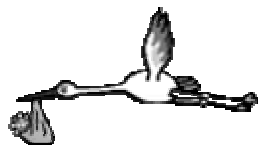




Emergency Childbirth



Overview



- Understanding childbirth
 - Anatomy of pregnancy
 - Stages of labor
- Preparing for delivery
 - Equipment
- Delivery
 - Caring for newborn/mother
- Complications from childbirth



Understanding Childbirth

- Birth is a natural process
- As a First Responder, you will assist the mother with the delivery of her child
- First Responder skills may be needed during the birth process to ensure safe delivery if there are any complications
- The care after the delivery is just as important

Anatomy of Pregnancy



- Fetus
 - The developing unborn child
- Uterus
 - Womb is a muscular structure in which the fetus develops
 - Supplied with vast amounts of blood vessels
- Cervix
 - Lower portion of the uterus where it enters the birth canal

Anatomy of Pregnancy



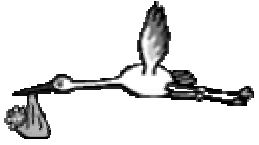
- **Crowning**
 - The bulging out of the vagina, eventually exposing the baby's head
- **Amniotic Sac**
 - Fluid filled sac that surrounds the fetus
- **Placenta**
 - Composed of maternal and fetal tissues
- **Umbilical Cord**
 - Connects the body of the fetus to the placenta
 - Contains fetal blood vessels

Remember to Watch for:



- Blood volume will increase approximately 45% in the mother
 - Therefore mom may lose more blood before any signs and symptoms of shock appear
- Pulse will increase 10-15 bpm, and blood pressure will maybe be slightly lower than normal
- Hemorrhagic shock is the greatest danger from injuries to the uterus

Stages of Labor



- First stage
 - **Begins** with the onset of contractions, and **ends** when the cervix is fully dilated
- Second stage
 - **Begins** with the time from when the baby enters the birth canal, and **ends** when the baby is fully born
- Third stage
 - **Begins** once the baby is fully delivered, and **ends** with the delivery of the placenta



Preparing for Delivery

- Ensure EMS has been notified (911)
- Ensure & provide privacy for the mother
- Stay calm and professional
- Reassurance to mother and husband
- Cover the mom with sheets to keep her warm, and provide a clean environment for delivery
- Assist mom with breathing techniques she learned during her prenatal classes



Preparing for Delivery

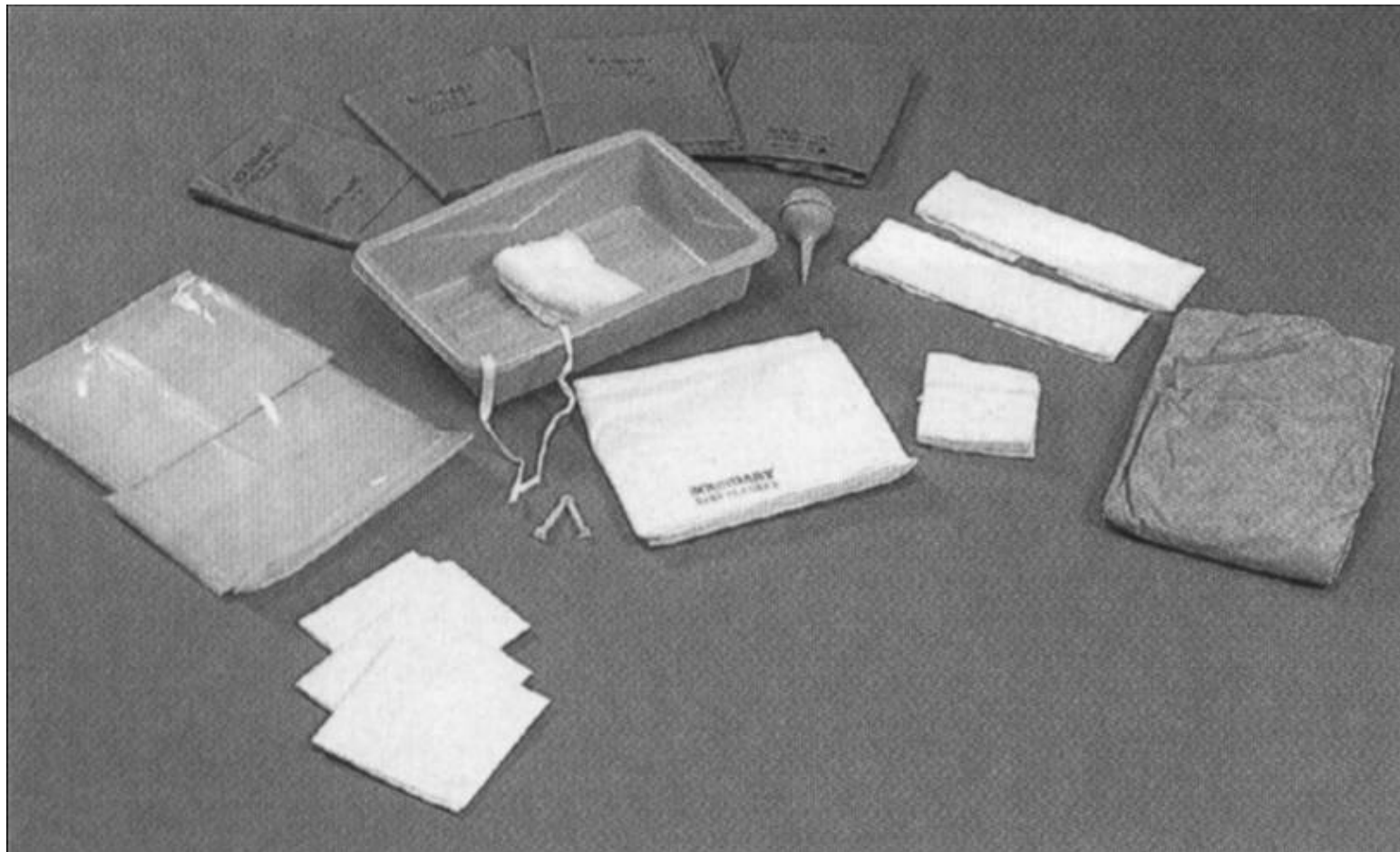
- Examine (Visualize) vaginal area for crowning
 - Make sure to tell the mother what you are doing
- **Never do an internal exam!!**
- Ask the patient if her “bag of waters” have broken?
- If any part of the baby’s head is visible with a contraction, birth is very near

Equipment for Delivery



- BSI equipment
- Suction bulb
- Umbilical clamps/scissors
- Blankets for the newborn
- Absorbent pads
- Plastic bag for the placenta
- Emergency equipment
 - Oxygen
 - Suction
 - Oral airways
 - Pocket mask

Equipment for Delivery



Delivery



- BSI precautions
- Place a padded sheet underneath the buttocks to raise the mother's pelvis
- As you notice the baby's head crowning, gently place one hand around the babies head as it is delivered
- Maintain slight pressure on the baby's head, as it prevents an "explosive" birth

Delivery



- Once the head is delivered, look for the umbilical cord, as it can get wrapped around the baby's neck
 - If you find this, gently pull it over
- Support the baby's head and allow it to turn to the side on its own
 - This will allow the shoulders to deliver

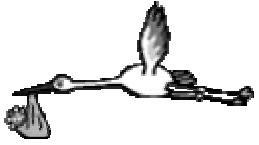
Never pull on the baby to help with delivery!



Delivery

- After the head and shoulders deliver, the rest of the baby will be born quickly
- Lay the newborn on their side to allow drainage of fluid
- **Be careful – newborns are slippery!**
- Suction the mouth than their nose
 - Baby's are nose breathers
- Stimulate the baby by rubbing their back or soles of their feet

Post-Delivery



- Have someone document the time & place of birth
- **Keep the baby warm!**
- Clamp the cord
 - First clamp – 10” from the baby
 - Second clamp – 3” closer to the baby
- Prepare for delivery of the placenta
 - May take up to 30 minutes
 - Place in a towel or bag
- If hemorrhaging, place pad over vagina
 - **Do not place anything in the vagina!!**

Post-Delivery



Don't Forget About
The Mother!!



Caring for the Newborn

- Make sure you have cleared the airway
- Ensure ABC's
- Monitor vital signs
- **Keep the baby warm!**
- Continually reassess
- The mother may wish to begin breast feeding



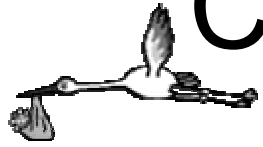
Caring for the Mother

- Remind the mother to stay at rest
- Make sure both mom and baby remain warm and comfortable
- Control any vaginal bleeding
- Monitor vital signs
- Provide reassurance
- Continually reassess



Emergency Childbirth

Have someone contact EMS
Dispatch to advise of the
delivery



Complications with Childbirth

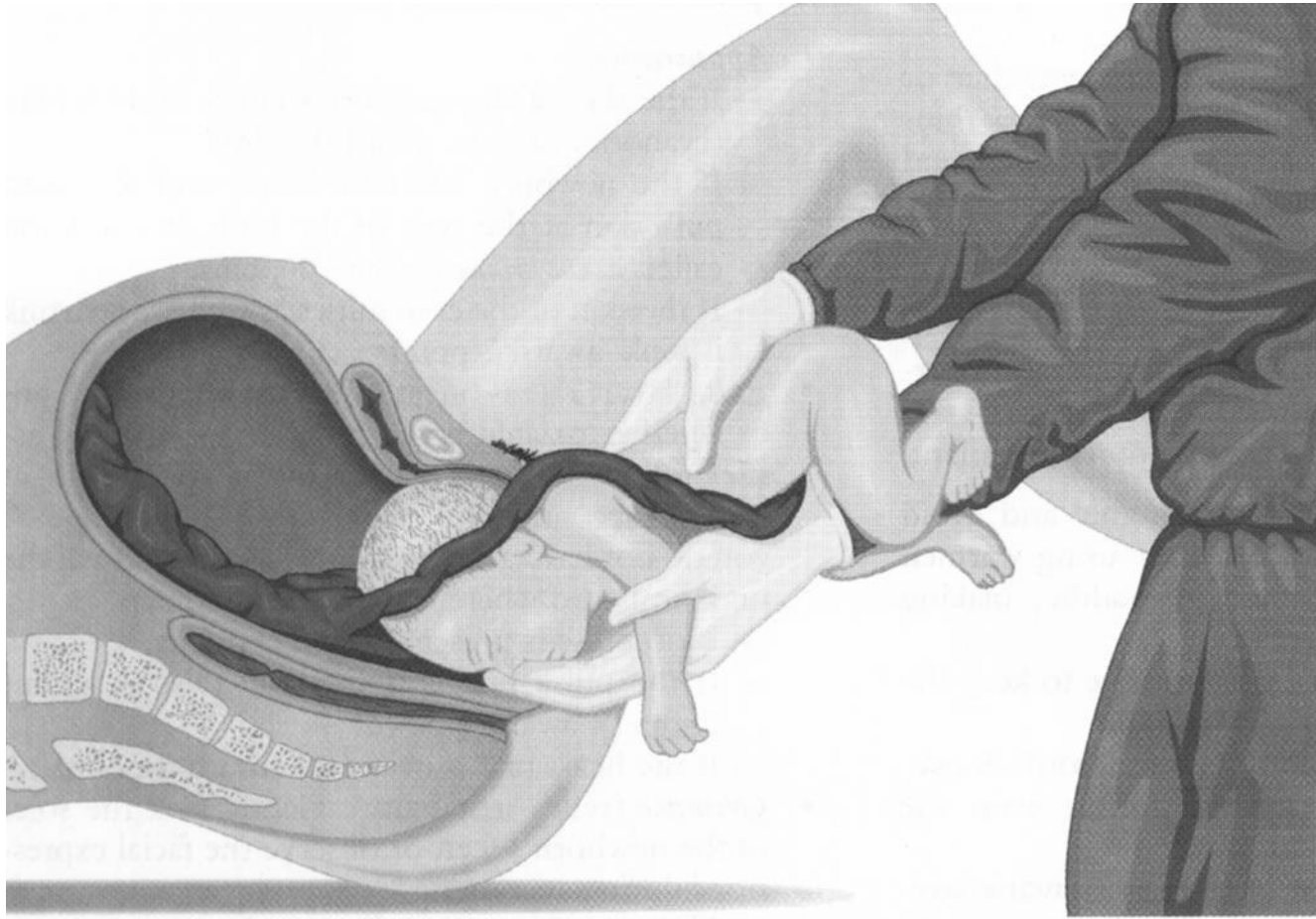
- Four complications associated with childbirth
 - Breech Birth
 - Prolapsed Cord
 - Multiple Births
 - Stillborn Delivery

Breech Birth



- A birth in which the buttocks or both feet are delivered first
- Even in this position, baby can be born without complications
- If baby becomes stuck, **DO NOT** pull on the baby

Breech Birth

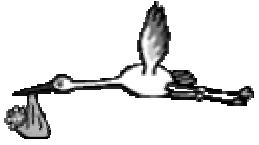


Breech Birth



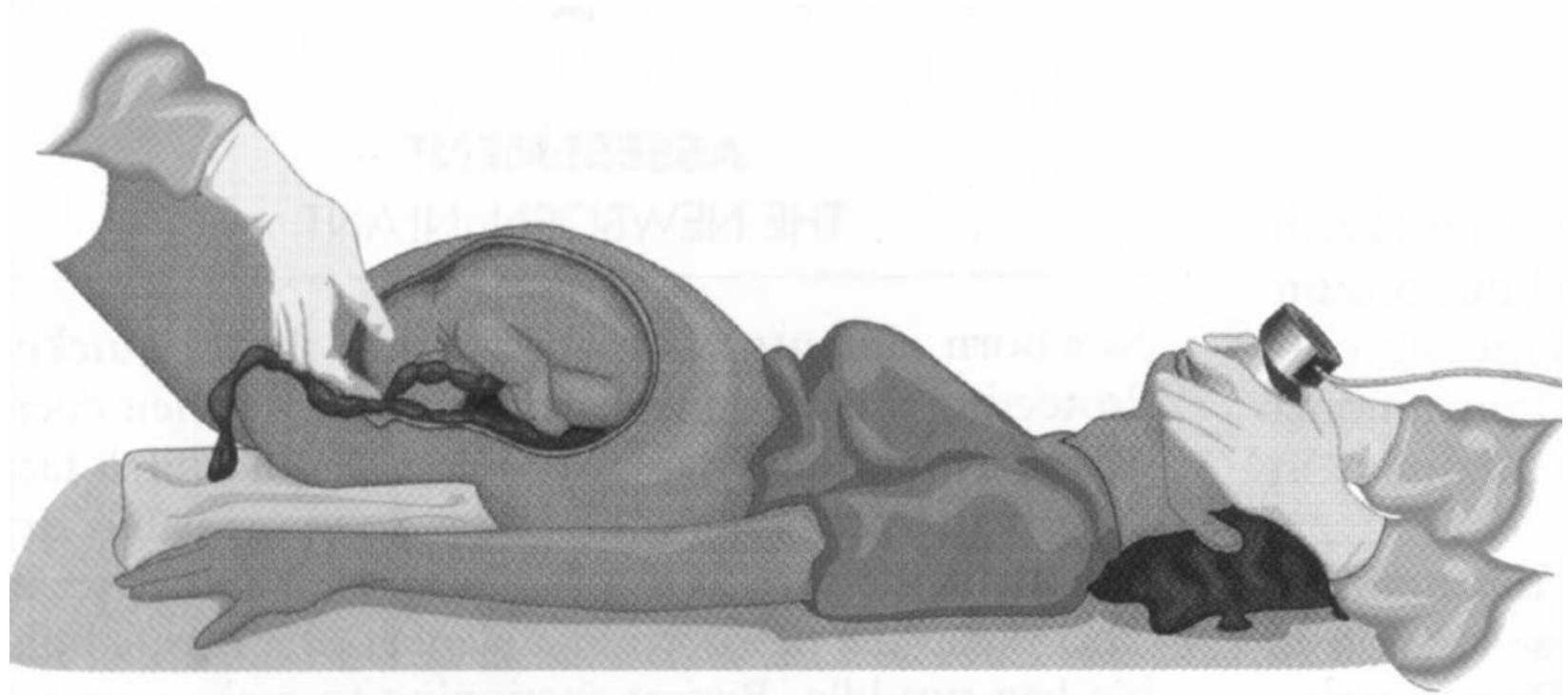
- If the head does not deliver within 3 minutes, insert your 1 & 2 fingers into the vagina against the baby's face, and create a pathway for air to the nose by pulling the birth canal away from the baby's face.
- You must keep the airway open, until the head is delivered

Prolapsed Cord

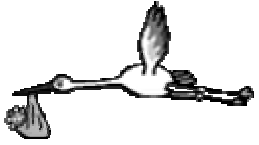


- Umbilical cord which presents through the vaginal opening before the baby's head
- Common occurrence in a breech birth
- Baby's head is pushed into the birth canal, head puts pressure on the cord, and may shut off circulation
- **This is a Dire Emergency!**

Prolapsed Cord

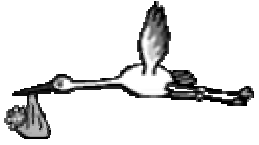


Multiple Births



- Contractions will start again shortly after the birth of the first child
- Make sure the first baby is breathing, and the cord stops pulsating, clamp the cord, and be prepared to deliver the second baby

Stillborn Delivery



- Sometimes a fetus may die long before it is born, it may be
 - Deformed
 - Swollen body parts
 - Bad odor
- Mother and family will need comforting and reassurance

Summary



- Understanding childbirth
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ANY QUESTIONS?

