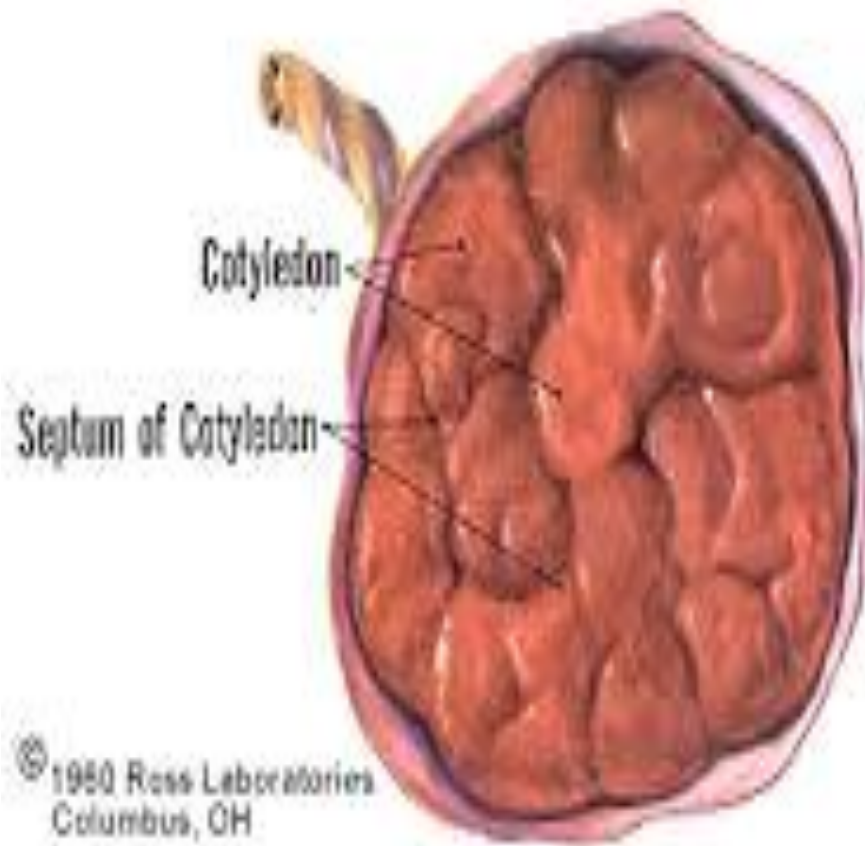


Placental Examination

MATERNAL SURFACE OF PLACENTA

FETAL SURFACE OF PLACENTA



Introduction

The placenta is delivered in the third stage of labor. The examination should be carried out before the woman leave the labor room or transferred to the ward in order to ensure that they are complete and that no further actions are required.

Objectives

- 1- Determine the size ,shape and consistency of the placenta.
- 2- Ensure that the placenta and its membranes are complete and that no part of them has been retained.
- 3- Avoid post-partum hemorrhage.
- 4- Detect any abnormalities.

The characteristics of the placenta

Shape	Discoid (disc-shaped) with both maternal and fetal surfaces
Diameter	15 to 20 cm
Weight	Approximately 500gm to 600gm (1/6 of the baby's birth weight).
Thickness	(2,5) cm at the center and gradually tapers toward the periphery
Placental Surfaces	
1-fetal surface	Is smooth white translucent and shiny in nature and covered by amnion which is reflected on the cord The cord is inserted near the center or in the center
2-maternal surface	Dull grayish red in color and divided into 15 to 20 cotyledons (lobes)

The Characteristic of Umbilical Cord

- * The cord is usually inserted in the center or near the center of the fetal surface with blood vessels branching outwards .
- * The length of the cord at term is 50cm .
- * The umbilical cord contains two small arteries and one big vein they are surrounded by Wharton's jelly and covered by the amnion.

Membranes

- * The membranes consist of two layers (the amnion and chorion).

Equipment

- Gloves



- Gown



Equipments

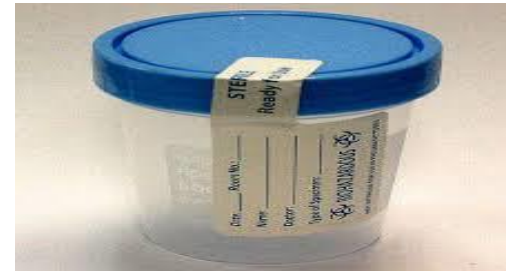
- Disposable bag



- Weighing scales



- Specimen Jar



- Scissor



Procedure steps

1-Hand washing.



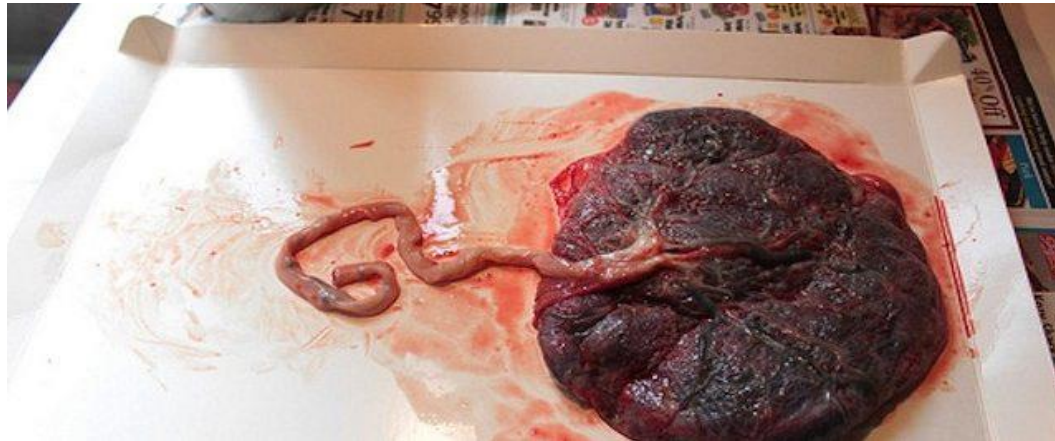
2-Wear gown and gloves.



3-Prepare environment(good light & flat surface).

4-Examine the membranes by lifting the cord and holding the placenta up then observe the membranes and inspect for completeness by hand spread out inside the membranes.

5-Lay out the placenta on flat surface with the fetal surface uppermost.



6-Carefully examine the placenta in a good light noting shape & size color and smell.

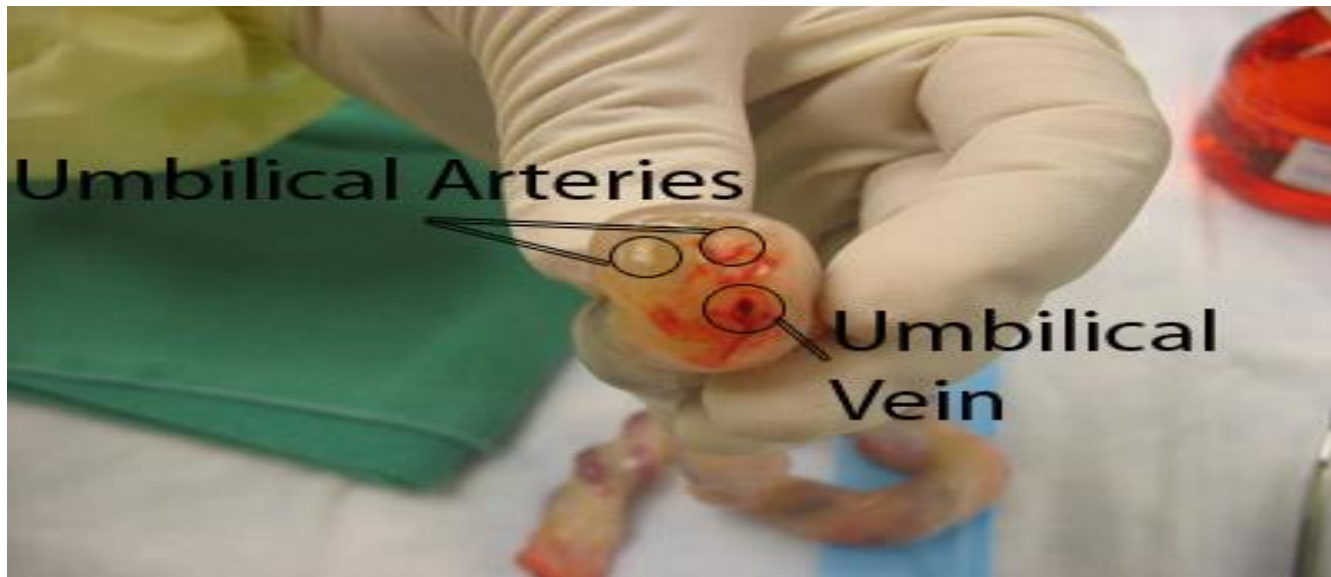
7-Observe the fetal surface for irregularities.

Placenta – fetal surface



8-The cord is then examined noting the length &the point of insertion and the presence of any knots.

9-Count the vessels in the cut end of the cord :three opening should be present(2 arteries and one vein).



10-The amnion should be peeled from the chorion (pulled back towards the umbilical cord) thereby separating the membranes to ensure that they are both present.



11-Turn the placenta over to inspect the maternal side.

12-Examine the cotyledons to ensure they are all present there should be no any gap .



13-Note any areas of infarction or blood clots recent infarctions are bright & old infarction form gray patches and localized calcification may be seen as white patches.

14-Weight the placenta normal weights($\frac{1}{6}$ of the baby's birth weight).approximately 500 gm.



15-Dispose of the placenta as per trust guidelines.

16-Wash hands.

17-Discuss the findings with the parents.

Thank You

Quiz

True or False:

1- Placenta is delivered in second stage of labor()

2-Placenta consists of two surfaces fetal and maternal surface ()

3-The umbilical cord contains two small veins and
one big artery()

4-The weight of placenta is approximately 1/5 weight of baby()