

LECTURE 05

# FUNDAMENTALS OF MIDWIFERY

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# FUNDAMENTALS OF MIDWIFERY

## NEWBORN ASSESSMENT POSTNATAL

### **Newborn Normal Variations in Newborn (e.g. Caput, moulding, Mongolian spots)**

#### **Question:**

#### **\* What is Caput Succedaneum?**

Caput Succedaneum is a Birth Trauma. It is Oedematous swelling of the subcutaneous tissue of the fetal skull; Occurs as a result of pressure on the fetal head by the cervix during labour; Present at birth but decreases in size; Occurs at the part of the head which was over the internal os and therefore:

- May cross a suture line
- It pits on pressure
- Disappears completely within 24 hours- 48 hours.



#### **Question:**

#### **\* What are the causes of Caput Succedaneum?**

#### Causes of Caput Succedaneum:

The swelling in the head and scalp that characterises caput succedaneum is the result of acute external pressures on the baby's head during labor and delivery. The primary source of this external pressure comes from the birth canal itself.

**Question:**

✳ **What is the treatment of Caput Succedaneum?**

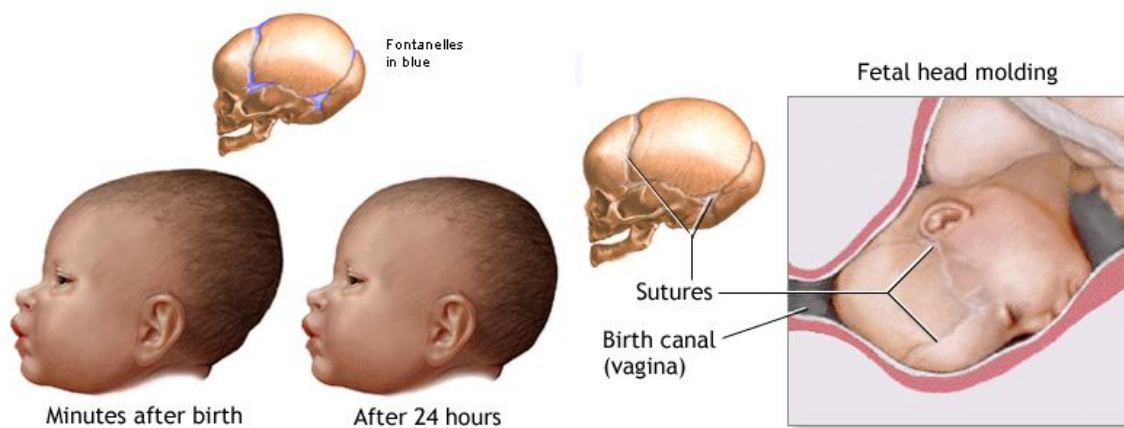
Treatment of Caput Succedaneum:

In most cases, no treatment is needed for a caput succedaneum; it will likely go away on its own. However, if there is bruising involved, this may lead to elevated bilirubin and jaundice (6). Jaundice is usually not a serious threat either, and in a mild form, often resolves spontaneously.

**Question:**

✳ **What is Moulding?**

Moulding is Head and brain injuries during birth, Moulding refers to the normal change in shape of the baby's head that results from pressure on the head during delivery. In most births, the head is the first part to enter the birth canal.



**Causes of moulding :**

Cerebral compression injuries can happen when excessive pressure on a baby's head during labor and delivery causes brain damage.

To summarise, excessive holding can occur when:

- There is a prolonged labour.
- Contractions are too forceful.
- The fetal head is malpositioned.
- Forceps or vacuum extractors are used improperly.

**Question:**

✱ **What is Mongolian Blue Spot?**

Mongolian spots; congenital dermal melanocytosis; Dermal melanocytosis. Mongolian spots are a kind of birthmark that are flat, blue, or blue- grey. They appear at birth or in the first few weeks of life. Mongolian blue spots are flat bluish- to bluish- grey skin markings commonly appearing at birth or shortly thereafter.



 ADAM.



**Question:**

✱ **What are the causes of Mongolian Blue Spot?**

Mongolian blue spots appear on the skin at or shortly after birth. The spots appears when melanocytes ( cells that produce pigment, or melanin ) remain in the deeper skin layer during embryonic development. What causes this to happen isn't known. Mongolian blue spots aren't related to an underlying health condition.

Treatment of Mongolian blue spot.

No treatment is needed when Mongolian spots are normal birthmarks. If treatment is needed, lasers may be used. Spots may be a sign of an underlying disorder. If so, treatment for that problem will likely be recommended.