



Prenatal Care Workshop Obstetrical Term Worksheet - Answers

Below are the definitions of common obstetrical terms.

First Trimester = 1 week -13 weeks and 6 days after LMP

Second Trimester = 14 weeks -28 weeks 6 days after LMP

Third Trimester = 28 weeks – 41 weeks 6 days after LMP

EDC or EDD = EDC is the estimated date of confinement (not conception) and the EDD is the estimated date of delivery. The two terms are used interchangeably. The EDC is 40 weeks after LMP or 38 weeks after conception. The word confinement in EDC refers to the practice of confining pregnant people to their home once they had delivered which was common practice before 1900.

Gravidity = number of pregnancies regardless of what occurs during the pregnancy. Losses such as miscarriage or induced abortion are included in the gravidity as are ectopic and molar pregnancies. Multiple gestations such as twins or triplets are one gravidity.

Parity = number of births over 20 weeks. A birth or loss at <20 weeks is listed as a miscarriage as is an elective termination. Multiple births such as twins or triplets are counted as one parity.

Abortion/Miscarriage = loss of pregnancy <20 weeks, induced or spontaneously.

Gestational age = age in completed weeks and days from LMP.

Quickening = the perception of fetal movement by the patient

Colostrum = initial breast milk produced after delivery

Fundal Height = measurement in centimeters (cm) from pubic symphysis to uterine fundus. Fundal height in centimeters approximately equals gestational weeks after 20 weeks.

Leopolds maneuvers = a set of four palpation maneuvers to determine fetal position.

Braxton Hicks contractions = uterine contractions felt near term but not labor, usually resolve spontaneously.

LMP = the first day of the last menstrual period

Cloasma = “mask of pregnancy”, brownish coloration over the upper cheeks of the face associated with pregnancy

Missed Miscarriage = The embryo or fetus is not viable, but the products of conception are retained in the uterus (in utero). The products of conception refers to pregnancy tissue.

Incomplete Miscarriage = Some but not all pregnancy tissue remains in the uterus. An example might be the fetus was expelled and the placental tissue remains.

Threatened Miscarriage = Vaginal bleeding in pregnancy before 20th week. On physical exam the cervix is not dilated, and no tissue has been passed.

Inevitable Miscarriage = Vaginal bleeding in pregnancy before the 20th week. On physical exam the cervix is dilated.

Complete Miscarriage = Complete expulsion of the products of conception before 20 weeks