

Name: Hannah Collins

Class Prep – Fetal Monitoring

Using your textbook (pp. 356-373, 383-385) and the provided PowerPoint, answer the following questions.

1. What are common causes of fetal tachycardia?
 - Fetal hypoxemia
 - Maternal or fetal hyperthyroidism
 - Maternal infection and anemia
 - Medications - i.e.: atropine, hydroxybutine, terbutaline, cocaine
2. What causes late decelerations?
caused by reflex fetal response to transient hypoxemia during a uterine contraction
3. What causes variable decelerations?
compression of blood vessels in umbilical cord;
can occur w/ or w/o uterine contractions
4. What is the cause of early decelerations?
Fetal head compression
5. What are accelerations a response to?
Fetal movement or spontaneously
can be in response to transient compression of umbilical vein (\downarrow fetal venous return, \uparrow O₂ rate)
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 tracing III
8. What equipment is used to evaluate contractions with external monitoring?
Tocodynamometer, tocotransducer
9. What fetal heart pattern is the most concerning?
Late decelerations
10. What is the most important indicator of fetal status?
Fetal Heart rate