

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

DD-12 TRAUMA IN PREGNANCY

ALS/ILS/BLS

1. Management:
 - 1.1. Initial Trauma Care.
 - 1.2. Check externally for:
 - 1.2.1. Uterine contraction.
 - 1.2.2. Vaginal bleeding.
 - 1.2.3. Leaking amniotic fluid.
 - 1.2.4. Assess for fetal movements.
 - 1.3. Place patient on left side if not immobilized:
 - 1.3.1. If on backboard, raise right side of backboard to minimize compression of Inferior Vena Cava by the uterus.
2. Note:
 - 2.1. Most common cause of fetal death is maternal death.
 - 2.2. Fetus maybe in jeopardy while mother's vital signs remain stable.
 - 2.3. The pregnant patient has a resting:
 - 2.3.1. Pulse that is 10-15 beats faster than usual.
 - 2.3.2. Blood pressure 10-15 mmHg lower than usual.
 - 2.3.3. Therefore a blood loss of 30-35% can occur before there is significant change in blood pressure.
 - 2.4. Trauma to the abdominal compartment can cause occult bleeding in the intrauterine or retroperitoneal area with or without signs of rebound, guarding and/or rigidity.