small to allow passage of your baby. You may reach 10 cm dilatation, but may be unable to push your baby out because of its size or head position. If your labor does not progress because of these abnormalities, your team may recommend a cesarean section.

Infection

- If your water bag has been broken for many hours you can develop a uterine infection that can affect your baby's health. If your baby shows signs of infection and you are far from delivery, your team may recommend a cesarean section delivery.

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Herpes

- If you have an active herpes outbreak at the time of labor, your team will recommend a cesarean section to reduce the risk of transmission to your baby. Medication will be prescribed to take at least 4 weeks before your due date to decrease the risk of an active herpes outbreak at the time of labor.

HIV

- HIV-positive mothers may be offered a cesarean section to reduce the risk of neonatal transmission.

Placenta Previa

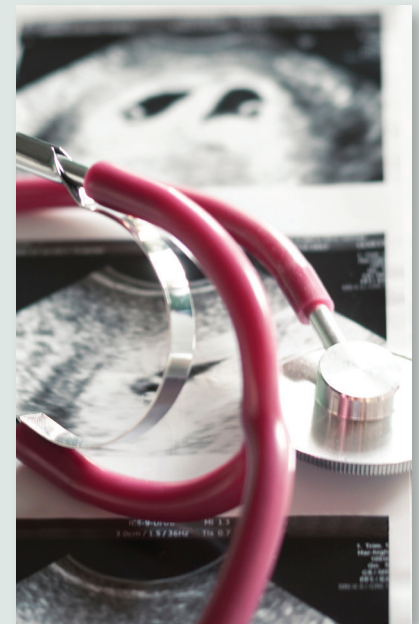
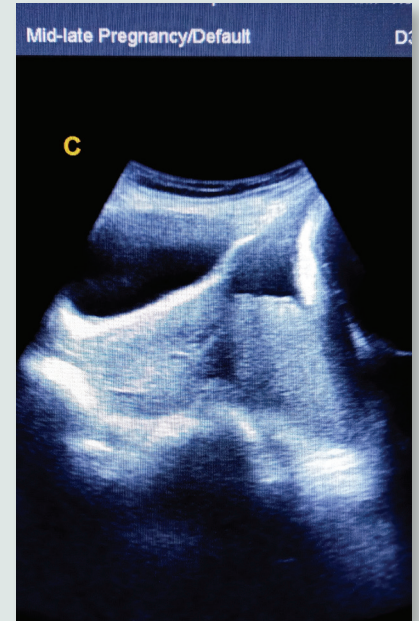
- Placenta previa occurs when the placenta partially or completely covers the cervix, thus blocking the passageway of the baby. Moms with Placenta Previa are recommended cesarean section a few weeks before the due date to prevent problems for the mom and baby. Sometimes cesarean delivery or hospitalization must occur early due to bleeding complications of Placenta Previa.

Multiple Gestation

- Twins are often delivered by cesarean section if one or both of the babies are not head down.

Previous Cesarean Section

- Moms with one previous cesarean section and no complications may be able to choose between a repeat cesarean section or a trial for vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC). If you have had more than one c-section, or you are otherwise not a candidate for VBAC, or choose to have a repeat cesarean section, your team will schedule your surgery for 39 weeks or after.



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