

PREECLAMPSIA PATHOCHART

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Preeclampsia is high blood pressure during pregnancy that damages other organs, usually the kidneys and liver. Preeclampsia can be a serious complication and is often characterized by swelling of the face and hands and protein in the urine. Eclampsia results when preeclampsia is left undiagnosed or treated and can be fatal. Eclampsia is diagnosed when patients with preeclampsia begin having seizures. These seizures can occur even if the patient does not have a history of them.

ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

- BP over 140/90
- Proteinuria
- Headache
- Vision changes
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Swelling of face, hands, feet
- Sudden weight gain
- Decreased urine output

DIAGNOSTICS

- Blood Pressure
- Urinalysis
- Clinical Findings

NURSING PRIORITIES

- Promote optimal cardiac output
- Optimize fluid and electrolyte balance
- Maintain safety and prevent injury

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- Seizure precautions
- Decrease stress levels
- Monitor proteinuria
- Monitor weight daily
- Promote bedrest
- Monitor for volume overload
- Low sodium diet
- Fetal monitoring

MEDICATION THERAPY

- Diuretics
- Antihypertensives