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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?
interruption of oxygenation, cardiac arrhythmias, maternal fevers, infection
2. What causes late decelerations?
uteroplacental insufficiency
3. What causes variable decelerations?
Cord compression
4. What is the cause of early decelerations?
head compression
5. What are accelerations a response to?
fetal movement
6. What is the normal range for the fetal heart rate?
110-160
7. What category tracing (I, II, or III) clearly indicates a fetus in distress?
Category 3
8. What equipment is used to evaluate contractions with external monitoring?
tocotransducer
9. What fetal heart pattern is the most concerning?
category 3 patterns
10. What is the most important indicator of fetal status?
Baseline fetal heart rate in response to uterine contraction