WHO recommendations for augmentation of labour

May 2014
Optimizing outcomes for women in labour at the global level requires evidence-based guidance of health workers to improve care through appropriate patient selection and use of effective interventions. The goal of the present recommendations is to consolidate the guidance for effective interventions that are needed to reduce the global burden of prolonged labour and its consequences. The primary target audience includes health professionals responsible for developing national and local health protocols and policies, as well as obstetricians, midwives, nurses, general medical practitioners, managers of maternal and child health programmes, and public health policy-makers in all settings.

**WHO Recommendations**

**WHO recommendation on the use of active phase partograph with a four-hour action line for monitoring the progress of labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on digital vaginal examination at intervals of four hours for routine assessment and identification of delay in active labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on the use of a package of care for active management of labour for prevention of delay in labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on the use of early amniotomy with early oxytocin augmentation for prevention of delay in labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on the use of oxytocin for prevention of delay in labour in women receiving epidural analgesia**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on the use of amniotomy alone for prevention of delay in labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on the use of antispasmodic agents for prevention of delay in labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on pain relief for preventing delay and reducing the use of augmentation in labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on the use of intravenous fluids with the aim of shortening the duration of labour**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on oral fluid and food intake during labour for women at low risk**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on adoption of mobility and upright position during labour in women at low risk**
Updated: May 2014

**WHO recommendation on continuous companionship during labour**
WHO recommendation on administration of enema for reducing the use of labour augmentation
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on the use of oxytocin alone for treatment of delay in labour
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on augmentation with intravenous oxytocin prior to confirmation of delay in labour
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on high starting and increment dosage regimen of oxytocin for labour augmentation
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on the use of oral misoprostol for labour augmentation
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on the use of amniotomy alone for treatment of confirmed delay in labour
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on the use of amniotomy and oxytocin for treatment of confirmed delay in labour
Updated: May 2014

WHO recommendation on the use of internal tocodynamometry, compared with external tocodynamometry, in women with augmented labour
Updated: May 2014

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