

(ECTOPIC PREGNANCY) NURSING CARE PLAN

Medical Diagnosis: Ectopic Pregnancy

Subjective Data:	Nursing Intervention (ADPIE)	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenorrhea, absence of menstrual period • Nausea • Dizziness • Weakness • Lower abdominal pain 	Assess vital signs: Blood pressure Heart rate Respirations Temperature	If an ectopic pregnancy occurs in the fallopian tube that ruptures, the patient may go into shock and will have rapid heart rate, rapid breathing, and low blood pressure.
	Assess for signs of dehydration; skin turgor, mucous membranes, cap refill	Excessive blood loss and vomiting may cause hypovolemia and dehydration.
	Position patient for comfort and assist with movement as needed	Patients should be positioned lying flat on the bed to reduce movement, stabilize vitals, and promote comfort.
Objective Data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaginal bleeding or spotting • Tachycardia • Tachypnea • Hypotension • If Fallopian tube ruptures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fainting • Hypotension • Shoulder pain • Rectal pressure 	Assess for abdominal pain and tenderness	Pain may vary but is usually a sign that ectopic pregnancy, or fallopian tube, has ruptured. Patients will report stabbing or sharp pain in the lower abdomen with fluctuating intensity.
	Monitor blood loss and administer blood products as necessary	Vaginal bleeding may range from spotting to heavier than a normal menstrual cycle
	Monitor intake and output; administer fluids as appropriate	To maintain renal function, especially in the case of shock.
	Administer medications as appropriate and monitor for adverse reactions	Methotrexate may be given to absorb the pregnancy tissue and save the fallopian tube. Anti-nausea and analgesic medications may be given to manage symptoms
	Prepare the patient for surgery: Maintain NPO status Insert indwelling catheter Establish and maintain IV access and fluids	If the fallopian tube has ruptured, surgery to remove part or all of the tubes may be the best option. Surgery may be performed laparoscopically or a laparotomy may be necessary.
	Provide patient education of ways to prevent future ectopic pregnancies	Educate patient of risk factors and lifestyle changes to avoid future ectopic pregnancies: Stop smoking Multiple sex partners increase the risk of pelvic infections and ectopic pregnancies