Learning About When to Call Your Doctor During Pregnancy (Up to 20 Weeks)

Your Care Instructions

It’s common to have concerns about what might be a problem during pregnancy. Although most pregnant women don’t have any serious problems, it’s important to know when to call your doctor if you have certain symptoms.

These are general suggestions. Your doctor may give you some more information about when to call.

**When to call your doctor (up to 20 weeks)**

Call 911 anytime you think you may need emergency care. For example, call if:

- You passed out (lost consciousness).

**Call your doctor now** or seek immediate medical care if:

- You have a fever.
- You have vaginal bleeding.
- You are dizzy or lightheaded, or you feel like you may faint.
- You have symptoms of a urinary tract infection. These may include:
  - Pain or burning when you urinate.
  - A frequent need to urinate without being able to pass much urine.
  - Pain in the flank, which is just below the rib cage and above the waist on either side of the back.
  - Blood in your urine.
- You have belly pain.
- You think you are having contractions.
- You have a sudden release of fluid from your vagina.

Watch closely for changes in your health, and be sure to contact your doctor if:

- You have vaginal discharge that smells bad.
- You have other concerns about your pregnancy.

**Follow-up care is a key part of your treatment and safety.** Be sure to make and go to all appointments, and call your doctor if you are having problems. It’s also a good idea to know your test results and keep a list of the medicines you take.
Where can you learn more?

Visit MaineHealth's health reference library for more information on Learning About When to Call Your Doctor During Pregnancy (Up to 20 Weeks) and other health topics. In MyChart https://mychart.mainehealth.org, go to the Resources icon, and then click “Search Health Reference Library”. Enter G674 in the search box. You can also get to the library through the MaineHealth website at https://www.healthwise.net/mainehealth.

Current as of: November 21, 2017

Content Version: 11.6

© 2006-2018 Healthwise, Incorporated. Care instructions adapted under license by MaineHealth. This care instruction is for use with your licensed healthcare professional AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL ADVICE. If you have questions about a medical condition or this instruction, always ask your healthcare professional. Healthwise disclaims any warranty or liability for your use of this information.