



GDM Management

Gestational Diabetes Mellitus & Nursing practicum



ANC, Labor & Recovery - Comprehensive Management

Asst.Prof.Duangporn Pasuwan





GDM: Definition & Overview

Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM): Glucose intolerance first recognized during pregnancy, typically appearing in 2nd or 3rd trimester. Affects 2-10% of pregnancies globally; major cause of maternal and neonatal complications.

- **Pathophysiology:** Pregnancy-induced insulin resistance due to placental hormones (human placental lactogen: HPL, cortisol)
- **Screening:** GLT and diagnosis : OGTT (Oral Glucose Tolerance Test) at 24-28 weeks; universal screening recommended
- **Risk of complications:** Maternal hyperglycemia → fetal hyperglycemia → neonatal complications (hypoglycemia, macrosomia, respiratory distress)
- **Post-pregnancy:** 50% risk of type 2 diabetes within 10 years; requires ongoing monitoring

Risk Factors & Diagnostic Criteria



Risk Factors: Obesity (BMI >30), age >35, family history of diabetes, previous GDM, PCOS, sedentary lifestyle, ethnicity (Hispanic, Asian, African)

Diagnostic Criteria (OGTT 75g, 2-hour): Fasting <92 mg/dL; 1-hour <180 mg/dL; 2-hour <153 mg/dL. One abnormal value = GDM diagnosis.

OGTT 100 g

: Fasting < 95 mg/dL; 1-hour <180 mg/dL; 2-hour <155 mg/dL. 3-hour <140 mg/dL two abnormal value = GDM **A1**

Fasting > or =95 mg/dL; 1-hour <180 mg/dL; 2-hour <155 mg/dL. 3-hour <140 mg/dL two abnormal value = GDM **A2**

Fasting > or =126 mg/dL; 1-hour >180 mg/dL; 2-hour >155 mg/dL. 3-hour >140 mg/dL = **Overt DM** (Previous DM before pregnancy)

Clinical Signs: Polyuria, polydipsia, fatigue, recurrent UTI/candida, glycosuria on urinalysis

Risk factors for GDM:



High blood pressure.



Heart disease.



Family history of Type 2 diabetes.



Personal history of GD (in previous pregnancies).



Having obesity or overweight before pregnancy.

**OVER
35**
↑

Advanced maternal age.



Prediabetes.



Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).

**There are usually no obvious warning signs of GDM.
If you do have symptoms, they may include:**





TABLE 1. Diagnosis of gestational diabetes with a 100-g or 75-g glucose load

100-g glucose load		
Fasting	95 mg/dL	5.3 mmol/L
One-hour	180 mg/dL	10.0 mmol/L
Two-hour	155 mg/dL	8.6 mmol/L
Three-hour	140 mg/dL	7.8 mmol/L
75-g glucose load		
Fasting	95 mg/dL	5.3 mmol/L
One-hour	180 mg/dL	10.0 mmol/L
Two-hour	155 mg/dL	8.6 mmol/L



OGTT (4 Tube)

Fasting	95 mg/dL
One-hour	180 mg/dL
Two-hour	155 mg/dL
Three-hour	140 mg/dL





Health education at ANC



Nursing Care During ANC (Antenatal care)



Assessment	Monitoring	Interventions
Glucose Screening: 50g GCT at 24-28 weeks; OGTT if abnormal	Fasting glucose, 2-hour post-load levels; HbA1c baseline and monthly	Educate on screening importance; arrange repeat testing if needed; explain results
Blood Glucose Monitoring: Self-monitoring 4x daily (fasting, post-meals)	Daily glucose log; target ranges (fasting <95, 1-hr <140, 2-hr <120 mg/dL)	Teach glucose meter use; provide log sheets; review readings at each visit; adjust therapy
Dietary Management: Medical nutrition therapy (MNT) by dietitian	Carbohydrate counting, portion control, meal timing; weight gain pattern (25-35 lbs)	Refer to dietitian; teach balanced diet; monitor compliance; encourage regular meals; avoid sweets
Physical Activity: Exercise program individualized for pregnancy	Exercise tolerance, glucose response to activity, maternal wellbeing	Encourage 150 min/week moderate activity (walking, swimming); monitor for hypoglycemia post-exercise
Insulin/Medication: If diet alone insufficient (30-40% need insulin)	Fasting glucose; adjust insulin doses every 1-2 weeks; watch for hypoglycemia	Teach insulin injection technique; provide emergency glucagon kit; educate on hypoglycemia signs
Fetal Monitoring: Ultrasound for growth, amniotic fluid, birth defects screening	Fetal weight, polyhydramnios, macrosomia risk; NST if indicated	Schedule regular ultrasounds; assess fetal well-being; prepare for possible preterm delivery



TARGET BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

WITH PRE-EXISTING OR GESTATIONAL DIABETES



FASTING AND BEFORE MEAL

less
than

95

mg/dL

2 HOURS AFTER MEAL

less
than

120

mg/dL

A1c

less than
or around

6.0%

These are general medical guidelines. Please follow your doctor's instructions.

Nursing Care During Labor & Delivery (LR)



Assessment

Monitoring

Interventions

Glucose Management: HOLD home insulin dose; check glucose upon admission

Hourly blood glucose monitoring during labor (target 100-150 mg/dL); IV glucose if needed

Establish IV access; administer IV fluids without glucose initially; check glucose every 1-2 hours

Insulin During Labor: Use short-acting insulin or continuous insulin infusion if needed

Glucose trends; insulin sensitivity typically increases during labor

Use insulin drip if glucose >180 mg/dL; adjust per protocol; avoid hypoglycemia (<70 mg/dL)

Continuous Fetal Monitoring: Electronic monitoring; watch for fetal compromise

FHR baseline, variability, decelerations; assessment for macrosomia complications

Maintain continuous monitoring; position left lateral; prepare for possible operative delivery; have pediatrics present

Maternal Comfort & Pain: Epidural preferred if possible to reduce stress

Labor progression, pain relief adequacy, maternal glucose response to stress hormones

Facilitate epidural; provide support; monitor for ketoacidosis signs (nausea, fruity breath, altered pH)

Nutritional Support: IV fluids with electrolytes; assess for dehydration

Fluid intake/output; electrolytes; hydration status; urine ketones

Maintain IV fluids (lactated Ringer's preferred); monitor I&O; encourage ambulation if able; NPO until clear

Delivery Preparation: Notify pediatrics of GDM for neonatal glucose monitoring

Delivery imminent; mode of delivery (vaginal vs. C-section for macrosomia/dystocia)

Alert pediatrics; prepare for neonatal hypoglycemia protocol; have IV dextrose ready; assist with immediate delivery



Nursing Care During Postpartum Period (PP)



Assessment	Monitoring	Interventions
Glucose Normalization: Glucose typically normalizes postpartum; monitor daily	Fasting glucose trends; usually return to normal within 24-72 hours; discontinue insulin if normal	Check fasting glucose daily; resume home diabetes meds only if glucose elevated; educate on post-pregnancy risk
Breastfeeding Support: Exclusive breastfeeding protects infant; improves maternal glucose	Feeding frequency, infant latch, milk transfer; maternal calorie needs (500 extra/day)	Encourage breastfeeding within 1 hour of delivery; provide lactation support; monitor infant glucose if needed
Maternal Recovery: Monitor for postpartum hemorrhage, infection, preeclampsia	Lochia, fundal tone, vital signs, glucose stability, wound healing; emotional wellbeing	Provide routine postpartum care; assess perineal/abdominal wounds; monitor for signs of infection
Neonatal Glucose Monitoring: Infant at risk for hypoglycemia first 24-48 hours	Heel stick glucose at 2-4 hours of life; repeat per protocol if <45 mg/dL or symptomatic	Ensure early breastfeeding; have IV dextrose available; educate parents on hypoglycemia signs
Lifestyle & Diet Counseling: Return to prepregnancy diet; weight loss goal (1-1.5 lbs/week)	Dietary compliance, physical activity resume, weight trajectory, emotional eating triggers	Educate on healthy diet; encourage breastfeeding (burns 500 cal/day); resume exercise at 6-8 weeks postpartum
Follow-up Testing: Fasting glucose/OGTT at 6-8 weeks; then annually	HbA1c at postpartum visit; annual screening for type 2 diabetes development	Schedule 6-week postpartum visit with fasting glucose; provide results; refer to endocrinology if abnormal; counsel on future pregnancy risk



Primary Nursing Diagnosis - Mother

- **Deficient Knowledge** related to GDM management, glucose monitoring, dietary modifications, and insulin administration
- **Risk for Unstable Blood Glucose** related to pregnancy-induced insulin resistance and carbohydrate metabolism changes
- **Anxiety/Stress** related to diagnosis, fear of maternal/fetal complications, and lifestyle changes required
- **Nutritional Imbalance** related to need for careful dietary management and weight gain monitoring
- **Risk for Injury (Self/Fetus)** related to maternal hypoglycemia and fetal hyperglycemia complications
- **Health-Seeking Behavior** related to motivation for self-care and compliance with treatment plan



Primary Nursing Diagnosis - Newborn

- **Risk for Neonatal Hypoglycemia** related to maternal hyperglycemia and fetal hyperinsulinemia causing rapid glucose drop postpartum
- **Risk for Respiratory Distress Syndrome** related to prematurity and maternal GDM complications
- **Risk for Macrosomia Complications** related to fetal hyperglycemia causing excessive growth and birth trauma
- **Risk for Hyperbilirubinemia** related to increased red blood cell turnover from fetal polycythemia
- **Ineffective Feeding Pattern** related to hypoglycemia, prematurity, and maternal GDM effects on infant maturity
- **Risk for Delayed Development** related to potential birth complications and neonatal complications from maternal GDM





Comprehensive Summary-GDM Nursing practicum

Phase	Key Assessments	Core Interventions	Outcomes
ANC (Antenatal)	50g GCT screening; OGTT diagnosis; daily glucose monitoring (4x); weight gain; fetal growth	Dietary counseling; insulin initiation if needed; glucose log review; exercise prescription; fetal monitoring (US, NST); education on signs/symptoms	Glycemic control achieved (glucose targets met); appropriate weight gain; healthy fetal growth; maternal knowledge and compliance
L&R (Labor)	Hourly glucose checks; IV access; fetal monitoring; labor progression; pain level; delivery mode assessment	IV fluids without glucose; insulin drip if glucose >180 mg/dL; continuous fetal monitoring; epidural for stress reduction; prepare for operative delivery if macrosomia; notify pediatrics	Glucose maintained 100-150 mg/dL during labor; safe vaginal or C-section delivery; fetal safety; immediate readiness for neonatal glucose monitoring
PP (Postpartum)	Fasting glucose daily; neonatal glucose screening; breastfeeding assessment; maternal/infant recovery; 6-week OGTT	Discontinue insulin if glucose normal; encourage breastfeeding; neonatal glucose monitoring per protocol; lifestyle education; 6-week postpartum testing; annual diabetes screening; future pregnancy counseling	Maternal glucose normalized; neonatal hypoglycemia prevented/managed; successful breastfeeding; type 2 diabetes prevented through lifestyle; informed about recurrence risk (50%)



Prevention & Patient Education

- **Dietary Management:** 3 meals + 3 snacks daily; carbs 40%, protein 20%, fat 40%; portion control; avoid refined sugars; consistent meal timing
- **Physical Activity:** 150 min/week moderate exercise (walking, swimming); 3 days/week strength training; monitor for hypoglycemia during/after exercise
- **Home Glucose Monitoring:** Fasting before meals, 2-hours after meals; keep log; target ranges (fasting <95, 1-hr <140, 2-hr <120 mg/dL)
- **Insulin Self-Administration:** Proper injection technique; site rotation; hypoglycemia emergency kit (glucagon); signs of hypo/hyperglycemia
- **Postpartum Lifestyle:** Weight loss goal (1-1.5 lbs/week); breastfeeding (burns 500 cal/day); return to exercise at 6-8 weeks; annual diabetes screening for 10 years
- **Future Pregnancy Planning:** 50% recurrence risk; preconception evaluation if planning another pregnancy; intensive glycemic control prior to conception



Maternal & Neonatal Complications

Maternal Complications:

- Preeclampsia (3x increased risk); diabetic ketoacidosis; polyhydramnios; UTI/candida infections; cesarean delivery (50%)
- Type 2 diabetes (50% within 10 years); cardiovascular disease risk; obesity

Neonatal Complications:

- Hypoglycemia (most common; 30-50% of infants); macrosomia (birth trauma, dystocia); prematurity; respiratory distress syndrome; hyperbilirubinemia; polycythemia; cardiomyopathy; increased infection risk
- Long-term: Obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome in childhood/adulthood



Example : Case 1 : GDM A1 (G2P0A0L1)

วันที่ตรวจ	น้ำหนัก ก.ก.	ปัสสาวะ Alb Sugar	โลหิต ม.ม.ปรอท	ขนาดของ มดลูก HF CMS	ท่าเด็ก ส่วนน้ำ/ การลง	เสียง หัวใจเด็ก	เด็กดิ้น	อายุครรภ์ (สัปดาห์) LMP ตรวจ	อาการผิดปกติ ผลจากการประเมิน ภาวะเสี่ยง	การวินิจฉัยและการรักษา FFP FF 1mg	วิ
๒											
๒๕๖๙	59.6	N	120/59	28		⊕	✓	28 ^w	- 81 g = 165 mg/L → หัก OGTT 27/1/19		
			P: 82					28 ^w	เฉพาะเลือดครั้งที่ 2 mvr + ap		
๒๕๖๙	58	"	105/56					29 ^w	หาค่า OGTT → 0m41 → 81, 141, 156, 166		
			P 66						↓ นวน้ำ - Hit 36%		
									FB 75, 1/1mg = 100, HbA1c = 5.4		

Case 2 : GDM A2

GDM (สงสัยเบาหวาน) ตรวจพบเบาหวาน		GDM or dieted DM.	
18+3	Auton standard size control	ตรวจพบเบาหวาน	
	1st: 93/100, 2nd: 111/120		
	พบ VI → VV, 18' 1/2" Ab	Neck length 47	
	TTA 2/30	4.1 - 5.1	
		(17 Oct 68)	

การคัดกรองเบาหวาน

วันที่ตรวจ	8/9/68	1/10/68		
วิธีการตรวจ				
GCT mg%	220			
OGTT mg%		122, 238, 232, 174		



วันที่	จำนวนครั้ง	วันที่	จำนวนครั้ง	วันที่	จำนวนครั้ง
16 ต.ค. 68	11	11 พ.ย. 68	11	9 ธ.ค. 68	11
17 ต.ค. 68	11	12 พ.ย. 68	11	8 ธ.ค. 68	11
18 ต.ค. 68	11	13 พ.ย. 68	11	9 ธ.ค. 68	11
19 ต.ค. 68	11	14 พ.ย. 68	11	10 ธ.ค. 68	11
20 ต.ค. 68	11	15 พ.ย. 68	11	11 ธ.ค. 68	11
21 ต.ค. 68	11	16 พ.ย. 68	11	12 ธ.ค. 68	11
22 ต.ค. 68	11	17 พ.ย. 68	11	13 ธ.ค. 68	11
23 ต.ค. 68	11	18 พ.ย. 68	11	14 ธ.ค. 68	11
24 ต.ค. 68	11	19 พ.ย. 68	11	15 ธ.ค. 68	11
25 ต.ค. 68	11	20 พ.ย. 68	11	16 ธ.ค. 68	11
26 ต.ค. 68	11	21 พ.ย. 68	11	17 ธ.ค. 68	11
27 ต.ค. 68	11	22 พ.ย. 68	11	18 ธ.ค. 68	11
28 ต.ค. 68	11	23 พ.ย. 68	11	19 ธ.ค. 68	11
29 ต.ค. 68	11	24 พ.ย. 68	11	20 ธ.ค. 68	11
30 ต.ค. 68	11	25 พ.ย. 68	11	21 ธ.ค. 68	11
31 ต.ค. 68	11	26 พ.ย. 68	11	22 ธ.ค. 68	11
1 พ.ย. 68	11	27 พ.ย. 68	11	23 ธ.ค. 68	11
2 พ.ย. 68	11	28 พ.ย. 68	11	24 ธ.ค. 68	11
3 พ.ย. 68	11	29 พ.ย. 68	11	25 ธ.ค. 68	11
4 พ.ย. 68	11	30 พ.ย. 68	11	26 ธ.ค. 68	11
5 พ.ย. 68	11	1 ธ.ค. 68	11	27 ธ.ค. 68	11
6 พ.ย. 68	11	2 ธ.ค. 68	11	28 ธ.ค. 68	11
7 พ.ย. 68	11	3 ธ.ค. 68	11	29 ธ.ค. 68	11
8 พ.ย. 68	11	4 ธ.ค. 68	11	30 ธ.ค. 68	11
9 พ.ย. 68	11	5 ธ.ค. 68	11	31 ธ.ค. 68	11
10 พ.ย. 68	11	6 ธ.ค. 68	11		





Maternal & Neonatal Complications

Maternal Complications:

- Preeclampsia (3x increased risk); diabetic ketoacidosis; polyhydramnios; UTI/candida infections; cesarean delivery (50%)
- Type 2 diabetes (50% within 10 years); cardiovascular disease risk; obesity

Neonatal Complications:

- Hypoglycemia (most common; 30-50% of infants); macrosomia (birth trauma, dystocia); prematurity; respiratory distress syndrome; hyperbilirubinemia; polycythemia; cardiomyopathy; increased infection risk
- Long-term: Obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome in childhood/adulthood



LMP	U/S		
n ⁺²		W/ N/V, 1st trimester bleeding 7-6-68	U/S
		folate 1x1, dimenhydrinate 1x3, vit B6 1x1	Int
12 ⁺²		U/S for GT - Early preg	
		Wt 1hr = 370 mg Tel. on Pt on Act 23/6/68 Pt 72h	
		W/ N/V clinical 2 days	2 wk + 0/1
		W/ 1st trimester bleeding	1st + 1st 0/1
-		W/ 0/1 212, 302, 333, 324 HbA _{1c} = 9.2	
		BUN = 10, Creatinine 0.51, eGFR = 122	
		Di overt DM → drink 1st 1st /	



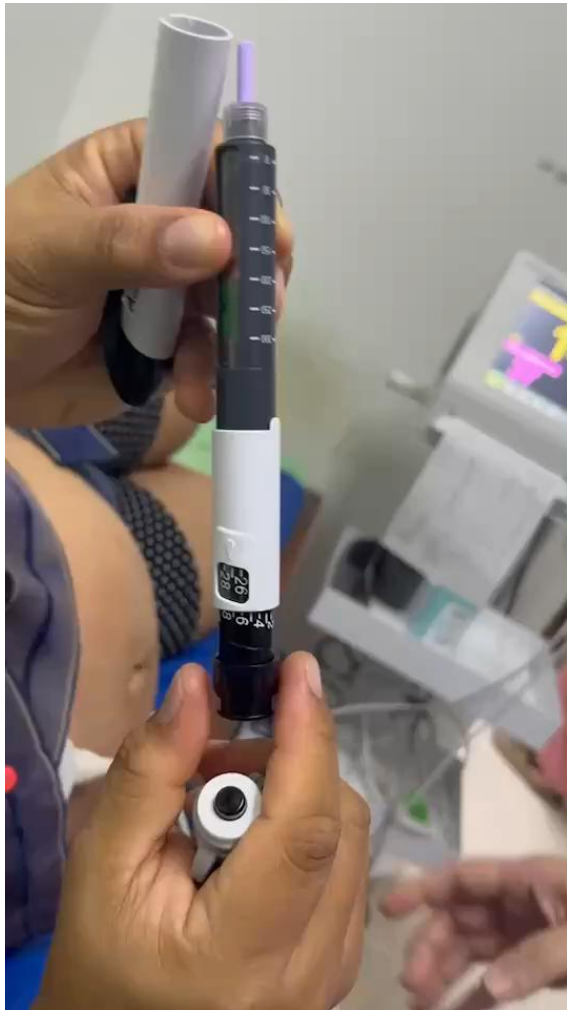
เด็ก	LMP	ตรวจ	ภาวะเสี่ยง
		10 ⁺	FBS = 115, 1 hr PP = 145. ↑ NPH 10.5 & 4p
		15 ⁺	QT 2.28 อนิว อิมมูโน FBS = 99, 1 hr PP = 169 2p 16
		19 ⁺	C21/9/16 FBS = 65, 1 hr PP 119 - UJ Gemmy - QT = 2.28 43
50	16/11/16	23 ⁺	Out DM, ANA FBS 89, 1 hr 108, 2 hr 128 อนิว 6-6-10 SC อนิว 11/11/16 2p 16 อนิว 11/11/16 2p 16 + FBS +1
๕๑	⊕	27 ⁺	- FBS 86, 1 hr 165 (17/11/16) (FBS previous 24/11/16) TFD 60, C21/60, ANA 2 hr 6

สปีด (AP)	ผลจากการประเมิน	การวินิจฉัยและการรักษา	วันที่
ตรวจ	ภาวะเสี่ยง		
31 ⁺	เจาะเลือดครั้ง	Out DM	2p 16
33 ⁺	Out DM → NST	อนิว 6-6-6 NPH 14.5 (16/11/16) NST 19/11/16	2p 16
34 ⁺	31/10/16	อนิว 6-6-6, 1 hr 165, 2 hr 165 NST 19/11/16	2p 16
34 ⁺	Out DM + NST	อนิว 6-6-6 2:1:1 อนิว 11/11/16 2p 16	2p 16
36 ⁺	- NST: 16.5, Out DM (→ 16/11/16) (อนิว 11/11/16)	อนิว 11/11/16 2p 16	2p 16

Insulin use for Overt DM pregnancy



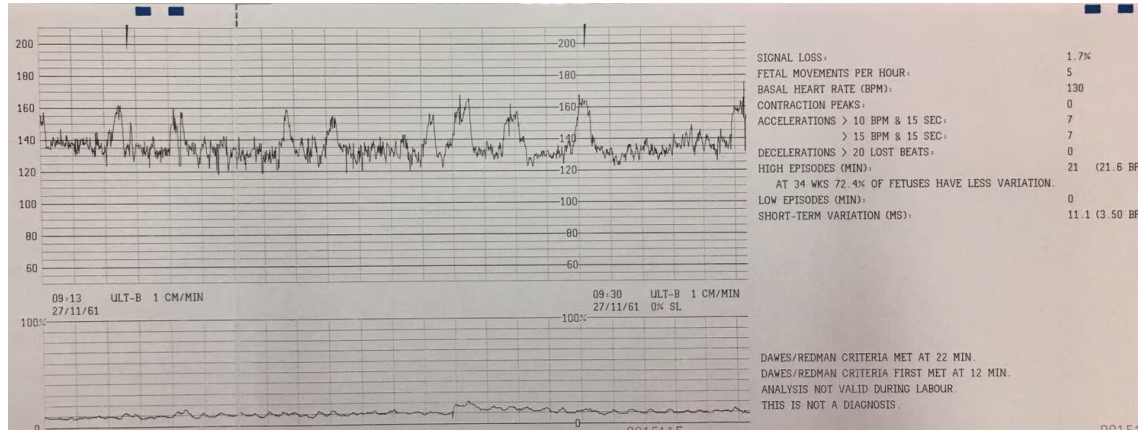
type of Insulin



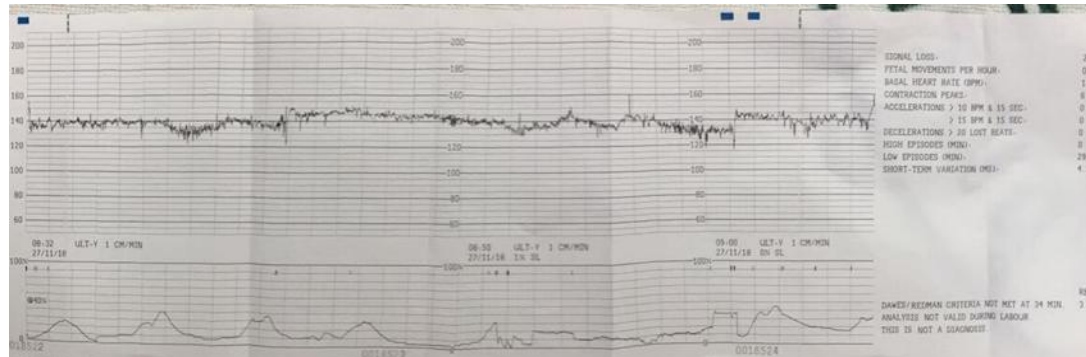
ตัวอย่างยา

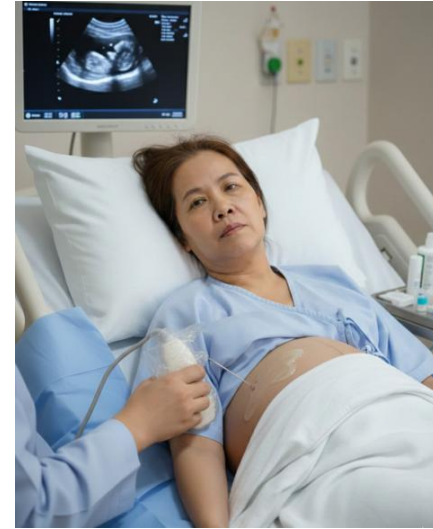


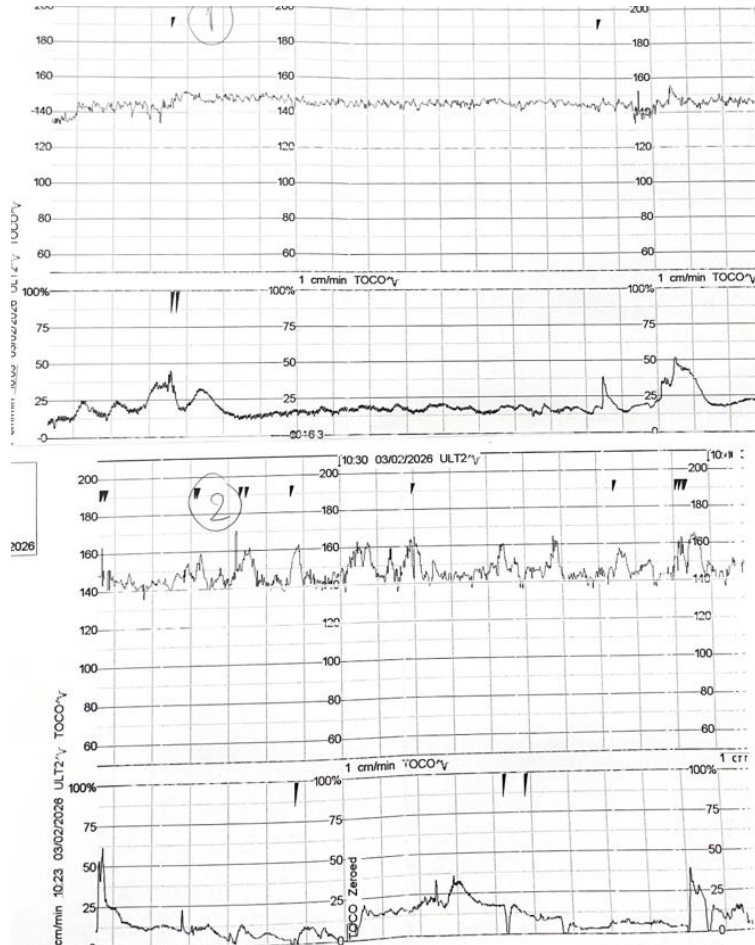
Example NST:Reactive(Category I)



Example NST : Non Reactive (Category II)







Indication DM + DM.

G_L_P_L_A_L_M_P -

Request by

Date		3 Feb 2026	
Number		SVF	
Presentation		VR	
BPD	HC	38 ⁺¹	39 ⁺⁰
FL	AC	38 ⁺³	39 ⁺²
FHB		-	
AF		12.0 cm	
Anomaly			
Placenta Site		post upper	
EDD			
GA		38 ⁺¹ wk by EDD	
Comment		EFW 3638 gm (7 P90th)	

⊕ EDF 1026

Imp R/o fetal LGA

ชำระเงินแล้ว ใบเสร็จรับ

Retained Foley's cath Prepare for C/S







Thank You!

Questions & Discussion

Comprehensive Nursing Management of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus