

New series of reviews on evidence-based L&D management and cesarean delivery!



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As obstetricians and obstetric providers such as midwives and others, many of us chose this field for the magic and challenges in labor and delivery. The birth of a new life remains for me at the same time the most emotional, happy, and challenging time in pregnancy. For the pregnant woman, labor and delivery is also the most potentially stressful and anxiously awaited time of her gestation.

When I trained as a resident in the early 1990s, there were few randomized controlled trials (RCTs) guiding the management of possible interventions in labor and delivery; now in 2020, there are thousands of RCTs and dozens of metaanalyses of RCTs that can help guide our intrapartum care. Although professional organizations have several documents on labor and delivery (eg, 119 by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists as of November 18, 2019),¹ there are few resources available that comprehensively cover all the possible interventions in labor and delivery and the technical aspects of cesarean delivery.² For example, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines for Perinatal Care, now in their 8th edition, do not cover several possible interventions in labor and do not cover how to perform a cesarean delivery, of which approximately >30 million occur in the world annually.³

This AJOG MFM L&D series plans to cover the topics that are listed in the [Table](#). They will focus on the healthy woman, carrying a singleton healthy gestation at term, usually in vertex presentation. Recommendations for clinical care will be synthesized in a table format, with Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) assessment of the quality of the evidence and strength of recommendation.⁴ Some topics, such as intrapartum fetal monitoring (and related interventions), group B streptococcus prophylaxis, meconium, anesthesia, operative delivery, multiple gestations, and neonatal care are not covered because each of these topics would require an

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TABLE

The 10 reviews on evidence based labor and delivery management and cesarean delivery

Part	Title
1	Labor management: before labor
2	Induction of labor
3	Labor management: first stage
4	Labor management: second stage
5	Labor management: third stage
6	Vaginal delivery: postpartum care
7	Cesarean delivery: before cesarean
8	Cesarean delivery: technique, from skin incision to baby
9	Cesarean delivery: technique, from after baby to skin closure
10	Cesarean delivery: postpartum care

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extensive review behind the scope of this series. We plan to publish at least 1 of the topics that are listed in the [Table](#) per issue, hoping to complete publications of all topics in a timely manner. We look forward to feedback, comments, and hot debate! ■

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