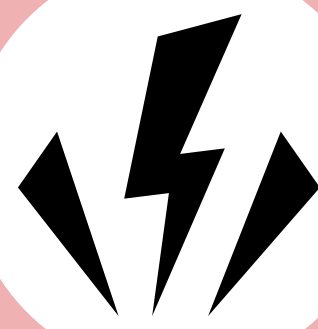


3

INTRAPARTUM CARE CONSIDERATIONS

Knowledge Translation Toolkit can be found [here](#) and includes:

- Chapter Summary
- Intrapartum Considerations (p.119)



1. Introduction

- Small period of time, with a large impact.
- Trauma-informed approaches are critical during this potentially triggering experience.
- Language matters; and reflective and responsive approaches are needed
- Pelvic Exams (Consent, Privacy & Dignity, and Awareness of Physical Touch)

2. Admission

- All pregnant persons should be screened for substance use.
- Communication is key
 - Notify all care team members upon admission
- Detailed history is imperative to develop a transparent and holistic foundation of care
 - Last opioid ingestion, it is important to continue the daily dose
 - Disposition of Carries; discuss the planned disposition of carries within your facility.

3. Pain Management

- OAT is not sufficient pain medication for acute pain.
- Pain in labour is complex:
 - Histories of anxiety, pain sensitivity, and tolerance
- Avoid the use of opioid antagonist medications (such as Naloxone or Naltrexone) due to the potential risk of acute withdrawal.
- Unique Anesthesia Considerations exist:
 - Epidural (early and preferred)
 - Continue daily maintenance dose
 - Puritis treatment:
 - Ondansetron NOT nalbuphine
 - Higher doses may be needed of pain medication
 - Morphine may not be as efficient in a patient who is taking buprenorphine/ naloxone.

4. Monitoring

- Monitor for signs of sedation after administering opioids for acute labour pain
- cEFM should be considered when perinatal risk factors are present
- Monitor pregnant person for signs of withdrawal (especially if labour and birth span over days)
- Discuss what support is available for the newborn if needed (e.g. respiratory distress)
- **Naloxone and Birth:**
 - **The use of naloxone in newborns born to pregnant persons prescribed OAT/ diagnosed with OUD is contraindicated as naloxone can potentially lead to acute opioid withdrawal.**

Chapter Summary