

Kittitas County Prehospital Care Protocols

Subject: OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

General

- A. Obtain history and perform physical assessment.
- B. If stable, administer O₂ @ 4-6 lpm per nasal cannula.
- C. If unstable, administer O₂ @ 12-15 lpm per non-rebreather mask.
- D. If multiparous patient, and contractions < 2 minutes apart, and transport time > 15 minutes, prepare to deliver.
 - 1. When infant's head begins to emerge, support gently to prevent explosive delivery.
 - 2. Clear infant's airway as soon as face delivers.
 - 3. Determine APGAR score and record time of delivery.
 - 4. Clamp cord approximately 8 inches from infant in two places (approximately 2 inches apart) and cut.
- E. Consider delivering placenta while en route to hospital. Once placenta has been delivered, control bleeding by massaging the fundus. Save the placenta.
- F. Keep infant warm and provide supportive measures as necessary.
- G. Establish large-bore peripheral IV with 1,000 mL bag of Normal Saline @ TKO.
- H. After delivery of placenta, consider administration of **oxytocin**, 10 units in 1,000 mL Normal Saline, and titrate to control post-partum bleeding.
- I. If post-partum bleeding is severe, increase **oxytocin** rate. Expedite transport.
- J. For mothers who suffer cardiopulmonary arrest, for whatever reason, and who are in their third trimester of pregnancy, full resuscitative measures should be continued, even if it is obvious that the mother will not survive. An emergency C-section at the hospital may potentially save the infant.

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Medical Program Director: