

# Obstetrical Ultrasound

## Procedure and Protocol

- I. **Gestational Age Determination:** Gestational age is determined by the patient's 1st menstrual period (LMP) vs. the first ultrasound exam that identifies a fetus. The sonographically derived estimated date of delivery (EDD) is used for the pregnancy if it differs from that calculated using the last menstrual period (LMP) by more than seven days in the first trimester (less than 12 weeks 0 days based on LMP) and by more than 10 days (less than 20 weeks 0 days based on LMP) to 14 days (less than 27 weeks 0 days based on LMP) in the second trimester.

Therefore, at our institution(s), it is imperative that a clinically established EDD incorporating the 1<sup>st</sup> ultrasound is obtained from the attending physician before beginning an exam **if prior** ultrasound imaging **has been** performed for that pregnancy. All subsequent exams should be careful to utilize the same EDD.

- i. **Multiple Gestational Age Determination(Sonographic):** The sonographically derived estimated date of delivery (EDD) for multiple gestations is determined by using the crown rump length (CRL) from the largest fetus for that pregnancy. Therefore, at our institution(s), if **no prior** ultrasound imaging has been done on the current pregnancy, we use the larger fetus to date the pregnancy on the initial ultrasound exam.

- II. **Physician Orders:** You must only perform the exam that is ordered by the physician, unless indicated differently within this protocol under the specific exam. The order must clearly indicate either Obstetrical (note: TA approach only), Obstetrical transvaginal, or Obstetrical with transvaginal. If you are unable to complete the exam ordered (i.e. pregnancy is further along than indicated, body habitus, etc), a new order must be obtained from the ordering physician **prior** to performing the additional study.

### III. **0 to <12 weeks**

#### a. **Image Descriptors:**

- i. **Uterus and Adnexa:** Longitudinal and transverse images should be obtained assessing contour, shape and position of the uterus. Both adnexa should be assessed for masses, free fluid and structural abnormalities. Complete evaluation of ovaries should be documented in both long and transverse scan planes (at least 3 grayscale images each plane), pulsed Doppler flow obtained, and measured, if seen.
- ii. **Gestational Sac:** If present, the gestational sac should be imaged and assessed for abnormalities. If a normal, live fetus is not identified, the sac should be measured in 3 planes to compute a mean sac diameter. If a fetal pole is present, gestational sac measurements should not be factored into the

EDD. **\*\*NOTE:** Gestational sac size gives an estimation of gestational age, but does not establish an EDD.

- iii. Yolk Sac: Assess the yolk sac for size, shape and echogenicity. Presence of a yolk sac confirms intrauterine gestation. Measured from inner-to-inner margin. Should not be calcified, misshapen, or  $\geq 6$ mm in diameter.
- iv. Placenta: Longitudinal and transverse images to assess echogenicity, contour and left and right as well as the cranial and caudal borders. The caudal tip should be assessed for its proximity to the internal cervical os.
- v. Crown Rump Length: The fetus should be measured from outer margin crown (cephalic pole) to rump (preferably in extended position) three times, with the average of the three establishing an EDD.
- vi. Heart Rate: Fetal heart rate should be assessed using M mode. If no fetal heart rate is noted in a fetus greater than 5 weeks 6 days, power Doppler should be placed over the fetus and a cine loop clip should be taken to confirm fetal demise and the Radiologist should be consulted before the patient leaves.
- vii. Nuchal Translucency: If the nuchal area appears prominent, this should be measured and addressed with the Radiologist before the patient leaves.
- viii. Amniotic Fluid: The amniotic fluid should be assessed subjectively. Whereas fine, homogeneous internal echoes can be seen within the chorionic cavity, the amniotic cavity is echo-free. Diameter of amniotic cavity typically 10 mm at 7 weeks and 50 mm at 12 weeks, with a linear growth pattern.
- ix. Fetal Number: If multiple gestations, document number of embryos, gestational sacs, and placentas if possible. If multiple fetuses show a discordant CRL of 3 mm or more, the rate of embryonic loss under 9 weeks is approximately 50%. **\*\*Note:** Multiple gestations should only be reported if multiple embryos are documented.
- x. Mean sac diameter (MSD in mm) minus crown rump length (in mm) with value greater than 5mm is normal. When value less than 5mm, termed "first trimester oligohydramnios".
- xi. Bradycardia. If FHR  $<90$  bpm at 5-7 weeks, if  $<120$  bpm from 7 weeks.

**b. Required images (measurements):**

- i. Long ML Cervix
- ii. Long ML Cervix w/ channel length measurement
- iii. Long ML Cervix with color
- iv. Long ML Uterus-lower uterine segment
- v. Long ML Uterus-fundal border
- vi. Long Left Uterus
- vii. Long Right Uterus
- viii. Trans Vaginal canal

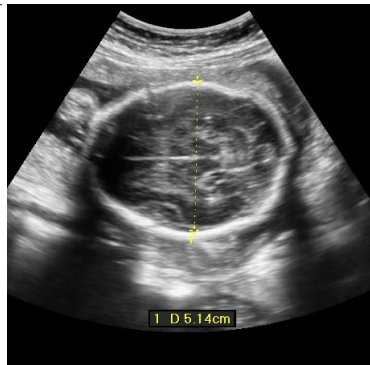
- ix. Trans Cervix
- x. Trans LUS
- xi. Trans Body
- xii. Trans Fundus
- xiii. Long Left Adnexa (with and without color)
- xiv. Trans Left Adnexa (with and without color)
- xv. Long LT Ovary
- xvi. Long LT Ovary Lateral
- xvii. Long LT Ovary Mid (Length & AP)
- xviii. Long LT Ovary Medial
- xix. Long LT Ovary (color)
- xx. Trans LT Ovary
- xxi. Trans LT Ovary Superior
- xxii. Trans LT Ovary Mid (width)
- xxiii. Trans LT Ovary Inferior
- xxiv. Trans LT Ovary (color)
- xxv. Long Right Adnexa (with and without color)
- xxvi. Trans Right Adnexa (with and without color)
- xxvii. Long RT Ovary
- xxviii. Long RT Ovary Lateral
- xxix. Long RT Ovary Mid (Length & AP)
- xxx. Long RT Ovary Medial
- xxxi. Long RT Ovary (color)
- xxxii. Trans RT Ovary
- xxxiii. Trans RT Ovary Superior
- xxxiv. Trans RT Ovary Mid (width)
- xxxv. Trans RT Ovary Inferior
- xxxvi. Trans RT Ovary (color)
- xxxvii. Long Gestational Sac (**Long & AP**-if no embryo present)
- xxxviii. Trans Gestational Sac (**Width**-if no embryo present)
- xxxix. Yolk Sac
  - xl. Yolk Sac w/ one distance measurement (inner to inner)
  - xli. Embryo/fetus with and without CRL x 3 (**length**)
  - xlii. M-Mode (**heart rate**)
  - xliii. Long Placenta-caudal border (**tip to os**)
  - xliv. Long Placenta-caudal tip w/ length measurement from tip to internal os
  - xlv. Long Placenta-cranial border
  - xlvi. Trans Placenta-right (sup, mid, inf)
  - xlvii. Trans Placenta-left (sup, mid, inf)

#### IV. 14-18 Weeks

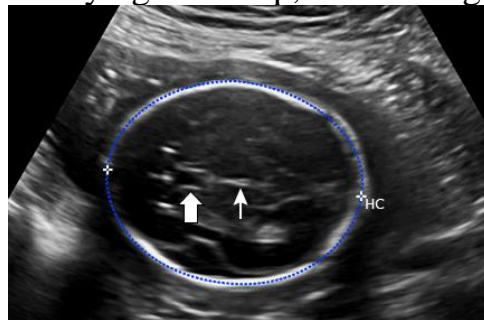
##### a. Image Descriptors:

- i. Uterus and Adnexa: Longitudinal and transverse images should be obtained assessing contour, shape and position of the uterus. Both adnexa should be assessed for masses, free fluid and structural abnormalities. Ovaries should be documented, pulsed Doppler flow obtained, and measured, if seen.
- ii. Placenta: Longitudinal and transverse images to assess echogenicity, contour and left and right as well as the cranial and caudal borders. The caudal tip should be assessed for its proximity to the internal cervical os.
- iii. Fetal Biometry: Two (2) measurements should be made for each of the following:

1. Biparietal Diameter (BPD): performed from the axial image that includes the cavum septum pellucidum and thalami; measured from leading edge to leading edge of the largest transverse diameter of the cranium. Position the abdominal transducer perpendicular to the fetal parietal bone and calvarium appear smooth and symmetrical in the plane of section.



2. Head Circumference (HC): performed from the same image as the BPD or image similar to BPD with additional visualization of cavum septum pellucidum; measured around the outer calvarium. The standard view should not include the cerebellum or the cerebral ventricles. Important to avoid measuring the outer margin of the skin overlying the scalp, since doing so will falsely increase the HC.

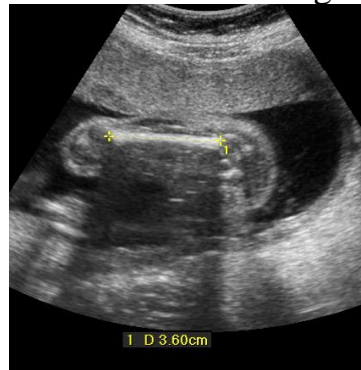


3. Abdomen Circumference (AC): performed at true transverse view of the fetal stomach and hepatic portion of the umbilical vein; measured

around outer skin margin. Measured at the level of the largest diameter of the fetal liver, denoted by the point of union of the right and left portal veins, which has a "hockey stick" shape, and confirmed by visualizing the umbilical segment of the left portal vein in its shortest length. Fetal stomach is typically visualized. Position the transducer perpendicularly to the fetal abdominal wall and visualize the symmetrical appearance of the lower ribs. The kidneys should not be seen in the AC image or the plane is too caudal.



4. Femur Length (FL): measure entire ossified length of the femoral diaphysis. Transducer should be aligned along the long axis of the femoral bone visualizing either the femoral head or the greater trochanter at the proximal end of the femur and the femoral condyle at the distal end. The calipers should be placed at the junction of bone and cartilage to measure only ossified bone; should not contain the femoral head. Including non-ossified portions of the femur and not visualizing the full femur (femoral head/greater trochanter to femoral condyle) are the major sources of error in gestational age assessment by FL. Avoid measuring the femur length in oblique, as this may underestimate the length.



5. Humerus Length (HL): measure the entire length of the humeral diaphysis
- iv. Anatomy: Evaluation of fetus should include documentation of any gross abnormality. Nuchal fold thickness should be documented and reported. Full fetal surveys are performed after a gestational age of 18 weeks 0 days.

- v. Heart Rate: Fetal heart rate should be assessed using M mode. If no fetal heart rate is noted in a fetus greater than 5 weeks 6 days on M mode, power doppler should be placed over the fetus should be documented AND gray scale cine clip obtained to confirm fetal demise and the Radiologist should be consulted before the patient leaves.
- vi. Fetal Number: If multiple gestations, document number of embryos, gestational sacs, and placentas if possible.
- vii. Amniotic Fluid: The amniotic fluid should be assessed subjectively.

b. **Required images (measurements):**

- i. Long ML Cervix (**cervical length**)
- ii. Long ML Cervix with color
- iii. Long ML Uterus-lower uterine segment
- iv. Long ML Uterus-fundal border
- v. Long Left Uterus
- vi. Long Right Uterus
- vii. Trans Vaginal canal
- viii. Trans Cervix
- ix. Trans LUS
- x. Trans Body
- xi. Trans Fundus
- xii. Long Left Adnexa (**Length & AP ovary**)
- xiii. Trans Left Adnexa (**Width ovary**)
- xiv. Long Right Adnexa (**Length & AP ovary**)
- xv. Trans Right Adnexa (**Width ovary**)
- xvi. Long Placenta-caudal border (**tip to os**)
- xvii. Long Placenta-cranial border
- xviii. Trans Placenta-right
- xix. Trans Placenta-left
- xx. (2) BPD (**Diameter of head**)
- xxi. (2) Head Circumference (**Area of head**)
- xxii. (2) Abdominal Circumference (**Area of Abdomen**)
- xxiii. (2) Femur Length (**Femoral Diaphysis length**)
- xxiv. (2) Humeral Length (**Humeral Diaphysis length**)
- xxv. M-Mode (**heart rate**)

V. **18-26 Weeks**

a. **Imaging Descriptors:**

- i. Cervix: Longitudinal images should be obtained. Measure the length of the cervix. If not adequately visualized transabdominally, then translabial and/or transvaginal sonography must be obtained to assess the cervix. Assess for funneling, closed. Assess for presenting cord.

- ii. Uterus and Adnexa: Longitudinal and transverse images should be obtained assessing contour, shape and position of the uterus. Both adnexa should be assessed for masses, free fluid and structural abnormalities. Ovaries should be documented, pulsed Doppler flow obtained, and measured, if seen.
- iii. Placenta: Longitudinal and transverse images to assess echogenicity, contour and left and right as well as the cranial and caudal borders. The caudal tip should be assessed for its proximity to the internal cervical os. Placenta tip should be greater than 3 cm from the internal cervical os. Ensure myometrial rim of 3mm or more under the placenta (otherwise suspect placenta percreta/accreta).
- iv. Fetal Biometry: Two (2) measurements should be made for each of the following:
  - 1. Biparietal Diameter (BPD): performed from the axial image that includes the cavum septum pellucidum and thalami; measured from leading edge to leading edge.
  - 2. Head Circumference(HC): performed from the same image as the BPD; measured around the outer calvarium
  - 3. Abdomen Circumference (AC): performed at true transverse view of the fetal stomach and hepatic portion of the umbilical vein; measured around outer skin margin
  - 4. Femur Length (FL): measure entire length of the femoral diaphysis
  - 5. Humerus Length (HL): measure the entire length of the humeral diaphysis
- v. Anatomy:
  - 1. Long axis views of the cervical, thoracic, lumbar and lumbosacral spine, all demonstrating skeletal anatomy as well as intact posterior skin surface
  - 2. Transverse views of the cervical, thoracic, lumbar and lumbosacral spine, all demonstrating skeletal anatomy as well as intact posterior skin surface
  - 3. Axial view of choroid plexus within the cerebral lateral ventricles.
    - a. **\*\*If a choroid plexus cyst(s) is noted, you must obtain an image of the fetal hand in an open position**
  - 4. Axial view of the cerebral lateral ventricles with transverse diameter measurement at the ventricular atrium (in the posterior margin), normal less than 10mm in diameter.
  - 5. Axial view that includes the cavum septum pellucidum and thalami and the midline falx;
  - 6. Axial view of the posterior fossa to include the cerebellum (with measurement), cisterna magna (with measurement, normal less than 10mm), and nuchal fold (with measurement from the outer occipital bone to the outer skin edge)

7. Long axis view of the midline facial profile, with the nasal bone present (the fetal face should occupy 75% of the image, and the mandible and maxilla should be demonstrated)
8. Coronal view of orbits
9. Coronal view of nose and lips with appropriate zoom to assess for cleft lip. Axial view to document the echogenic intact alveolar ridge (anterior palatine arch) with overlying intact upper lip, if possible.
10. Axial view of four chamber heart, demonstrating intact septi, proper size (1/3 of chest), and position (40 degree angle from midline)
11. Left ventricular outflow tract, demonstrating the left ventricle giving rise to the aorta
12. Right ventricular outflow tract, demonstrating the right ventricle giving rise to the pulmonary arteries and the aorta in cross-section
13. Aortic and ductal arches, if possible
14. Coronal chest and abdomen view to demonstrate situs (stomach and heart) and left and right hemidiaphragms
15. Fluid filled stomach
16. Left/Right Kidneys; AP renal pelvis measurements when indicated. Can use color Doppler to confirm renal arteries and aid in identification of the kidneys in a large patient.
17. Umbilical cord insertion site
18. Fluid filled bladder
19. Three-vessel umbilical cord with arteries demonstrated on the same half of umbilical vein
20. Coronal chest image demonstrating both hemidiaphragms (the heart and stomach should be shown on the same side)
21. Dual image demonstrating the stomach in one image and the heart in the other, both present on the left (both images should be labeled left/right)
22. Image each to include all 12 long bones
  - a. Confirm presence and symmetric size/length of the 3 bones of the bilateral arms and legs.
23. Documentation of 2 hands and 2 feet with evaluation of the digits when possible.
  - a. Foot should normally be perpendicular to the tibia and fibula. If the tibia/fibula and foot are identified in the same plane suspect talipes.
  - b. Fist is often clenched, although ideally watch the hand open/close and check for 5 fingers/knuckles on each side.
24. Cine clip in axial plane using sweep technique with appropriate zoom (must be able to visualize vertebral column and four chamber heart) documenting stomach, four chamber heart, 5 chamber view, main



pulmonary artery (or 3 vessel view), and the tracheal view.

<http://www.fetal.com/FetalEcho/04%20Standard.html>

- vi. **Chromosomal Markers:**
  - 1. Assess fetal heart for any evidence of an intracardiac echogenic focus that is similar in echogenicity to the nearby bony structures
  - 2. Assess fetal kidneys for any evidence of renal pyelectasis of 4 mm AP or greater
  - 3. Assess fetal bowel for echogenicity similar to the nearby bony structures
  - 4. Assess nuchal fold thickness for any measurement of 5 mm or greater (when BPD  $\leq$ 50mm)
  - 5. Assess for fetal structural abnormality
  - 6. Assess for short femur/ humerus
- vii. **Heart Rate:** Fetal heart rate should be assessed using M mode.
- viii. **Fetal Number:** If multiple gestations, document number of embryos, gestational sacs, and placentas if possible. All anatomy should be assessed and labeled "Twin A," "Twin B," etc.
- ix. **Amniotic Fluid:** The amniotic fluid should be assessed subjectively during the exam. The largest fluid pocket should be measured in the AP dimension.

**b. Required images (measurements):**

- i. Long ML Cervix (**cervical length**)
- ii. Long ML Cervix with color
- iii. Long ML Uterus-lower uterine segment
- iv. Long ML Uterus-fundal border
- v. Long Left Uterus
- vi. Long Right Uterus
- vii. Trans Vaginal canal
- viii. Trans Cervix
- ix. Trans LUS
- x. Trans Body
- xi. Trans Fundus
- xii. Long Left Adnexa (**Length & AP ovary**)
- xiii. Trans Left Adnexa (**Width ovary**)
- xiv. Long Right Adnexa (**Length & AP ovary**)
- xv. Trans Right Adnexa (**Width ovary**)
- xvi. Long Placenta-caudal border (**tip to os**)
- xvii. Long Placenta-cranial border
- xviii. Trans Placenta-right
- xix. Trans Placenta-left
- xx. (2) BPD (**Diameter of head**)
- xxi. (2) Head Circumference (**Area of head**)

- xxii. (2) Abdominal Circumference (**Area of Abdomen**)
- xxiii. (2) Femur Length (**Femoral Diaphysis length**)
- xxiv. (2) Humeral Length (**Humeral Diaphysis length**)
- xxv. Fetal Stomach
- xxvi. Fetal Kidneys
- xxvii. Abdominal Cord Insertion
- xxviii. Fetal Bladder
- xxix. Gender (if disclosed)\*\*
- xxx. 3 Vessel Cord
- xxxi. 4 Chamber Heart
- xxxii. Right Ventricular Outflow Tract
- xxxiii. Left Ventricular Outflow Tract
- xxxiv. M-Mode (**heart rate**)
- xxxv. Diaphragm
- xxxvi. Situs
- xxxvii. Right Upper Extremity
- xxxviii. Left Upper Extremity
- xxxix. Right Lower Extremity
  - xl. Left Lower Extremity
  - xli. Long C-Spine
  - xlii. Long T-Spine
  - xliii. Long L-Spine
  - xliv. Long S-Spine
  - xlv. Trans C-Spine
  - xlvi. Trans T-Spine
  - xlvii. Trans L-Spine
  - xlviii. Trans S-Spine
  - xlix. Choroid Plexus
    - l. Lateral Ventricle (**Post Vent Diameter**)
    - li. Cavum Septum Pellucidum/Midline Falx
    - lii. Cerebellum (Diameter)
    - liii. Cisterna magna (Diameter)
    - liv. Nuchal fold (**Fold thickness**)
    - lv. Orbits
    - lvi. Nose/Lips
    - lvii. Fluid (AP Diameter)
    - lviii. Long Presenting Part
    - lix. Cine clip in axial plane from stomach to main pulmonary artery (3 vessel view)

\*\* These structures are the only structures that do not require a patient call back. If any other listed anatomy is not clearly demonstrated, the patient should be given an additional

appointment time to attempt completion of the fetal survey. If the exam is not completed on the callback attempt due to fetal position, another callback should be attempted. If the exam is incomplete due to late gestation or maternal body habitus, the exam should be reported by the radiologist as limited by such.

## VI. 27 Weeks to Term

### a. Imaging Descriptors:

- i. Cervix: Longitudinal images should be obtained. Measure the length of the cervix. If not adequately visualized transabdominally, then translabial and/or transvaginal sonography must be obtained to assess the cervix. Assess for funneling, closed. Assess for presenting cord.
- ii. Uterus and Adnexa: Longitudinal and transverse images should be obtained assessing contour, shape and position of the uterus. Both adnexa should be assessed for masses, free fluid and structural abnormalities. Ovaries should be documented, pulsed Doppler flow obtained, and measured, if seen.
- iii. Placenta: Longitudinal and transverse images to assess echogenicity, contour and left and right as well as the cranial and caudal borders. The caudal tip should be assessed for its proximity to the internal cervical os.
- iv. Fetal Biometry: Two (2) measurements should be made for each of the following:
  1. Biparietal Diameter (BPD): performed from the axial image that includes the cavum septum pellucidum and thalami; measured from leading edge to leading edge.
  2. Head Circumference(HC): performed from the same image as the BPD; measured around the outer calvarium
  3. Abdomen Circumference (AC): performed at true transverse view of the fetal stomach and hepatic portion of the umbilical vein; measured around outer skin margin
  4. Femur Length (FL): measure entire length of the femoral diaphysis
  5. Humerus Length (HL): measure the entire length of the humeral diaphysis
- v. Anatomy: (only done if no fetal survey has been performed)
  1. Axial view of the cerebral lateral ventricles with transverse diameter measurement at the ventricular atrium (in the posterior margin)
  2. Axial view of the posterior fossa to include the cerebellum (with measurement), cisterna magna (with measurement), and nuchal fold (with measurement from the outer occipital bone to the outer skin edge)
  3. Axial view of four chamber heart, demonstrating intact septi, proper size(1/3 of chest), and position (40 degree angle from midline)
  4. Coronal chest and abdomen view to demonstrate situs (stomach and heart) and left and right hemidiaphragms

5. Fluid filled stomach
  6. Lt/Rt Kidneys; AP renal pelvis measurements when indicated
  7. Umbilical cord insertion site
  8. Fluid filled bladder
  9. 3 vessel umbilical cord with arteries demonstrated on the same half of umbilical vein
  10. Evaluation of fetus should include documentation of any gross abnormality.
- vi. Heart Rate: Fetal heart rate should be assessed using M mode.
  - vii. Fetal Number: If multiple gestations, document number of embryos, gestational sacs, and placentas if possible. All anatomy should be assessed and labeled "Twin A," "Twin B," etc.
  - viii. Amniotic Fluid: The amniotic fluid should be assessed subjectively during the exam. The largest fluid pocket should be measured in the AP dimension. A four-quadrant Amniotic Fluid Index (AFI) should be assessed, with the transducer held in a vertical position at all times.
  - ix. S/D Ratio: Color and pulsed wave doppler assessment should be performed on the umbilical artery and a Systolic/Diastolic Ratio should be reported.

**b. Required images- 27 weeks to term (measurements):**

- i. Long ML Cervix (**cervical length**)
- ii. Long ML Cervix with color
- iii. Long ML Uterus-lower uterine segment
- iv. Long ML Uterus-fundal border
- v. Long Left Uterus
- vi. Long Right Uterus
- vii. Trans Cervix
- viii. Trans Body
- ix. Trans Fundus
- x. Long Left Adnexa (**Length & AP ovary**)
- xi. Trans Left Adnexa (**Width ovary**)
- xii. Long Right Adnexa (**Length & AP ovary**)
- xiii. Trans Right Adnexa (**Width ovary**)
- xiv. Long Placenta-caudal border (**tip to os**)
- xv. Long Placenta-cranial border
- xvi. Trans Placenta-right
- xvii. Trans Placenta-left
- xviii. (2) BPD (**Diameter of head**)
- xix. (2) Head Circumference (**Area of head**)
- xx. (2) Abdominal Circumference (**Area of Abdomen**)
- xxi. (2) Femur Length (**Femoral Diaphysis length**)
- xxii. (2) Humeral Length (**Humeral Diaphysis length**)

- xxiii. Fetal Stomach
- xxiv. Fetal Kidneys
- xxv. Fetal Bladder
- xxvi. Gender (if disclosed)
- xxvii. M-Mode (**heart rate**)
- xxviii. Fluid (**AP Diameter**)
- xxix. Fluid (**AFI**)
- xxx. Long Presenting Part

c. **Required images- 27 weeks to term survey (measurements):**

- i. 3 Vessel Cord
- ii. 4 Chamber Heart
- iii. Choroid Plexus
- iv. Lateral Ventricle (**Post Vent Diameter**)
- v. Cerebellum (**Diameter**)
- vi. Cisterna magna (**Diameter**)
- vii. Nuchal fold (**Fold thickness**)
- viii. Abdominal Cord Insertion

**VII. Biophysical Profile**

a. **Observation Time/Overall Score Assignment:**

- i. The fetus is observed for a period of 30 minutes, or until all sonographic variables are identified. Initial image (such as longitudinal midline pelvis for fetus presentation) at initiation of exam to document start time should be obtained. \*\*\*If BPP score of 6/8 or less, an additional image (such as of an amniotic fluid pocket) should be obtained to document at least 30 minute duration of exam.
- ii. Variables are assigned a score of “2” if present during the exam, or a score of “0” if not observed.
- iii. A score of 8/8 is assigned if all variables are normal and present within 30 minutes, a BPP score of 6 or less is considered an abnormal score, upon which the Radiologist should be consulted, and the ordering physician should be notified immediately.
- iv. Cine clip acquisition
  - 1. If BPP score of 8/8, maximum of 4 cine clips saved to PACS including at least one sagittal respiratory motion cine demonstrating downward movement of the hemidiaphragm and inward movement of the rib cage.
  - 2. If BPP score of 6/8 or less, must document at least one sagittal cine clip demonstrating presence or absence of respiratory motion and preferably an additional coronal cine clip for respiratory motion.

Additional clips should be stored to document presence or absence of fetal posture/tone and fetal movement.

b. Sonographic Variable Technique:

- i. Fetal Breathing Movements (respiration):
  1. Normal(2): at least one episode of > 30 seconds of FBM in 30 minutes or less;
  2. Abnormal (0): Absent or no episode of >30 seconds of FBM in 30 minutes.
- ii. Fetal Posture and Tone:
  1. Normal (2): 1 episode of active extension with return to flexion of fetal limbs or trunk; opening and closing of hand is considered a normal tone;
  2. Abnormal (0): Slow extension with return to partial flexion, movement of a limb in full extension, or absent fetal movement.
- iii. Fetal Movement:
  1. Normal (2): 3 discrete body/limb movements in 30 minutes or less (episodes of active continued movement are considered a single movement);
  2. Abnormal (0): Less than 3 episodes of body/limb movements in full 30-minute time span.
- iv. Amniotic Fluid Index:
  1. Normal (2): 1 pocket of fluid measuring 2 cm or greater in the vertical axis (Note: amniotic fluid index (AFI) should be reported as well along with any oligohydramnios or polyhydramnios, however the AP pocket is the qualitative factor for the exam);
  2. Abnormal (0): Either no fluid pockets, or largest fluid pocket is less than 2 cm in vertical height.
- v. S/D Ratio: Color and pulsed wave doppler assessment should be performed on the umbilical artery and a Systolic/Diastolic Ratio should be reported. S/D ratio greater than 2.6 in the setting of a BPP score of 6/8 or less is considered significant, although non-specific if BPP score of 8/8.

c. Required images (measurements):

**\*\*Note:** A majority of this exam is observation. A minimum of one cine clip required to document fetal breathing movement in sagittal plane with proper magnification for a normal BPP score of 8/8 examination. Any abnormalities should be documented with cine loop clip with specific documentation of all the aspects that are present/absent (fetal tone, fetal gross body movement, and fetal respiration).

1. Long ML Uterus (presentation)
2. S/D Ratio (**Ratio**)
3. Cine clip of fetal tone movement (2)

4. Cine clip of fetal gross body movement (2)
5. Cine clip of fetal respiration
6. RUQ (**AP diameter**)
7. RLQ (**AP diameter**)
8. LLQ (**AP diameter**)
9. LUQ (**AP diameter**)
10. M-Mode (**heart rate**)

### VIII. Limited Obstetric ultrasound

The only appropriate use of the Limited OB worksheet (which assesses only the placenta previa/abruption, the cervix, fetal heart rate) is when a limited OB ultrasound is requested **AND** the patient has had a prior ultrasound performed for this pregnancy. A limited OB ultrasound is performed when the clinician has specified only a limited exam indication, such as to evaluate cervical length, evaluate for placental abruption, evaluate for placenta previa, etc.

#### a. Imaging Descriptors:

- i. Cervix: Longitudinal images should be obtained. Measure the length of the cervix. If not adequately visualized transabdominally, then translabial and/or transvaginal sonography must be obtained to assess the cervix. Assess for funneling, closed. Assess for presenting cord.
- ii. Placenta: Longitudinal and transverse images to assess echogenicity, contour and left and right as well as the cranial and caudal borders. The caudal tip should be assessed for its proximity to the internal cervical os. Assess for placental abruption, placenta previa
- iii. Heart Rate: Fetal heart rate should be assessed using M mode.
- iv. Fetal Number: If multiple gestations, document number of embryos, gestational sacs, and placentas if possible. Fetal position, heart rate should be assessed and labeled "Twin A," "Twin B," etc.
- v. Amniotic Fluid: The amniotic fluid should be assessed subjectively during the exam. The largest fluid pocket should be measured in the AP dimension. A four-quadrant Amniotic Fluid Index (AFI) should be assessed, with the transducer held in a vertical position at all times.
- vi. Fetus position: Assess the presenting part of the fetus (i.e., cephalic, transverse breech, footling breech).

#### b. Required images- Limited obstetric ultrasound (measurements):

- i. Long ML Cervix (**cervical length**)
- ii. Long ML Cervix with color
- iii. Long Placenta-caudal border (**tip to os**)
- iv. Long Placenta-cranial border
- v. Trans Placenta-right
- vi. Trans Placenta-left

- vii. M-Mode (**heart rate**)
- viii. Fluid (**AP Diameter**)
- ix. Fluid (**AFI**)
- x. Long Presenting Part