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Class Prep – Fetal Monitoring

Using your textbook (pp. 355-373, 383-385) and the provided PowerPoint, answer the following questions.

1. What are common causes of fetal tachycardia?
Maternal fever, medications, infection, and fetal movement
2. What causes late decelerations?
Uteroplacental insufficiency
3. What causes variable decelerations?
Compression of the umbilical cord
4. What is the cause of early decelerations?
Compression of the fetal head during uterine contractions
5. What are accelerations a response to?
Fetal movement, is a good sign of fetal well-being
6. What is the normal range for the fetal heart rate? **110-160 bpm**
7. What category tracing (I, II, or III) clearly indicates a fetus in distress?
Category III
8. What equipment is used to evaluate contractions with external monitoring?
Tocotransducer and ultrasound device
9. What fetal heart pattern is the most concerning? **Absent variability**
10. What is the most important indicator of fetal status? **Variability**