Childbirth (Mother)

For delivery or imminent delivery of a fetus beyond the first trimester (12 weeks). For < 12 weeks use Pregnancy Complications.

**History**
- Due date
- Time contractions started/how often
- Rupture of membranes
- Time/amount of any vaginal bleeding
- Sensation of fetal activity
- Past medical and delivery history
- Medications
- Gravida/Para status
- High risk pregnancy

**Signs and Symptoms**
- Contractions
- Vaginal discharge or bleeding
- Crowning or urge to push
- Meconium

**Differential**
- Abnormal presentation
  - Buttock
  - Foot
  - Hand
- Prolapsed cord
- Placenta previa
- Abruptio placenta

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When supine, place patient in left lateral recumbent position

Note any abnormal vaginal bleeding, hypertension or hypotension

Inspect perineum

- No crowning
- Crowning > 36 weeks gestation

Monitor and reassess
Document frequency and duration of contractions

**Priority symptoms:**
- Crowning at < 36 weeks gestation
- Abnormal presentation
- Severe vaginal bleeding
- Multiple gestation

**Unable to deliver**
Create air passage by supporting presenting part of the infant
Place 2 fingers along side of the nose and push away from face
Transport in knee-to-chest position or left lateral position

**Note any abnormal vaginal bleeding,** hypertension or hypotension

**Notify receiving facility. Consider Base Hospital for medical direction**

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**Approved Birthing Centers**
- Kaiser Redwood City
- Mills - Peninsula Medical Center
- Sequoia Hospital
- Stanford Hospital
- UCSF Benioff Mission Bay

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E Effective October 2019

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**Pregnancy Complication**

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**Treatment Protocol A08**
San Mateo County Health Emergency Medical Services
Pearls

- Do not perform digital vaginal exam
- Document all times (delivery, contraction frequency and length, and time cord was cut).
- Document the name of the prehospital provider who cut the cord.
- After delivery, massaging the uterus (lower abdomen) will promote uterine contraction and help to control postpartum bleeding.
- Some perineal bleeding is normal with any childbirth. Large quantities of blood or free bleeding are abnormal.
- For prolapsed cord, wrap cord in saline soaked gauze cover to keep warm.