

Interpreting Pathophysiology through Electronic Fetal Monitoring

Objectives

- Identify the effectiveness of current cardiotocography guidelines and interobserver variability
- Describe fetal compensatory mechanisms to stress or other adverse conditions
- Compare and contrast use of physiological interpretation principles and the use of current fetal heart rate tracing classification systems to identify the fetus at risk
- Summarize the types of intrapartum fetal hypoxia and their features
- Outline pathophysiological process and possible mechanisms for fetal heart rate abnormalities in the absence of fetal acidemia
- Differentiate the value of abnormal fetal heart rate patterns and fetal acidemia for determining the appropriateness and timing of interventions

Content Outline

1. Physiological Principles-Approaches to Interpretation of Fetal Heart Rate Heart Patterns
 - A. Evidence on interobserver reliability and current cardiotocography guidelines
 - B. Intrauterine adaptation and fetal compensatory mechanisms
 - C. Types of intrapartum hypoxia and their features
 - D. Applying the principles of physiological interpretation of fetal heart tracings during labor
 - E. Relationship of fetal heart rate characteristics and causative pathophysiology
2. Abnormal Fetal Heart Rates Caused by Other Pathophysiology Other Than Fetal Acidemia
 - A. Significance for abnormal fetal heart rates in determining fetal status
 - B. Using abnormal fetal heart rate patterns for determinant management approaches for the fetus at risk

Reading Material Resources

Module WB2568: Interpreting Pathophysiology through Electronic Fetal Monitoring

is based on the resources listed below. A copy of each resource is included with the module.

Pathophysiological interpretation of fetal heart tracing in clinical practice, Jia, et al., American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, June 2023, 622-644

Abnormal fetal heart rate patterns caused by pathophysiologic processes other than fetal acidemia, Vintzileos, et al., American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, May 2023, S1144-S1157