

Name: Francesco

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?
 - a. Fetal cardiac arrhythmias, maternal fever, infection, fetal anemia, drugs (cocaine, caffeine, etc.), interruption of fetal oxygenation

2. What causes late decelerations?
 - a. Reflex fetal responses to transient hypoxemia during a uterine contraction that reduces the delivery of oxygenated to the intervillous space of the placenta

3. What causes variable decelerations?
 - a. Compression of blood vessels in the umbilical cord and can occur with or without contractions

4. What is the cause of early decelerations?
 - a. Transient fetal head compressions, contractions, vaginal exam, fundal pressure, reduced oxygenated blood

5. What are accelerations a response to?
 - a. Compression of umbilical vein and fetal movement cause significant interruption of fetal oxygenation

6. What is the normal range for the fetal heart rate?
 - a. 110-160bpm

7. What category tracing (I, II, or III) clearly indicates a fetus in distress?
 - a. III

8. What equipment is used to evaluate contractions with external monitoring?
 - a. Tocotransducer, tocodynamometer, US

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9. What fetal heart pattern is the most concerning?
 - a. Absent variability

10. What is the most important indicator of fetal status?
 - a. Variability