

Name: _____

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?

Common causes of fetal tachycardia can be caused by maternal fever/infection or fetal anemia. It can also be in response to medications such as atropine or drugs such as cocaine

2. What causes late decelerations?

Late decelerations are caused by a reflex fetal response to transient hypoxemia during a uterine contraction that reduces oxygenated blood to the placenta.

3. What causes variable decelerations?

Variable decelerations are caused by a compression of blood vessels in the umbilical cord.

4. What is the cause of early decelerations?

Early decelerations are caused by transient fetal head compression.

5. What are accelerations a response to?

Accelerations are a response to fetal movement, scalp or vibroacoustic stimulation, or adequate oxygenation.

6. What is the normal range for the fetal heart rate?

110-160bpm

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

Category III tracing indicates a fetus in distress

8. What equipment is used to evaluate contractions with external monitoring?

A Tocotransducer is used to evaluate contractions with external monitoring.

9. What is the most concerning fetal heart rate pattern?

The most concerning FHR pattern is recurrent late decelerations and prolonged bradycardia.

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

The most important indicator of fetal status is the baseline variability of the FHR