



SECTION 3
Basic Clinical Interventions
for Maternal and Newborn
Complications

Session 6-1
Steps in Postpartum and
Newborn Care

Steps to follow:

- 1) Do a quick check for emergency signs.**
- 2) Make the woman comfortable.**
- 3) Assess the postpartum woman and her baby.**

For the mother up to 6 weeks postpartum:

- Ask and review record:
- When and where did you deliver?
- How are you feeling?
- Have you had any pain or fever or bleeding since delivery?
- Do you have any problem urinating?
- Have you decided on any contraception?
- How do your breasts feel?
- Are you breastfeeding?
- Any complications during delivery?
- Receiving any treatments?
- Do you have any other concerns?

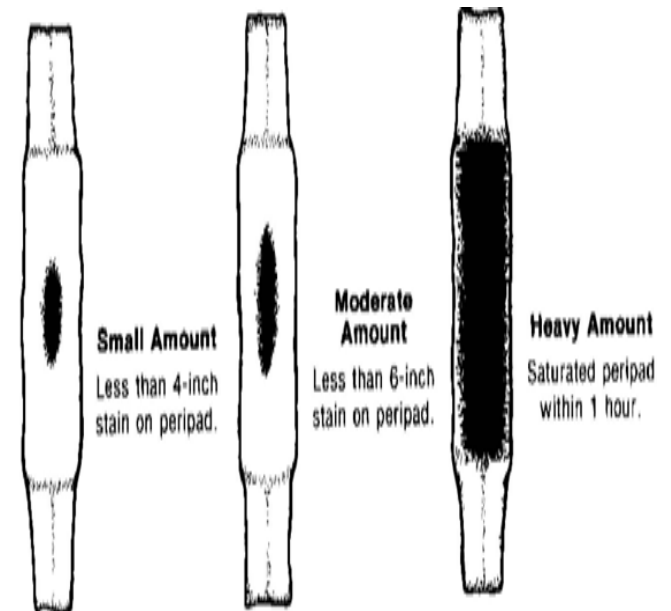


Steps to follow:

Cont... 3) Assess the postpartum woman and her baby.

Examine the woman

- Measure BP, temperature and pulse
- Check abdomen for uterine contraction and bladder distension
- Check the vulva for tear, swelling and pus.
- Check pad for bleeding and lochia, note smell and amount

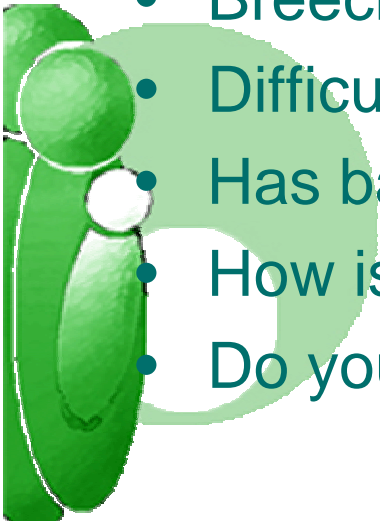


Steps to follow:

Cont... 3) Assess the postpartum woman and her baby.

For the baby during the first week of life:

- Ask and review record:
- How old is the baby?
- Preterm (less than 37 weeks or 1 month or more early)
- Breech delivery?
- Difficult delivery?
- Has baby had convulsions?
- How is the baby feeding?
- Do you have other concerns regarding baby?

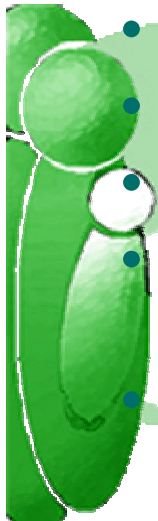


Steps to follow:

Cont... 3) Assess the postpartum woman and her baby.

Assess the newborn

- Assess breathing (baby must be calm).
- Look at the movements, are they normal and symmetrical?
- Look at the presenting part, is there swelling and bruises?
- Look at the abdomen for pallor.
- Look for malformations.
- Feel the tone: is it normal?
- Feel for warmth. If cold, or very warm, measure temperature
- Weigh the baby.



Steps to follow:

Cont... 3) Assess the postpartum woman and her baby.

- Assess breastfeeding
 - Assess mothers breasts if there are any cracks or swelling
- Ask about newborn screening. If not yet done, refer the newborn to the nearest facility offering newborn screening.
- Ask about birth registration of the baby. If no registration yet, register the baby at the municipal civil registry office as soon as possible.



Steps to follow:

- 4) Check for pallor or anemia.
- 5) Treat for intestinal parasites.
- 6) Prevent anemia with iron/folate supplementation.
- 7) Give Vitamin A if none was given postpartum.



Steps to follow:

8) Counsel on family planning and provide the appropriate family planning method if available.

9) Provide health information, advice and counseling.

10) Encourage the woman to come back with her baby for return visits.

