Pregnancy Information Packet

Vicky E. Sherman, M.D., FACOG
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Phone: 520.323.0333
www.shermanobgyntucson.com
Pregnancy Information Packet Contents

Office Visits
Childbirth Education Program
Telephone Availability
Billing Information
Disability and Pregnancy
Patient Rights and Responsibilities
Laboratory Testing During Pregnancy
Sonograms
Over-the-counter medications

APPENDIX
A. Maternal Serum Screening for Birth Defects
B. Group B Streptococcus and Pregnancy
C. HIV and Pregnancy
D. Advanced Maternal Age- Pregnancy After 35
E. Cystic Fibrosis Carrier Screening
F. Rh Factor in Pregnancy

How to Know When You Are In Labor

Useful web links
Dear Patient,

Congratulations on your pregnancy and welcome to our practice!

We are honored you have chosen us to participate in your pregnancy care. During this anticipation-filled time of your life, you may experience many uncertainties or new sensations. Our goal is to be right there along with you, providing you with the best quality of medical care and service throughout your entire pregnancy and delivery.

We would like to briefly introduce ourselves.

Dr. Sherman has been in practice as an OB/GYN since 1993. She completed medical school at the University Of Arizona College Of Medicine where she was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. Her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology was completed at Methodist Hospital of Indiana, Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Sherman is Board Certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a fellow in the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Lori Mulick, WHNP received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Arizona State University College of Nursing, Tempe, Arizona, and graduating Cum Laude. She continued at ASU, completing her Master’s of Science in Nursing. Lori has numerous professional certifications in the area of fetal monitoring, and pediatric and neonatal care. She has worked in hospital obstetric/neonatal care units from 1994 – 1998 when she joined the practice of Vicky Sherman, M.D., FACOG

This packet includes information on the practice and common prenatal testing as well as answers to other frequently asked questions. The left pocket contains initial forms. Please complete and bring all forms to your first prenatal appointment.

We welcome your questions and encourage you to share your concerns (and your joys) and take comfort in knowing that you will receive compassionate, high-quality care.

Congratulations!

Vicky E. Sherman, M.D.
A division of Genesis OB/GYN 6562 E. Carondelet Drive, Tucson, AZ 85710 Phone: 520.323.0333
Office Visits

Dr. Sherman works as a team with Lori Mulick, WHNP, a nurse practitioner. On your first visit you will be seen by Lori, who will confirm your pregnancy and perform an initial obstetrical assessment. For the remainder of your prenatal care, your obstetrician and nurse practitioner will alternate visits.

The guideline we use for scheduling prenatal visits is every 4 weeks for the first 28 weeks of pregnancy, every 2-3 weeks until 36 weeks, and weekly after 36 weeks. If Dr. Sherman determines your pregnancy as low risk, you may be scheduled with less frequency. The U.S. Public Health Service Expert Panel on Content of Prenatal Care recommends that healthcare providers should individualize prenatal care and education. Their recommendations for reduced prenatal visits for low risk women have been studied at several medical centers, and found to be safe and satisfying to women. Additional visits may be scheduled if needed.

Appointments are made during business hours. We suggest you make your appointments at least a month in advance. Your family members are welcome to come with you to your visits. However, no more than two visitors can be accommodated in the exam room.

We ask that if you are unable to keep an appointment to please call to cancel/reschedule 24 hours in advance. Someone else will be able to use the time we had reserved for you. If we need to reschedule your appointment due to an unexpected medical emergency, you will be contacted as soon as possible.

Childbirth Education Program

We believe that the more you learn about what is happening during pregnancy, birth and the months after delivery, the more fun you will have and the healthier you will be.

Carondelet St. Joseph’s Hospital offers a variety of classes, including Infant/Child CPR, Baby Care ABC’s, and others. We urge you to call or visit the Carondelet website for more information.

We also strongly recommend taking a tour of St. Joseph’s Hospital, giving you an opportunity to get comfortable with the Labor & Delivery area and the Mother/Baby Units. These tours are free.

For information regarding the St. Joseph’s Hospital Childbirth Education Classes and for information on Tours please call (520) 324-1817 or visit www.carondelet.org.
**Telephone Availability**

We are available to you at all times, but request that you call during business hours, unless it is an emergency. During business hours, the providers or their medical assistants will return non-urgent calls in late morning or the end of the day. Telephone triage is available from 9a.m. until 3p.m. daily for questions or concerns.

If you call after hours, you will be able to leave a message or be connected to the answering service in the case of an emergency. The answering service will contact the Provider on call, and your call will be returned. We are prompt about returning after hours calls. If you are not at a number where we can call you back, the answering service can keep you on hold and “patch” you through to the provider. If you haven’t heard from us in 15 minutes, please call back. In the rare event of an answering service equipment failure, call St. Joseph’s Labor and Delivery Unit (520) 873-1100. They will be able to reach us directly. Our providers do not stay at the hospital unless caring for a patient, so please allow 30 minutes for us to meet you at the facility.

**Locations and Phone Numbers**

**In case of medical emergency, call 911**

Vicky E. Sherman, M.D.
6562 E. Carondelet Drive
Tucson, AZ 85710
Telephone: 520-323-0333

St. Joseph’s Hospital Labor and Delivery Unit
350 N. Wilmot Road
Tucson, AZ 85710
Telephone : (520) 873-1100
Triage: (520) 873-1150
Billing Information      Business Office: (520) 795-0549

It is our intention to provide and fully explain all financial policies and arrangements. Vicky E. Sherman, M.D. accepts most insurance plans and will bill all insurance companies with whom we participate. If you have questions about your coverage, referrals, co-pays, etc., please contact the business office.

If your insurance provider has a special form for deliveries, you will need to provide us with the completed form as soon as possible. Your insurance will be billed at the time of your delivery.

If you do not have insurance, you may be eligible for Arizona’s program for maternity care, Baby Arizona. Vicky E. Sherman, M.D. business office can assist you with processing the application.

Vicky E. Sherman, M.D. will charge an “Obstetrical Package Fee”, which includes all office visits, and physician charges for delivery. Charges may vary depending on the type of delivery you have.

Payment arrangements can be made with the billing office. Payments are to be made monthly with total payment due one month before your due date. If you leave Vicky E. Sherman, M.D. care during your pregnancy, a bill will be generated for services provided rather than the package fee.

Hospital care, anesthesia, ultrasounds, pediatric care and lab charges will be billed separately by those providers. To inquire about insurance coverage or cost, contact St. Joseph’s Hospital’s billing office at (520)872-7100. Cost will vary depending on the type of delivery you have.

Disability and Pregnancy

The majority of expectant mothers can continue to work until late in pregnancy without any complications. Sometimes, however, the physical changes that occur during pregnancy and/or the demands of a woman’s job can create difficulties. Please let us know if you have any concerns in this regard. We are usually able to suggest simple steps to deal with fatigue, “morning sickness”, or aches and pains that can be particularly challenging when at work. If you experience more serious symptoms, or concerns about potential workplace hazards to you or your baby, please inform us. We will evaluate the situation and respond accordingly. If your doctor determines you should be placed on disability or medical leave, you will need to obtain forms from your employer.

There is a $25.00 fee for processing the disability forms. Please allow 7-10 business days for completion of these documents.
Patient Rights and Responsibilities

- **The patient has the right** to a reasonable response to her requests and needs for treatment of service within the healthcare providers capacity, stated mission and applicable regulations.
- **The patient has the right** to considerate, compassionate, and respectful care that recognizes her personal values and belief systems.
- **The patient has the right** in collaboration with her healthcare provider to make decisions involving her healthcare, including the right to accept medical care, or to refuse treatment and to be informed of the medical consequences of such refusal.
- **The patient has the right** to information necessary to enable her to make treatment decisions that reflect her wishes and participate in the consideration of ethical decisions that arise in her care.
- **The patient has the right** to be informed of any human experimentation or other research/educational projects affecting her care or treatment.
- **The patient has the right** to personal privacy and confidentiality of information.
- **The patient is entitled** to have privacy during examination, to have visitors excused and to be informed why any observer is present, and to grant or refuse another person’s presence.
- **The patient’s guardian, next of kin, or legally authorized responsible person has the right** to exercise certain rights on the behalf of the patient.
- **The patient has the right** to expect explanation of any portion of the bill. Where appropriate the business office staff will assist the patient in making arrangements for payment of the bill through a payment schedule or assistance program.
- **The patient has the responsibility** to provide a complete and accurate medical history to the best of her knowledge.
- **The patient has the responsibility** to ask questions and seek clarification about her diagnosis and treatment and participate in decisions involving her care.
- **The patient has the responsibility** to make it known whether a proposed course of treatment is understood, and whether she is willing and able to comply.
- **The patient has the responsibility** to provide information about complications or symptoms.
- **The patient has the responsibility** to be considerate of the rights of other patients and clinical personnel, and to treat them with respect.
Laboratory Testing During Pregnancy

As part of good prenatal care, our staff recommends certain tests to detect infections and other conditions in pregnancy.

At your first OB visit the following tests will be ordered:

**CBC** This test will check for anemia and other factors.

**Blood Type and RH** A pregnant woman who is Rh negative may need to receive a blood product called anti-D Immune Globulin (RhoGAM). This prevents the breakdown of your baby’s red blood cells, a serious condition which causes hemolytic disease *(Additional information in Appendix F)*.

**Antibody Screen** This test will check for red blood cell antibodies.

**Syphilis** A sexually transmitted disease which can cause birth defects.

**Hepatitis B** If the mother has this viral infection of the liver there is an increased chance that without treatment the baby will be infected. The baby can be treated at birth to prevent infection in most cases.

**Rubella (German measles)** An infection can lead to severe birth defects. If a woman is not immune, a vaccine can be given to her after the baby is born.

**Pap Smear** A screening test for cervical cancer.

**Chlamydia and/or Gonorrhea** Screening cultures that can detect sexually transmitted diseases that can potentially be harmful to you and your baby if not treated.

**Urinalysis** A screening test for urinary tract infection and culture.

**TSH** A screening test for thyroid disease.

Your 28-Week Visit:

**Glucose Screen** To check for diabetes in pregnancy.

**Blood Count** To recheck for anemia.

**Antibody Screen** If you are RH negative, administration of RhoGAM
Laboratory Testing During Pregnancy (continued)

Your 35-37 Week Visit:

Group B Strep Culture  Group B Strep is common bacteria found in many women’s vaginas that could infect the baby (Additional information in Appendix B).

Recommended Tests:

HIV  A blood test screening for AIDS. You can have HIV for years and not have any symptoms. If you have HIV, even without symptoms, there is a 1 in 4 chance you could pass it to your baby. There is treatment available during pregnancy that can reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to the baby (Additional information in Appendix C).

Optional Tests:

AFP Quad  A blood test done between 15 to 18 weeks of pregnancy to detect increased risk of having a baby with certain birth defects, such as an open neural tube defect (spina bifida) or Down syndrome (Additional information in Appendix A).

CF  A screening test for Cystic Fibrosis (Additional information in Appendix E).

NT (First Trimester Screen)  A blood test which shows if you are at increased risk of having a baby with Down Syndrome of Trisomy 18 (chromosomal disorders). It requires a sample of your blood and a special ultrasound measurement performed in the first trimester.

Sonograms
Sonograms are done when medically indicated (to assist us in determining your due date, to check on the growth of the baby, to assess bleeding, to survey the baby and placenta, etc). We only order sonograms and ultrasounds for medical reasons.

Ultrasounds and sonograms are performed at our Diagnostic Center, located at Genesis OB/GYN, 4881 E. Grant Road, Second Floor, Tucson, AZ 85712. Phone: 520.545.0930.

The Diagnostic Center offers AIUM certified 3-D & 4-D sonograms.

Nicholas Montalto, M.D. FACOG, a board-certified OB/GYN, serves as the Director of our Diagnostic Center.
Over-The-Counter Medications

Generally speaking, it is best not to take any medications during pregnancy, especially during the first 13 weeks.

However, there is no evidence that the following medications are harmful and they may be used sparingly. Please follow dosage instructions on the label and call your provider if symptoms persist or you have questions.

It is important to remember that you may NOT use Aspirin products during pregnancy.

**Headaches/Colds:** Tylenol and Extra Strength Tylenol

**Allergies/Colds:** Ocean nose spray, Benadryl, plain Sudafed, Actifed, Claritin

**Sore Throat/Cough:** Plain Robitussin, Cepacol spray and lozenges

**Heartburn:** Maalox, Mylanta, Riopan, Tums, Rolaids, Pepcid, Zantac

**Constipation:** Stool softeners, Metamucil, Fibercon, Citrucel, Colace, Surfak

**Hemorrhoids:** Anusol, Preparation H, Tucks

**Diarrhea:** Fluids, Kapectate

**Nausea:** Fruit gum, Saltine crackers, Vitamin B-6 50mg 3 times per day

**Yeast Creams:** Monistat-7, Gyne-Lotrimin

**Herbs & Supplements:** Please check with your provider prior to use
APPENDIX

This Appendix provides information on testing and screenings that may be done during pregnancy.

A. Maternal Serum Screening for Birth Defects
B. Group B Streptococcus and Pregnancy
C. HIV and Pregnancy
D. Advanced Maternal Age- Pregnancy After 35
E. Cystic Fibrosis Carrier Screening
F. Rh Factor in Pregnancy

Please let us know if you have a concern with you or a member of your family’s health or genetic history. Many other specialized genetic tests and screenings are available.
APPENDIX A

MATERNAL SERUM SCREENING FOR BIRTH DEFECTS

What is the AFP screening test?
A screening test that can be done using a small sample of a pregnant woman’s blood to identify pregnant women who may be at increased risk for having a baby with certain birth defects, such as an open neural tube defect (spina bifida), Down syndrome, and Trisomy 18.

How is the AFP screening test done?
A small amount of blood is drawn from a vein in the pregnant woman’s arm. The test is done at 15 to 18 weeks of pregnancy in most cases as this produces the most accurate results. Four substances present in the blood sample will be measured. These substances are Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP), human chorionic gonadotropin (HCG), unconjugated estriol (uE3), and dimeric inhibin A (DIA.) The amount of each substance in the blood sample as well as number of weeks pregnant, height, weight, race, insulin dependent diabetes, single or twin pregnancy, maternal age and any significant family history are all taken into account to calculate the individual patient’s specific risk.

Why is the AFP test called a screening test?
A screening test can help predict the risk of a problem. It is not a diagnostic test and cannot give you a definite “yes” or “no” answer.

What does an abnormal screening result mean?
Some women having an AFP screening test will be identified as being in the high-risk group even though they are carrying a normal fetus. This screening result does not always mean there are problems in the baby. For example, the due date might have been estimated incorrectly, or twins might be present instead of just one baby. Women in the high-risk group are offered diagnostic tests, which can give a definitive answer. A sonogram or amniocentesis is examples of further testing, which might be offered if the screening results are abnormal. No test is perfect. Not every abnormal result of a screening test will mean that your baby has a birth defect. Sometimes there is no reason for an abnormal screening test. Not every normal result of a screening test will mean that your baby does not have a birth defect. It is up to you whether to be tested. Some women find having the screening test is reassuring, and other women would rather not have the information. The results of the tests can help some women make decisions about their options.
APPENDIX B

GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS (GBS) AND PREGNANCY

GBS is a type of bacteria that can be found in 10-30% of pregnant women. It usually does not cause serious illness. It may be found in the digestive, urinary, and reproductive tracts of men and women. In women, it is most often found in the vagina and rectum. GBS is not a sexually transmitted disease.

A woman with GBS can pass it to her baby during delivery. Most babies who get GBS from their mothers do not have any problems. A few, however, will become sick. This can cause major health problems or even threaten their lives.

If the bacteria are passed from a woman to her baby, the baby may develop GBS infection. This happens to only 1 or 2 of every 100 babies whose mothers have GBS. Babies who do become infected may have early or late infections. Both early and late GBS infections lead to death in about 5% of infected babies.

A culture is the most accurate way to test for GBS. This is a simple painless procedure performed at 35 to 37 weeks. A swab is placed in the woman’s vagina and rectum to obtain a sample. If the test results are positive, showing that GBS is present, you will receive antibiotics during labor to help prevent GBS from being passed to your baby.

Babies of women who are carriers of GBS and do not get treatment have more than 20 times the risk of getting infected than those who do receive treatment. The antibiotics work only if taken during labor. The bacteria grow so fast that if treatment is given earlier, the GBS may grow back before labor. If you had a previous baby with GBS infection or you had a urinary tract infection caused by GBS during pregnancy, you do not need to be tested. You will need to get antibiotics during labor.

In women who have planned a cesarean birth, it is not necessary for them to be given antibiotics during delivery, whether or not they are GBS carriers. However, these women should still be tested for GBS because preterm labor may occur before the planned cesarean birth and your baby’s pediatrician will want to know the results. GBS is fairly common in pregnant women. Yet, very few babies actually become sick from GBS infection. Treatment during labor and delivery may help prevent infection in your baby. If you would like additional information about GBS, please ask for a brochure, and/or talk with your doctor or nurse practitioner.
APPENDIX C
INFORMATION ON HIV AND PREGNANCY

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) causes AIDS, a disease that is increasing among women of childbearing age. A person who is infected with HIV does not get sick right away. The virus lives in the body of an infected person for the rest of her life, and breaks down the immune system over time. It may take many years after being infected to develop symptoms of AIDS. AIDS is a very serious disease causing much suffering and many deaths throughout the world. There is no current cure for AIDS.

HIV is spread by contact with the body fluids of an infected person (blood, semen, vaginal secretions and breast milk). Contact with these fluids can occur during sex, breastfeeding, sharing needles, blood transfusions and pregnancy.

HIV affects 2 out of every 1,000 pregnant women. A woman can pass the infection to her baby as early as the 8th week of pregnancy. About half of the children infected with HIV get it from their mother during labor and birth. Breastfeeding is another way a mother can pass the virus to her baby.

Pregnant women infected with HIV need to have their health watched more closely, with careful monitoring of blood levels and symptoms of infection.

A woman can decrease the chance of her baby getting infected by taking medication during her pregnancy. Without treatment, about 25% of babies born to women with HIV will get the virus. With treatment, that number drops to about 8%. To lower the risk, infected women must take the anti-viral medications throughout her pregnancy and during labor. Babies are given the medications for the first 6 weeks after they are born. Some women who are HIV positive choose to terminate their pregnancies.

Vicky E. Sherman, M.D. and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommend that all women be tested for HIV early in pregnancy. It is important for your health, the health of your baby and the health of your sexual partner. Before we order the test, we will talk to you about the testing procedure and reporting of the results.

We recognize that it is your choice whether or not to be tested. The HIV test is a blood test, and determines if you are carrying the virus by looking for antibodies to HIV. Antibodies usually appear within 3 months of getting the infection, but it may take up to 6 months, so we recommend a second test if there is a chance of recent infection.

Results of testing are confidential. They will be a part of your medical record, and will be released only with your permission. Our medical office and hospital staff will have access to your records may also see the results.

“Anonymous” testing, where your name is not recorded, is available through the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (520)628-7223 and the Pima County Health Department (520)791-7676.

If your test is positive, you will need special health care and counseling. We will assist you in obtaining the support, information and care that you need. The CDC National Aids Hotline is 1-800-232-4636. We can add this test to your first prenatal blood tests. Tell the person drawing your blood or sending you to the lab that you want the test (you will need to sign a consent form); or wait and talk with you provider if you want more information before you decide whether to be tested.
APPENDIX D
ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE-PREGNANCY AFTER 35

Advanced maternal age is defined as an expectant mother who will be 35 at the time of delivery. If you’re over 35 and pregnant, you’re not alone. Many women well into their 30s and beyond are delivering healthy babies. There’s nothing special about age 35. However, it is the age at which certain issues are recognized in pregnancy.

UNDERSTAND THE RISKS

Some of the risks associated with a pregnancy after 35 include a multiple pregnancy, a higher risk of pregnancy loss and a higher risk of delivering a baby with chromosomal abnormalities. Women that fit into the advanced maternal age category are also more likely to develop gestational diabetes and high blood pressure. Some of these risks may make it necessary for you to deliver your baby by cesarean section.

MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES

Seeking regular prenatal care during your pregnancy will help your provider monitor your health and your baby’s health. Eating a healthy diet is extremely important to your baby’s growth and development. We encourage women to take a prenatal vitamin with folic acid daily and to eat lots of protein and other essential nutrients. Staying active can help to improve your overall health and prepare your body for labor and childbirth.

LEARN ABOUT PREGNATAL TESTING AVAILABLE

There are several screening and diagnostic test available to you during pregnancy. Diagnostic tests, such as chorionic villus sampling, genetic amniocentesis and the first trimester screen, are tests that can provide definite results regarding the health of the baby. These tests are accurate and performed at different stages in the pregnancy. Screening tests, such as the maternal serum screening and ultrasounds, are tests that can provide information about whether you are at increased risk for certain conditions during the pregnancy. If you are interested in more information regarding screening or diagnostic testing during your pregnancy, please ask your Healthcare provider at your next visit.
APPENDIX E

CYSTIC FIBROSIS CARRIER SCREENING

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a life-threatening condition affecting the ability to secrete mucus fluids normally. Individuals with CF commonly have problems with the lungs, digestive system and reproductive system. They often suffer from pulmonary infections and organ damage due to difficulty in clearing secretions. The severity of CF varies from person to person. CF does not affect intelligence, appearance or development. There is no cure for CF currently. The average life expectancy of a person with CF is 30 years, but children born with CF today may live longer as treatments improve.

WHAT IS A CF CARRIER?
People who receive one normal cystic fibrosis gene and one abnormal cystic fibrosis gene are called CF carriers. They do not have the disease but have a 50% chance of passing the abnormal gene on to their child. In order for the child to be born with cystic fibrosis, he or she would need to inherit an abnormal gene from both parents.

WHAT IS CF CARRIER SCREENING?
Cystic fibrosis (CF) carrier screening is a genetic test that lets you know what your risk is for carrying an abnormal gene, as well as what your chances are of having a child with CF.

HOW IS CF CARRIER SCREENING DONE?
Your blood will be drawn and sent to the laboratory for testing. Additional information regarding family history, your race and ethnicity and your personal history will be provided to the lab. This additional information is essential to aid in the interpretation of the blood results.

WHAT DOES A NEGATIVE SCREEN MEAN?
A negative screen does not guarantee that you are not a carrier. This test detects only the most common changes in the CF gene.

WHAT DOES A POSITIVE TEST MEAN?
A positive screen means that the laboratory found a change in one of your two CF genes and that you are a carrier. There is a 50% chance that you will pass this gene to your child. With a positive finding, we recommend that your partner be screened for CF carrier status. Additional testing will be recommended as needed based on the results.

DOES MY INSURANCE PAY FOR THE TEST?
All insurance plans are different. If you aren’t sure your insurance plan covers the test speak with the customer service department at your insurance company or your provider.
APPENDIX F
Rh FACTOR IN PREGNANCY

During pregnancy it is necessary to do a blood draw to find out your blood type. There are two components to this testing, a major blood group (A, B, AB, and O) and an Rh factor (positive or negative).

WHAT IS Rh FACTOR?
Rh factor is a protein that is found on your red blood cells. Most of the population has the Rh factor present on their red blood cells. These groups of people are considered to be Rh positive. The rest of the population does not have the Rh factor present on their cells, these people are Rh negative.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH ISSUES FOR Rh NEGATIVE PREGNANT WOMEN?
During pregnancy you do not share blood systems with your baby. However, your baby’s blood can cross the placenta into your blood. The Rh factor becomes a problem when an Rh negative person’s blood comes into contact with an Rh positive person’s blood. If this contact occurs, the person with Rh negative blood develops antibodies to fight the Rh factor. In this instance the antibodies see the Rh factor as a harmful substance, or a foreign substance that does not belong in the blood. This is called Rh sensitization. When sensitization occurs these antibodies can go and attack the baby’s blood. This can cause a serious health condition in the baby called hemolytic disease. Rh sensitization can also affect future pregnancies.
An Rh negative woman’s blood can become sensitized if she is pregnant with an Rh positive fetus. Other ways an Rh negative woman’s blood can become sensitized are with a miscarriage, an induced abortion, an ectopic pregnancy, or a blood transfusion.

HOW CAN YOU BE SCREENED FOR Rh SENSITIZATION?
A simple blood test, a red blood cell antibody screen, can be drawn and sent to the laboratory to check for antibodies against the Rh factor.

HOW CAN Rh SENSITIZATION BE PREVENTED?
If your body has not made antibodies against the Rh factor, hemolytic disease can be prevented. Rh immunoglobulin (RhIg), or RhoGAM, is a human blood product (made from human blood plasma) that can prevent sensitization of an Rh negative woman. In a normal pregnancy, when the woman is Rh negative, the RhoGAM is given by intramuscular injection at 28 weeks gestation and again after you deliver your baby. RhoGAM is safe for use in pregnancy and has been used since the late 1960’s.

WHAT DO I DO IF I'M Rh SENSITIZED?
Every situation is unique and requires individualized treatment. Your health care provider will work closely with you throughout the pregnancy to plan the safest course of treatment for your baby.
Labor Instructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How to tell you may be in labor:</th>
<th>What to do:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. You have regular contractions every 3 to 5 minutes, for at least 2 hours. The contractions</td>
<td>1. If the contractions hurt so much that they make you cry, then come in to Labor &amp; Delivery. If the contractions are regular but not strong yet, then you may stay at home where you are more comfortable and continue with normal activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>don’t change no matter what you do, and may even get stronger when you walk (Do It!). Remember to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time your contractions form the beginning of one to the beginning of the next one.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. You may have “bloody show”: It may be pink, light red, or brown. It may be just a little when</td>
<td>2. “Bloody show” is a normal sign of EARLY labor. It is not necessary to come to the hospital for bloody show. Heavy bleeding, like a period is NOT normal and you need to come right in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you wipe, or with a lot of mucus.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Your “bag of water” may break. It could be a large gush of fluid or a CONSTANT leak, not just</td>
<td>3. Come to Labor &amp; Delivery, even if contractions haven’t started yet. Notice the color of the fluid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>when you wipe.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please call us RIGHT AWAY if:

- You have severe headache that doesn’t get better after Tylenol and resting quietly.
- Your baby is not moving as much as usual, and you have tried to feel baby while resting quietly and having a cold drink.
- Your baby is NOT due yet and you are having ANY signs of labor.
- You have been given special instructions by your nurse-midwife or doctor to call in certain circumstances.
- If you have a problem, question, or concern about your pregnancy which you believe needs immediate attention, please CALL US! We are happy to assist you.

(520) 323-0333

If your questions can wait, write them down for your next regular clinic visit.
Please visit the Pregnancy Care page at www.shermanobgyntucson.com for information and a complete listing of helpful links and information on the web.

Useful Links:
American Academy of Pediatrics  http://www.aap.org/topics.html
ACOG Exercise During Pregnancy http://www.acog.org/publications/patient_education/bp119.cfm
Babycenter.com – products and services for expectant and new mothers http://www.babycenter.com/
Babynamer. Com – will help you find the perfect name http://babynamer.com/
Breastfeeding.com – Information and support http://www.breastfeeding.com/
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Pregnancy Information http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/pregnancy_gateway/
H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu): Resources for Pregnant Women http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/pregnancy/
Diapers.com – free shipping and coupons on baby items www.diapers.com
Morning Sickness http://www.femalepatient.com/pdf/pat_0309.pdf
Pregnancy information library http://www.femalepatient.com

HOSPITALS

If you need help obtaining healthy food and health care for you and your child contact:
State Children's Health Insurance Program 877-KIDS-NOW (877-543-7669) www.insurekidsnow.gov
U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Stamps Program www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/
Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) www.fns.usda.gov/wic/
Locations and Phone Numbers

In case of medical emergency, call 911

Vicky E. Sherman, M.D.
6562 E. Carondelet Drive
Tucson, AZ 85710
Telephone: 520-323-0333

http://www.shermanobgyntucson.com

St. Joseph's Hospital Labor and Delivery Unit
350 N. Wilmot Road
Tucson, AZ 85710
Telephone: (520) 873-1100
Triage: (520) 873-1150