

Department:	Obstetrics and Gynecology (L&D)		
Document:	Departmental Policy and Procedure		
Title:	Amniotomy Nursing Care		
Applies To:	All Obstetrics and Gynecology Staff		
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1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To augment labor if the membrane fail to rupture spontaneously.

2. DEFINITIONS:

- 2.1 **Amniotomy** – sterile artificial rupture of the amniotic membranes by amniotic hook.

3. POLICY:

- 3.1 It should not be performed routinely unless internal monitoring or enhancement of uterine contractility is indicated.
- 3.2 Fetal monitoring and assessment is necessary.
- 3.3 The physician, staff nurse and midwife must consider some factors such as fetal presentation, position and station; the degree of cervical dilatation and effacement, contraction frequency and intensity; fetal and maternal vital signs.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 Explain the procedure to the patient.
- 4.2 Wash your hands and put on sterile gloves.
- 4.3 Clean the perineum with diluted hexamide before delivery and povidone for final cleansing with sterile gauze.
- 4.4 Note the baseline fetal heart rate.
 - 4.4.1 Use external fetal monitoring throughout the procedure.
- 4.5 Using sterile technique.
 - 4.5.1 Open the amniotic hook package.
 - 4.5.2 Wear Sterile Gloves.
 - 4.5.3 Remove amniotic hook from the package.
- 4.6 Vaginal examination to be done, fetal presentation to be evaluated, if ordered apply pressure to the uterine fundus as the physician inserts the amniotic hook vaginally in the cervical OS and membrane are ruptured.
- 4.7 Inspect the amniotic fluid for meconium, blood and foul odor.
- 4.8 Clean and dry the perineal area, replace the linen – keep pads under the patient buttocks.
- 4.9 Monitor fetal heart rate (FHR) continuously with Cardiotocograph and tracing.
- 4.10 Monitor patient temperature every 2 hours. If the temperature rises to 100 °F (38 °C) begin hourly checking.
- 4.11 Continue monitoring fetal heart rate, uterine contraction and progress of labor.
- 4.12 Document the time of procedure, color, character, and amount of amniotic fluid.

5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

- 5.1 Linen Pads
- 5.2 4x4 Gauze Pads

- 5.3 External electronic fetal monitoring machine
- 5.4 Sterile Gloves
- 5.5 Sonic Aid
- 5.6 Sterile amniotic hook/ a long hook Allis clamp

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 6.1 Physician
- 6.2 Nurses
- 6.3 Midwives

7. APPENDICES:

N/A

8. REFERENCES:

- 8.1 Ministry of Health, General Nursing Administration, Functions and Duties Policies and Procedure.

9. APPROVALS:

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