

# **Intrauterine Pressure Catheter (IUPC) Basics**

## **Objectives**

1. List the indications for IUPC placement
2. List the cautions/contraindications for IUPC placement
3. Demonstrate IUPC placement on ALSO mannequin
4. Discuss the indications for amnioinfusion.
5. List the contraindications for amnioinfusion.

## **Indications for IUPC placement**

1. To measure the adequacy of labor. External monitors only reliably measure the frequency of contractions while an IUPC once electronically "zeroed" (calibrated), can accurately record contractions in terms of frequency, duration, and intensity.
2. To monitor more closely a woman undergoing a TOLAC (trial of labor after Caesarean section).
3. To perform amnioinfusion. (The IUPC also has a second port through which saline can be infused for amnioinfusion.)

## **Cautions/contraindications for IUPC placement**

1. Nonvertex or unknown presentation
2. Unruptured membranes (with contraindication for rupture)

## **Indications for Use of Amnioinfusion**

Repeated severe variable fetal heart rate decelerations not responsive to conventional therapy (position changes, oxygen administration, discontinuation of pitocin)

## **Contraindications for Use of Amnioinfusion**

1. Amnionitis
2. Polyhydramnios
3. Uterine hypertonus
4. Multiple gestation
5. Known fetal anomaly
6. Known uterine anomaly
7. Severe fetal distress
8. Nonvertex presentation
9. Placental abruption or placenta previa