

PLACENTA PREVIA

What is Placenta Previa?

Placenta Previa is an abnormal location of the placenta (afterbirth).

With this condition, you can have severe bleeding, especially if you start having contractions (labor pains). Sometimes as your pregnancy progresses, the uterus (where the baby lies) enlarges and the placenta moves up and away from the opening of your womb (cervical opening). If this happens you may have a normal delivery. If the placenta does not move away, you will have surgery to deliver your baby (C-Section).

What are the signs and symptoms of Placenta Previa?

- This condition is diagnosed on an ultrasound, since there are usually no specific signs or symptoms that you may feel or have.
- If there is a symptom, it may be in the form of bright red vaginal bleeding.

Follow these instructions to prevent severe bleeding:

- No vaginal penetration of any kind. This includes sexual intercourse, tampons, or vaginal applications, since these can cause movement of the cervix (womb opening) and cause it to bleed.
- No stimulation of the breasts or nipples. This can cause the uterus to start contracting (labor pains) which can cause bleeding.
- Keep your appointments for your follow-up ultrasounds. This allows us to see how well you and your baby are doing, and to see the position of the placenta.

If you are having Vaginal Bleeding:

- Come to the Labor and Delivery Department immediately.

If you have any questions or concerns about Placenta Previa, call your doctor or clinic right away. Otherwise, keep your regular scheduled appointment.

For general information about labor, call the advice line at:

Valley Connection 1-888-334-1000

or

Labor & Delivery 885-6400

I understand the above instructions _____

For appointments or questions, call Valley Connection
at 1-888-334-1000. In an emergency, call 911.

