

TUB STUDY – TO UNDERSTAND BIRTH

BACKGROUND

7% of deliveries will be preterm. Preterm labour is a major clinical obstetric problem. Understanding human pregnancy may facilitate the development of new, more effective tocolytics and the combination of therapies. Preterm birth is associated with 70% to 80% of neonatal mortality, 50% of cerebral palsy and intellectual disability and a major cause of lifelong blindness. Rates of preterm birth are slightly increased than 30 years ago, due to increased maternal age and IVF pregnancies. Another major clinical problem occurs when some women begin to labour normally but fail to progress, leading to emergency Caesarean Section.

RATIONALE

- ♣To better understand why some women go into preterm labour.
- ♣To better understand why some women fail to progress when the normal labour process begins.
- ♣To improve wellbeing and health of mothers and babies by reducing the mortality of mother and baby and infant morbidity rates.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The myometrium, placenta, umbilical cord and the membranes are collected from the women who are going to have a Caesarean Section. These tissues will be used for variety of biochemical studies to understand how the uterus contracts and placenta work. The data from this study will substantially potentiate the knowledge of preterm birth, pre-eclampsia, IUGR, and other problems of human birth. This will definitely make new discoveries in therapeutic interventions.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Any woman over 30weeks gestation, delivering at JHH, who may have a Caesarean Section. This may be an **elective** procedure. The obstetrician in consultation with the woman, agree that this is the most appropriate method of delivery. At times this decision is made in the Delivery Suite, when the woman has **laboured**.

WHAT DOES THE STUDY INVOLVE?

Collection of the following samples during Caesarean Section:
Amniotic fluid
Tissue from the uterus
Donation of your placenta
Cord blood from the placenta

All obstetric caregivers may give women the written information about the TUB Study and consent women to the TUB Study, whether an **elective** procedure or if in **labour** and progresses to have a **Caesarean Section**.

Please page 5916 for further information & page 5659 for labouring C/S 24/7