

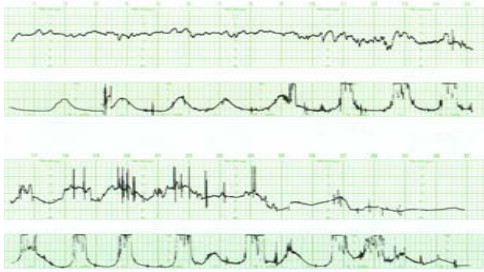
# KEEPING LABOR SAFE

Fetal Monitoring (EFM): Understanding “Reality” to protect Mother and Baby in labor

Robert D. Eden, MD

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, S.U.N.Y. -Syracuse



Time to change our thinking

## Keeping Labor Safe (KLS, LLC) Mission Statement

Make labor safe for mother, fetus, and health care providers by providing an **unbiased** and **consistent** method of evaluation of the birthing process based on sound **pathophysiological principles** so that prompt therapy can prevent harm.

# DISCLOSURE

KLS/MIE has patents on process described



US 9,131,860 B2



(12) United States Patent  
Evans

(10) Patent No.: US 9,131,860 B2  
(45) Date of Patent: Sep. 15, 2015

URKUNDE

Europäisches Patent

Es wird hiermit bescheinigt, dass für die in der Patentschrift beschriebene Erfindung ein europäisches Patent für die in der Patentschrift beschriebenen Vorrichtungen erteilt worden ist.

CERTIFICATE

European patent

It is hereby certified that a European patent has been granted in respect of the invention described in the patent specification for the Contracting States designated in the specification.

CERTIFICAT

Brevet européen

Il est certifié qu'un brevet européen a été délivré pour l'invention décrite dans le fascicule de brevets, pour les États contractants désignés dans le fascicule de brevets.

(54) IDENTIFYING THE LEVEL OF FETAL RISK DURING LABOR

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

(71) Inventor: Mark Evans, MD (US)

EP 1504261 A1  
EP 1504261 A2  
(Continued)

Europäisches Patent Nr.  
Europäischer Patent Nr.  
Brevet européen

2309104

Evans, Mark

## OBSTETRICS

### Intrapartum management of category II fetal heart rate tracings: towards standardization of care

Steven L. Clark, MD; Michael P. Nagotte, MD; Thomas J. Garite, MD; Roger K. Freeman, MD; David A. Miller, MD; Kathleen R. Simpson, RN, PhD; Michael A. Belfort, MD, PhD; Gary A. Dildy, MD; Julian T. Parer, MD; Richard L. Berkowitz, MD; Mary D'Alton, MD; Dwight J. Rouse, MD; Larry C. Gilstrap, MD; Anthony M. Vintzileos, MD; J. Peter van Dorsten, MD; Frank H. Boehm, MD; Lisa A. Miller, CNM, JD; Gary D. V. Hankins, MD

Interpretation and management of fetal heart rate (FHR) patterns during labor remains one of the most problematic issues in obstetrics. Multiple basic science investigations and clinical trials have been published since the introduction of this technique in the late 1950s.<sup>1-7</sup> Unfortunately, this body of work has primarily served to raise more questions than it has answered—as a medical community, we seem to know less than we thought we did 30 years ago

There is currently no standard national approach to the management of category II fetal heart rate (FHR) patterns, yet such patterns occur in the majority of fetuses in labor. Under such circumstances, it would be difficult to demonstrate the clinical efficacy of FHR monitoring even if this technique had immense intrinsic value, since there has never been a standard hypothesis to test dealing with interpretation and management of these abnormal patterns. We present an algorithm for the management of category II FHR patterns that reflects a synthesis of available evidence and current scientific thought. Use of this algorithm represents one way for the clinician to comply with the standard of care, and may enhance our overall ability to define the benefits of intrapartum FHR monitoring.

**Key words:** fetal heart rate monitoring, neonatal encephalopathy, patient safety

“Unfortunately, this body of work [EFM research] has primarily served to raise more questions than it has answered.”

“As a medical community, we seem to know less than we thought we did 30 years ago regarding the utility of this ubiquitous technology.”

# EPIDEMIOLOGY NOT THEOLOGY

END THE CIVIL WAR



Gray Journal 2017

Original Research

**CARDIEMPHIC**  
 The limits of electronic fetal heart rate monitoring in the prevention of neonatal metabolic acidemia  
 Steven L. Clark, MD; Emily F. Hamilton, MD; Thomas J. Garito, MD; Audra Timmons, MD; Philip A. Warwick, PhD; Samuel Smith, MD

“EFM cannot produce sensitivities for acidemia >50% concluding something else is needed”

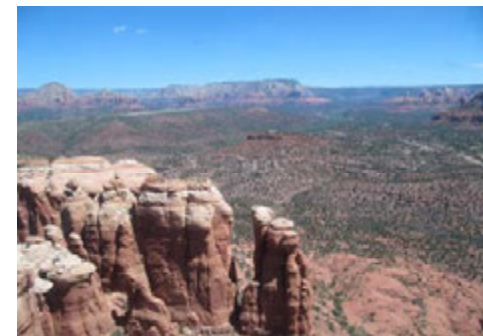
# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF EFM ?

KEEP BABY OUT OF TROUBLE?

RESCUE FROM THE “EDGE?”

Is EFM “Diagnostic” for damage or “Screening” for increased risk of damage?

“How close to the edge of the cliff do we go before turning back?” [e.g. 2<sup>nd</sup> stage continue for hours]



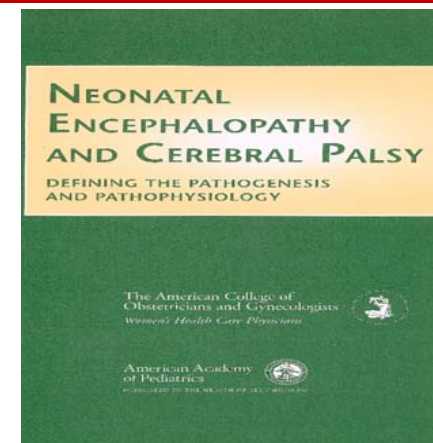
# RELYING SOLELY ON FHR INTERPRETATION, PER SE, IS AS EFFECTIVE AS THE MAGINOT LINE

- A stat CS for a baby with Apgar’s 9/9 and pH 7.1 is a clinical success, but also a screening “false positive” failure !
- A stat CS for a baby with Apgar’s 2/3 and pH 6.9 because of a category III tracing is a “screening success” but a clinical failure !



# THE PROBLEM - Cerebral Palsy

- In 2003, ACOG published a Monograph on “Neonatal Encephalopathy and Cerebral Palsy” (NEACP).
- The Monograph categorized which CP cases could be attributable to labor and delivery (L & D) events. ACOG states that in most cases CP not related to L & D.

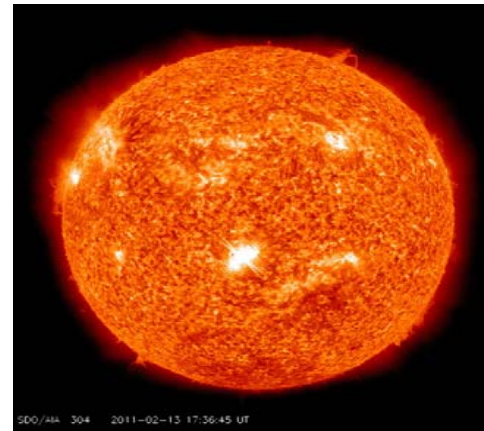


NEONATAL ENCEPHALOPATHY AND CEREBRAL PALSY  
 DEFINING THE PATHOGENESIS AND PATHOPHYSIOLOGY  
 AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS  
 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS  
 JANUARY 2003

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA to conclude NE related to “an acute intrapartum event (must meet all four)

- Metabolic acidosis (cord arterial blood) at delivery (pH <7.00 and base deficit ≥12mmol/L)
- Early onset of neonatal encephalopathy in infants born at 34 or more weeks of gestation
- Cerebral Palsy of the spastic quadriplegic or dyskinetic type
- Exclusion of “trauma, coagulation disorders, infectious conditions, or genetic disorders etc,”

ACOG ATTEMPTS TO EVALUATE EFM AND CP



ACOG CATEGORY SYSTEM (2009)

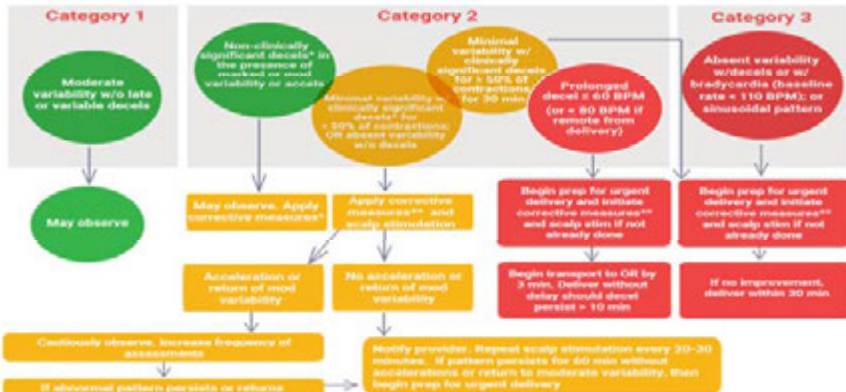
• CAT SYSTEM

- I. absolutely fine – no risk
- III impending damage
- Deliver now
- II 80% of cases
  - With elements of concern but by itself not sufficient to warrant intervention
  - Statistical and programmatic nightmare

CATEGORY SYSTEM SCHIZOPHRENIA

Appendix Q  
 Example Algorithm for the Management of Intrapartum Fetal Heart Rate Tracings

CMQCC  
 California Maternal  
 Quality Care Collaborative



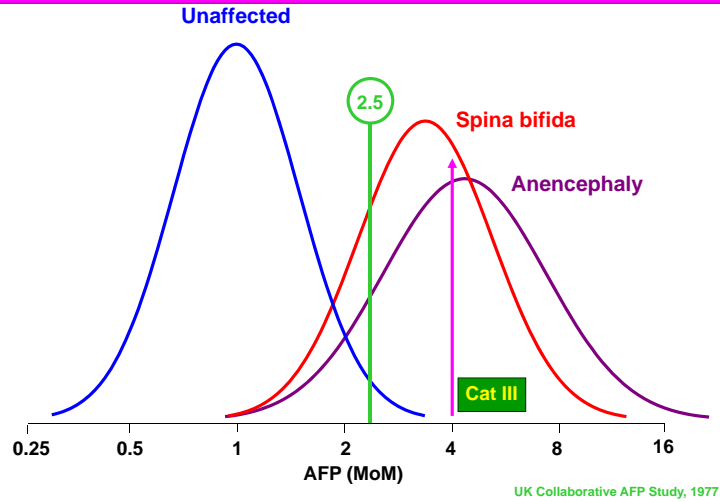
BOTH ACOG APPROACHES ARE INADEQUATE

- ACOG actually now admits quality of interpretation of EFM is inadequate with too many mistakes.
- The truth is:
  - Inadequate training with poor quality control
  - Too much inter-operator variability
  - Even true experts have vast disagreements on individual cases
- ACOG proposes further training and “New” certification program
- Pediatricians now recognize that adverse affects can be seen without meeting all ACOG criteria (SARNAT staging)
  - Makes ACOG system have even worse statistical performance



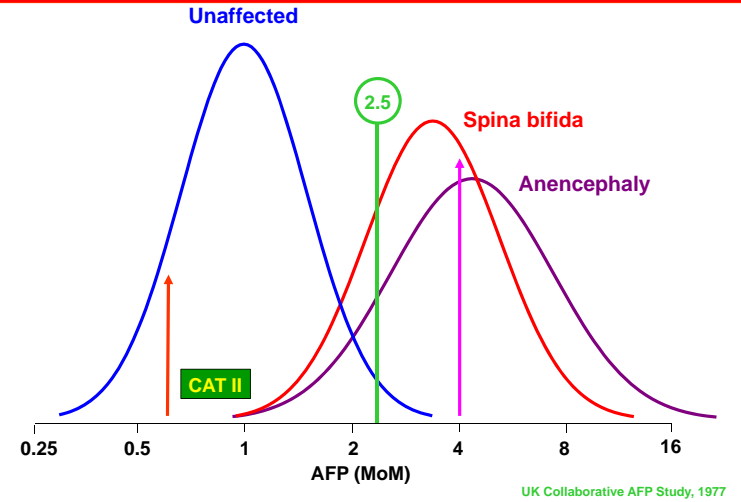
**ACOG CATEGORY III: TOO FAR TO THE RIGHT**

SAME AS USING AFP OF 4 MOM FOR NTDs



**ACOG CATEGORY II: TOO FAR TO THE LEFT -**

80% OF PATIENTS "AT RISK"



**EFM/CAT misses the BIG picture !**

**Lacks Cumulative Time Effect**

**1<sup>ST</sup> ROUND**

**15<sup>TH</sup> ROUND**



**The "Fetal Reserve Index":  
Re-Engineering the Interpretation and  
Responses to Fetal Heart Rate Patterns**

Robert D. Eden<sup>a</sup>, Mark I. Evans<sup>a,b</sup>, Shara M. Evans<sup>a</sup>, Barry S. Schifrin<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Fetal Medicine Foundation of America, <sup>b</sup>Comprehensive Genetics, PLLC, and <sup>c</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA

THE JOURNAL OF MATERNAL-FETAL & NEONATAL MEDICINE, 2018  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14767058.2018.1441283>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



**Re-engineering the interpretation of electronic fetal monitoring to identify reversible risk for cerebral palsy: a case control series**

Mark I. Evans<sup>a,b</sup>, Robert D. Eden<sup>a</sup>, David W. Britt<sup>a</sup>, Shara M. Evans<sup>a</sup> and Barry S. Schifrin<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Fetal Medicine Foundation of America, New York, NY, USA; <sup>b</sup>Comprehensive Genetics, PLLC/Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA

Original Article

**Reengineering Electronic Fetal Monitoring Interpretation: Using the Fetal Reserve Index to Anticipate the Need for Emergent Operative Delivery**

Reproductive Sciences  
Taylor & Francis  
© The Author(s) 2019  
All rights reserved. No reuse allowed without permission.  
DOI: 10.1177/1098317319841774  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1098317319841774>  
<http://jfm.sagepub.com/home/jfm>



Robert D. Eden, MD<sup>1</sup>, Mark I. Evans, MD<sup>1,2,3</sup>,  
Shara M. Evans, MSc, MPH<sup>1</sup>, and Barry S. Schifrin, MD<sup>1</sup>

## FETAL RESERVE INDEX FRI

- Fetal Heart Rate (FHR)
- FHR Baseline variability
- FHR Accelerations
- FHR Decelerations

- Uterine activity (increased)

- Maternal risk factors
- Obstetrical risk factors (including labor)
- Fetal risk factors (separate from EFM)

Each category scores  
1 if normal and 0 if not.

Maximum 8 points = 100%

6/8 = 75%; 1/8 = 12.5%

Zones:

Green >50 to 100%  
Yellow >25 to 50%  
Red 0 to 25%



## MATERNAL RISK FACTORS

- Decreased cardiac output / vascular perfusion of the placenta
  - Cardiac Disease with risk of decreased cardiac output in pregnancy
  - Hypertension (Chronic and Pregnancy induced)
  - Hypotension from epidural
- Oxygen carrying capacity
  - Pulmonary disorders (e.g. Asthma)
  - Anemia and hemoglobinopathy
- Infection (chronic and acute)
- Chronic debilitating Disease
- Malabsorption / Poor weight gain
- Endocrine – Diabetes and hyperthyroidism
- Advanced Maternal age
- Drug abuse, addiction, and smoking
- Obesity – BMI >35
- Short stature ≤ 5'2" (156cm)
- Postdate Pregnancy (41 weeks)

## OBSTETRICAL RISK FACTORS

- IUGR
- Macrosomia
- Oligohydramnios
- Polyhydramnios
- Bleeding and abruption
- Previous c/section
- Placental and umbilical cord anomalies
- Rupture of Membranes (PPROM, SROM, AROM)
- Dystocia (Protraction and arrest disorders of labor)
- Malpresentation

## FETAL RISK FACTORS

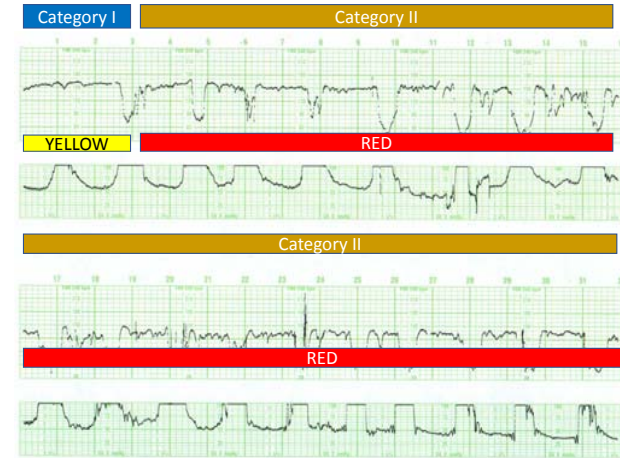
- Abnormal Dopplers/BPP
- Genetic disorders
- Fetal arrhythmia
- Meconium passage
- Second stage of labor - labor
- Amnioinfusion
- Discontinuation of Pitocin due to fetal intolerance
- Conversion patterns (Acute prolonged tachycardia (>170 bpm))
- Ominous overshoots
- Bradycardia (<100 bpm)
- Missing important data in labor (e.g. lack of EFM in second stage)

# EFM SCREENING CRITERIA

- **Fetal Heart Rate (FHR)**
  - >160 bpm
  - <110 bpm
- **FHR Variability:**
  - <5 bpm
  - >25 bpm
  - Sinusoidal
  - Nodal rhythm
- **FHR Accelerations:**
  - <10 bpm in labor
  - Overshoots, not shoulders
- **FHR Decelerations:**
  - Lates or variables with slow return to baseline
  - Prolonged (>2 mins)
- **Excessive Uterine Activity (EXUA)**
  - >4 UC's 10-minutes or >8 UC's in a 20-minute window

# INCREASED UTERINE ACTIVITY

- >4 Contractions within a 10-minute period averaged over a 30-minute period.



- “standard” ACOG definition requires >5 contractions per 10 minutes averaged over a 30-minute period.

- Example here: each panel 16 minutes & shows 19 contractions in 32 minutes

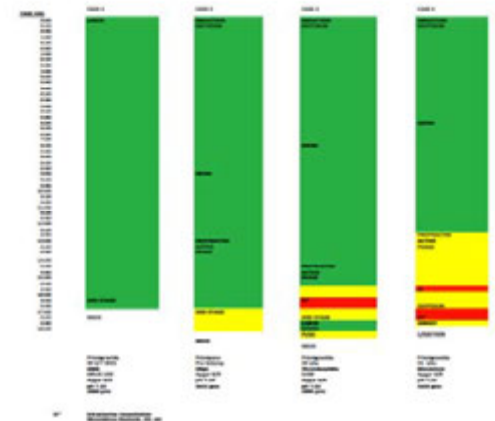
# FRI LABOR ANALYSIS

Standard of Care / Causation

DURATION TIME	MATERNAL	OBSTETRIC/FETAL	PYTOCIN	FHR	VAR	ACCELS	DECELS	EXUA	TOTAL SCORE	UC/10	FRI	
0:00	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	2	0.625	
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	V-LATE	1	4	2	0.5	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	2	0.625	
0:40	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	4	0.625	
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	2	0.625	
1:00	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	4	0.625	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	2	0.625	
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	2	0.625	
2:00	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	4	0.625	
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	3	0.625	
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	4	0.625	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-PROL	1	3	3	0.375	
0:40	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	V-LATE	1	4	3	0.5	
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	1	1	4	3	0.5	
3:00	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	V-LATE	1	4	4	0.5	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	3	0.625	
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	V-LATE	1	4	2	0.5	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	3	4	0.375	
0:40	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	3	0.625	
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	3	0.625	
4:00	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	1	1	4	3	0.5	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	3	4	0.375	
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	3	3	0.375	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	1	1	1	5	4	0.625	
0:40	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	1	1	4	4	0.5	
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	1	1	4	3	0.5	
5:00	TEEN	SRICOM	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	3	4	0.375	
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	3	4	0.375	
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	EXUA	2	5	0.625
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	EXUA	1	5	0.625
0:40	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	EXUA	1	5	0.625
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	EXUA	1	5	0.625
6:00	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	EXUA	1	5	0.625
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	2	4	0.375
0:20	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	2	4	0.375
0:30	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	2	4	0.375
0:40	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	2	4	0.375
0:50	TEEN	SRICOM	2ND	1	1	DECREASE	ABSENT	V-LATE	1	2	4	0.375

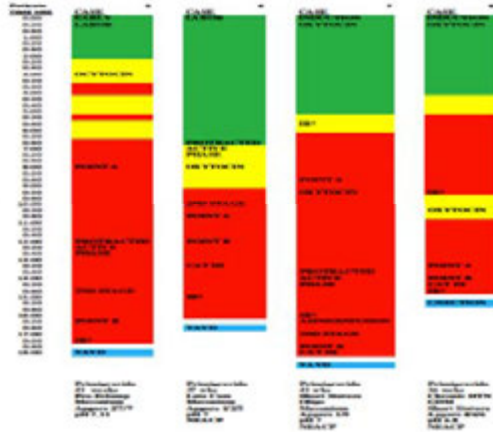
# REPRESENTATIVE CONTROLS

- Time (downward) 20 min intervals.
- Score assessed each interval
- EFM and UA are dynamic:
  - Can go normal to abnormal – back and forth
- Maternal, fetal, and obstetrical:
  - Only normal to abnormal



# REPRESENTATIVE CP CASES

- CP Cases tend to go "RED" early in labor
- CP Cases have hours of RED zone before damage occurs



# TOLERANCE TO CONTINUING STRESS IN LABOR

FRI: GREEN/YELLOW

FRI: RED



# REACHING THE "RED ZONE"

- 20-25% of laboring patients get there.
- A call for immediate attention (Time out).
- Does not automatically mean immediate delivery required:
  - Senior obstetrical evaluation
  - Intrauterine Resuscitation
  - Attempt vaginal delivery

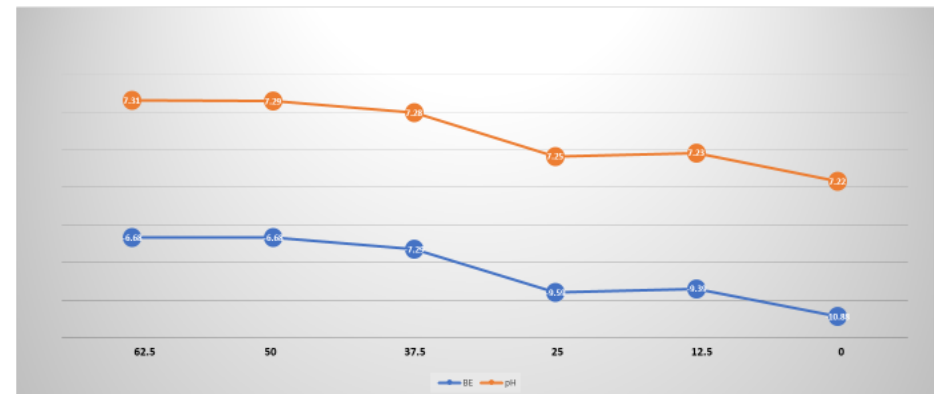


- 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 4
- Not 4<sup>th</sup> down and 4.

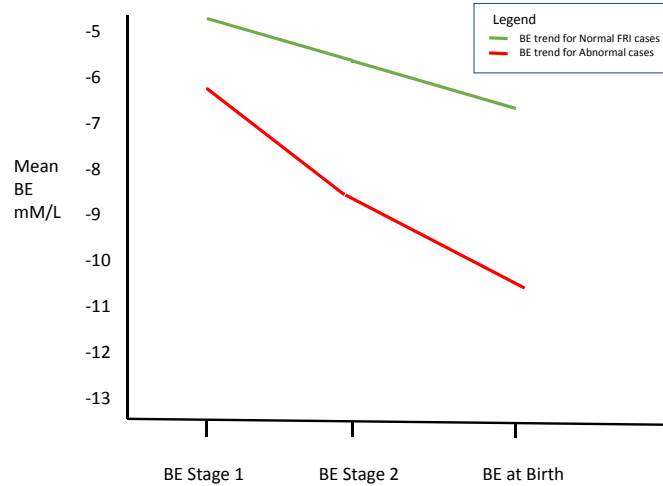
## Intrauterine Resuscitation (IR):

1. Stop Oxytocin infusion (Terbutaline)
2. Oxygen By mask
3. IV fluid administration
4. Maternal Position Change

# BASE EXCESS AND PH BY LAST FRI SCORE



## LABOR TRENDS by BASE EXCESS (Grouped by last FRI)



## COMPARISON OF METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING CEREBRAL PALSY (60)

[60 CP/360 CONTROLS]	ACOG MONO*	Category III**	FRI**
SENSITIVITY	28% [17/43]	45% [27/33]	100% (60/0)
SPECIFICITY	100% [0/360]	100% [0/360]	76% [86/274]

\*Postnatal data

\*\* Prenatal data

## FRI AND OUTCOME

	N	APGAR 1	APGAR 5	PH	RED HOURS TOTAL	MEAN % LOWEST FRI
CP CASES	60	3.0	5.4	7.03	5.35	10
RED CONTROLS	86	7.2	8.7	7.21	0.98	15
G/Y CONTROLS	274	8.1	8.9	7.24	N/A	48

EVERY CP BABY WAS IN RED ZONE >2 HOURS

800 control cases – all with good outcomes:  
FRI reduced emergency CS rate by >60%

	REACHED RED ZONE	TOTAL EMERGENCY DEL	EMRG CSs (ECS)	IR USED	ECS (when FRI did not improve)
ROUTINE MGMT. (N)	104	69	34	80	25
%	26%	17.3%	8.5%	20%	31.3%
FRI MGMT. (N)	113	16	13	188	13
%	28.2%	4.0%	3.3%	47%	6.9%
X <sup>2</sup> P VALUE	.474	.000	.002	.043	.001



## MANAGEMENT IN THE RED ZONE

Entering Red Zone starts a "shot clock" to:

1. Start IR
2. Call Obstetrician
3. Evaluate EFM
4. Implement a game plan (IR or delivery)
5. resolve within 20 minutes or triggers 30 min rule to deliver.

All CP cases were in the Red Zone for more than 2 hours.



## LEARNING FROM OUR PAST

### BIBLICAL DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Judean Desert x 2000 years



## LEARNING FROM OUR PAST

### FETAL MONITORING DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Barry Schifrin's garage x 45 years



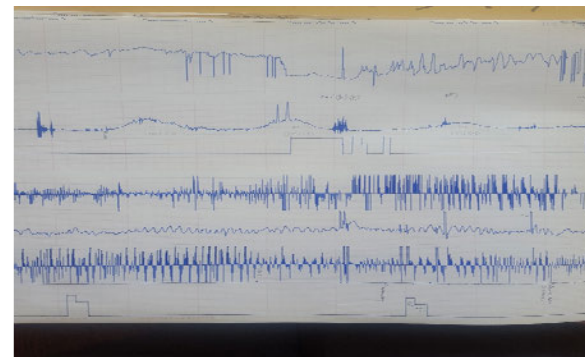
## THE INCHON INDEX

Intrapartum, Neonatal **COMBINED**, Homeostatic Opportunity  
for Neurologic Integrity

CONNECTING BEFORE AND AFTER BIRTH

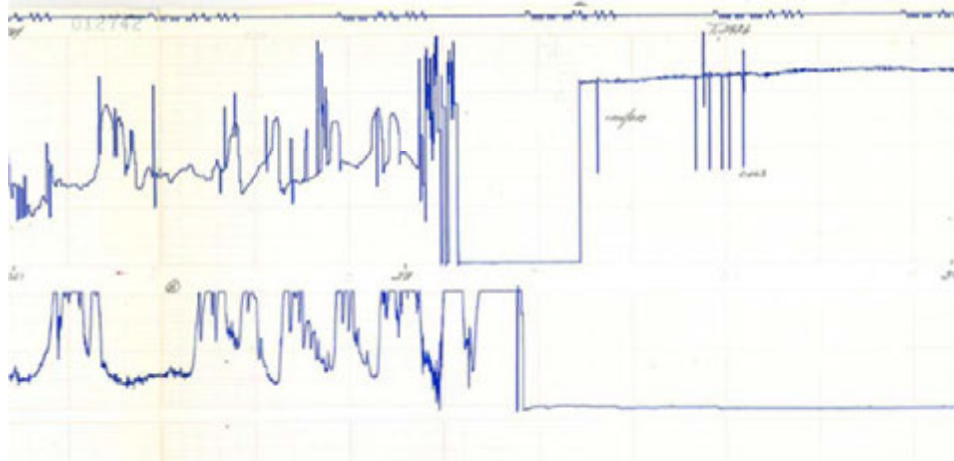
DEAD SEA SCROLL PROJECT

IN HONOR OF ED HON



Professor Edward Hon (1917-2006)

## TRANSITION FROM FETUS TO NEONATE



## EFM: MISSING THE 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER

- The focus on the prenatal period is like watching a football game.
- Your team is ahead at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, which you think is the whole game, so you go to bed –
- Only to discover that your team lost in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter that you didn't know existed.

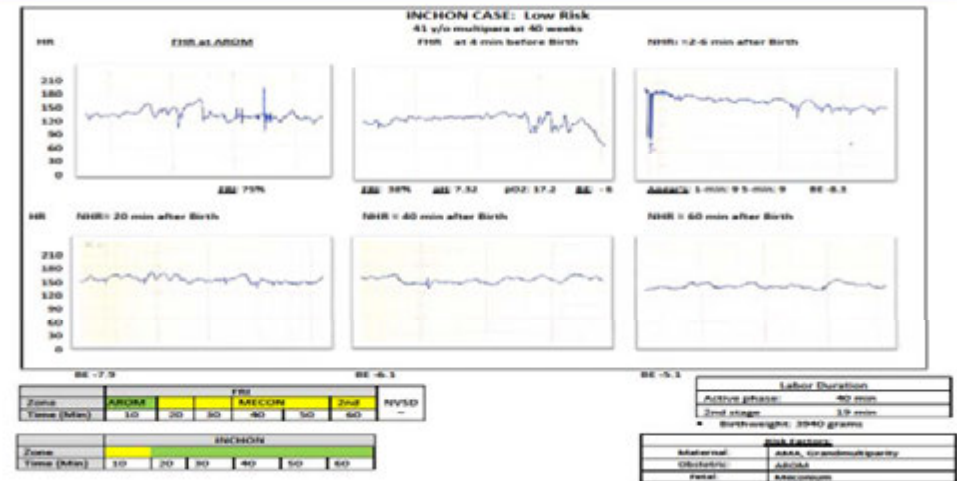


## DEAD SEA SCROLL PROJECT

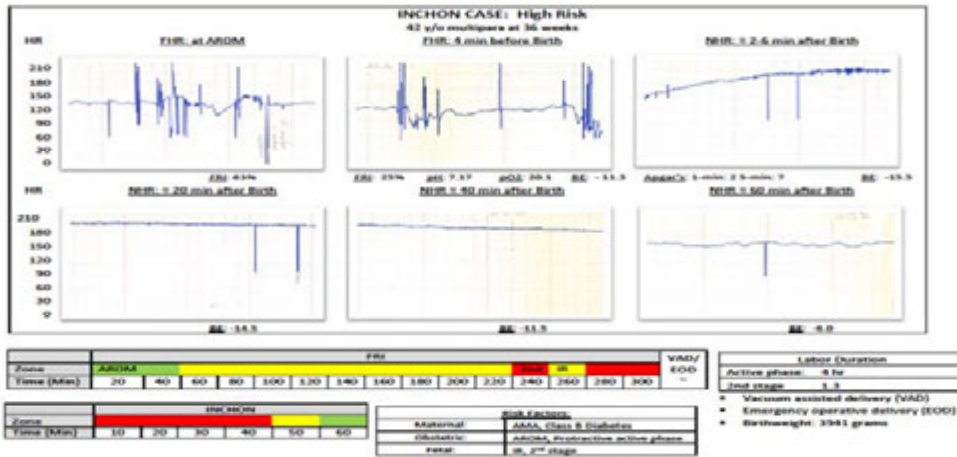
- 475 Studies directed by Dr. Ed Hon between 1969-1975 - Sat unanalyzed x 45 years.
- Several hundred high risk cases with ROM continuously and intensely monitored through delivery and for 1 hour postpartum.
- Multiple fetal scalp samples with any concerns (e.g. decelerations)
- Cord blood and umbilical artery bloods at 4, 8, 16, 32, & 64 minutes.
- Continuous NHR for 1 hour

- Initially Evaluated 275 cases (1971-73) using FRI and created a new metric for postnatal status up to 1hr.
- For postnatal categories, we used the "last FRI" score which tended to be the lowest, so we combined Green & Yellow into one group.
- Then we divided the Reds into "high" (Ruby) and "low" (Crimson)
- We graphed each of the 3 subgroups over the first hour of neonatal life
- We then created a new combined prenatally and postnatal metric:
- The INCHON index [last FRI, cord blood BE and pO2] to predict risk of metabolic acidosis at 30 minutes.

## INCHON: LOW RISK CASE



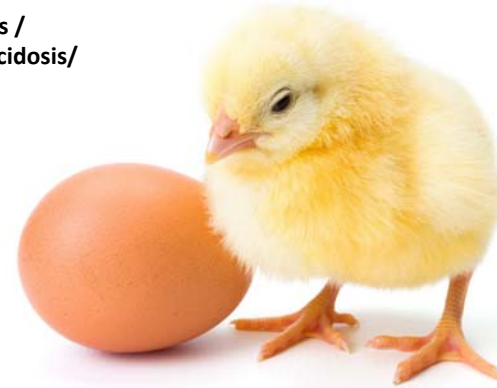
## INCHON: HIGH RISK CASE



# BIRTH TRAUMA ?

Fetal Distress /  
Metabolic Acidosis/  
HIE

Labor Dystocia/  
Shoulder Dystocia / Erb's  
Forcep / Vacuum injury



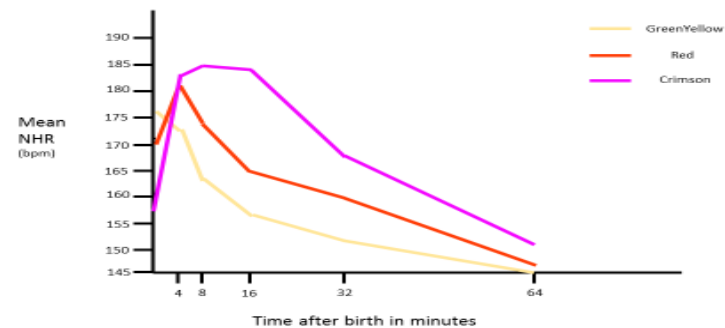
## What happens to the Neonatal HR Rate in the 1<sup>st</sup> hour after delivery?

Can it decipher timing / etiology of Birth Injury?

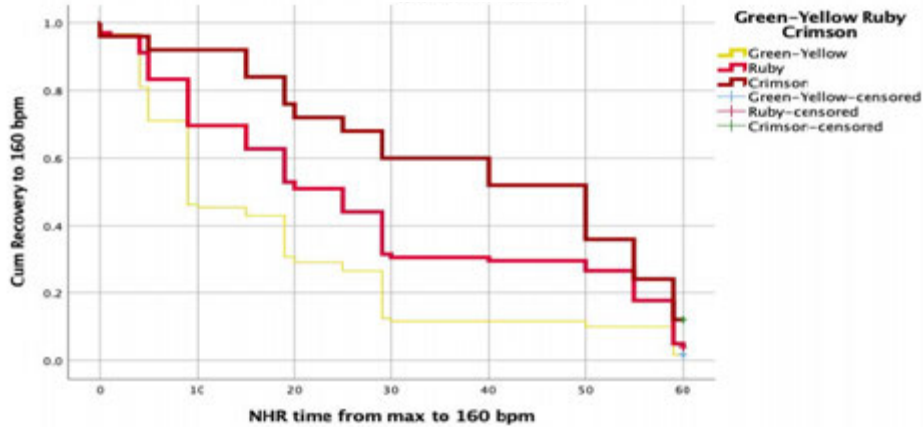


## 85% OF NEONATES HAVE TACHYCARDIA: CORRELATES WITH FRI SCORE

Mean Postnatal NHR scores by Time After Birth Categorized by Fetal Reserve Index Risk



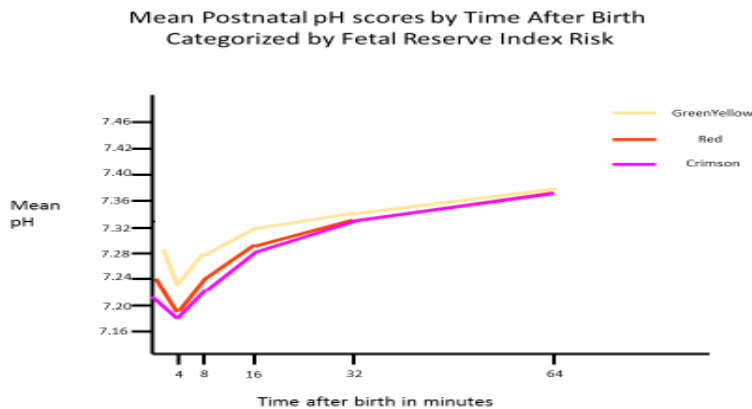
**NHR RECOVERY CORRELATES WITH FRI SCORE  
KAPLAN - MEIER**



**What happens to the neonatal pH in the 1<sup>st</sup> hour after delivery?**



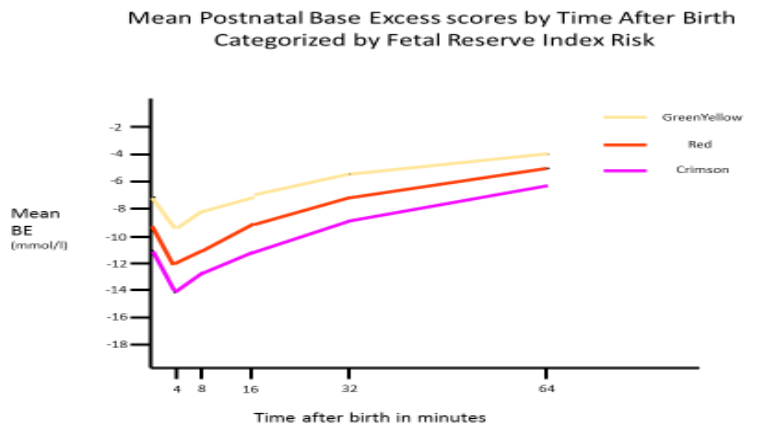
**pH WORSENS BEFORE IMPROVING**



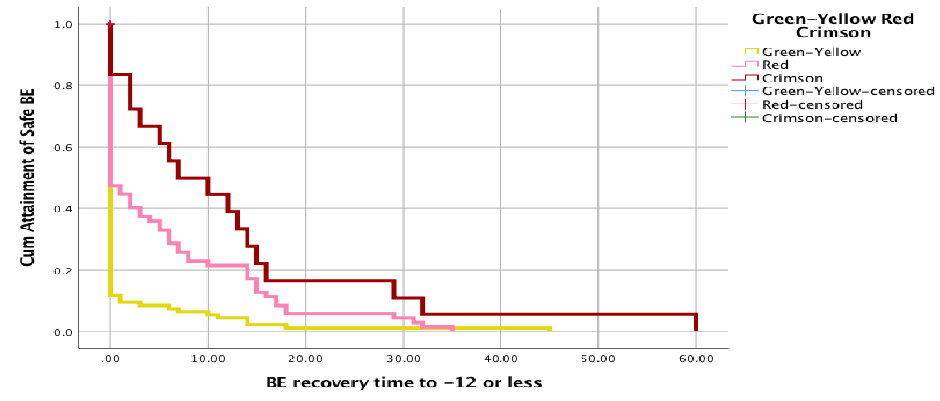
**What happens to the Neonatal Base Excess in the 1<sup>st</sup> hour after delivery?**



## BASE EXCESS WORSENS BEFORE IMPROVING



## BE RECOVERY TIME CORRELATES WITH FRI SCORE



## POSTPARTUM BASE EXCESS RECOVERY: the equation doesn't follow the physiology



- The recovery equation assumes going straight from NY to Miami.
- In fact, plane stopped in DTW on way down so path is all wrong, goes backwards, and includes period of vulnerability not previously recognized.

## KEEPING LABOR SAFE

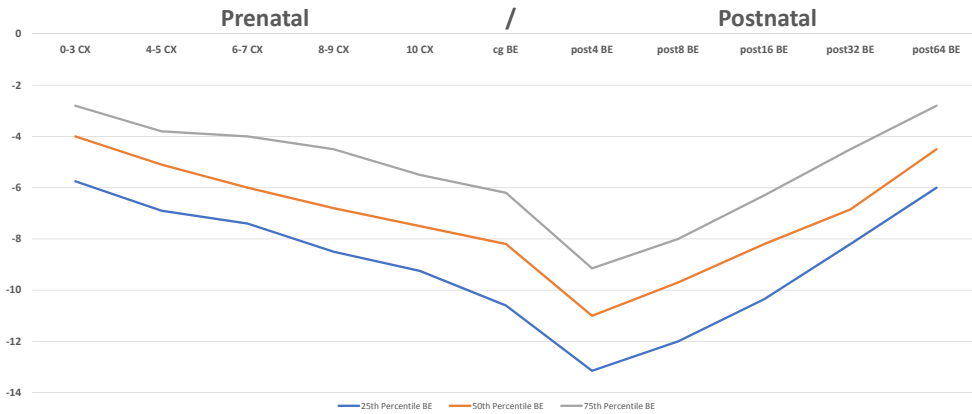
### 1<sup>st</sup> step

- FRI clearly has better performance metrics than CAT
  - Identify CP
  - Earlier identification
  - Reduce CS and EOD

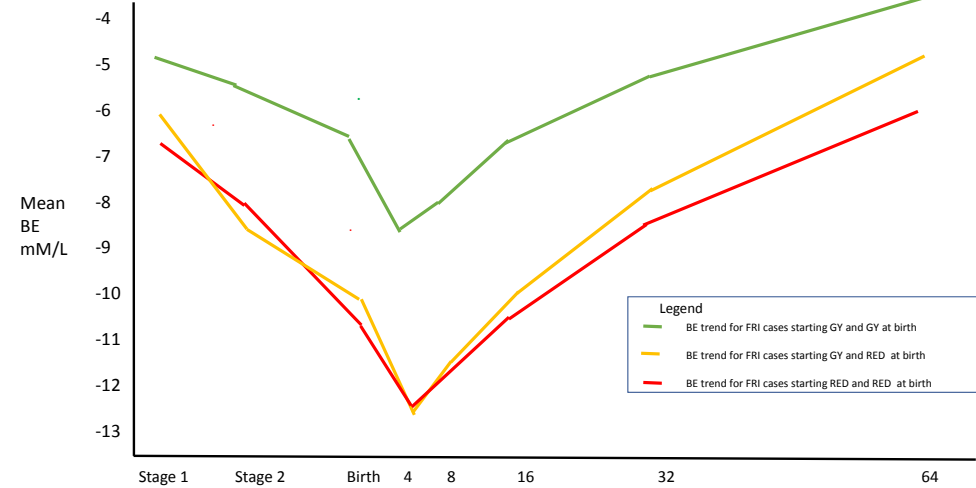
### 2<sup>nd</sup> step

- How do we “prove” that the performance comes from better prediction of the normal and abnormal physiology?

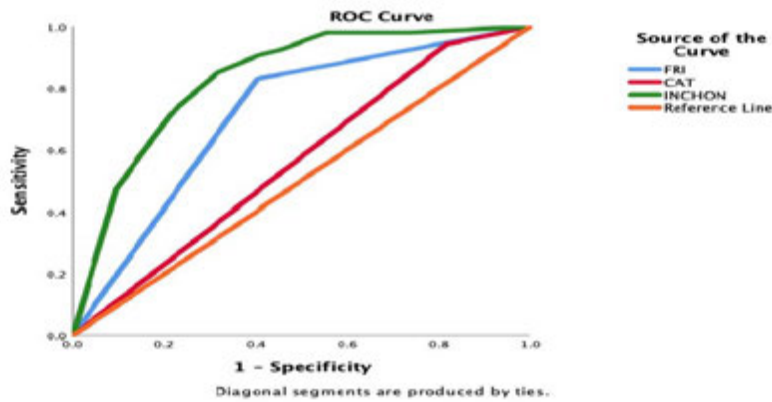
# EARLY PREDICTION OF NEONATAL COURSE BY BASE EXCESS



## Base Excess trend for Combined 1HR/Last FRI Risk Groups



# INCHON > FRI > CAT



Detection of lowest 25% of Base Excess at 32 minutes post partum

# NEONATAL RESPONSE TO ACIDOSIS RISK FOR HIE

- Stabilization
- Brain cooling



- FRI predicts early response of neonate
- INCHON clarifies neonatal status by 30 minutes.
- BOTH permit earlier pediatric determination for therapy than currently.

## CONSEQUENCES OF SIGNIFICANT STRESS OF BIRTH

INCHON: GREEN/YELLOW



INCHON: RED



## A HALF CENTURY (50 years) MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE BIRTHING PROCESS PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

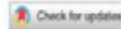
- pH and BE get worse before they get better after birth!
- 85% of Neonates have significant tachycardia, decreased variability and Non-reactivity immediately after birth
- 25% of Neonates exhibit a CAT III tracing shortly after birth
- 34% of cases have BE  $\leq$  -12 mMol/L ("threshold of CP risk")
- The significant period for metabolic acidemia occurs **AFTER** birth
- CAT system based on **NON-PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL** principles.
- The FRI **correlates** with BE and pH (will improve with more data and weighting of risk factors)

## "INCHON" PAPER 10/10/2019

THE JOURNAL OF MATERNAL, FETAL & NEONATAL MEDICINE  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14767058.2019.1676714>



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

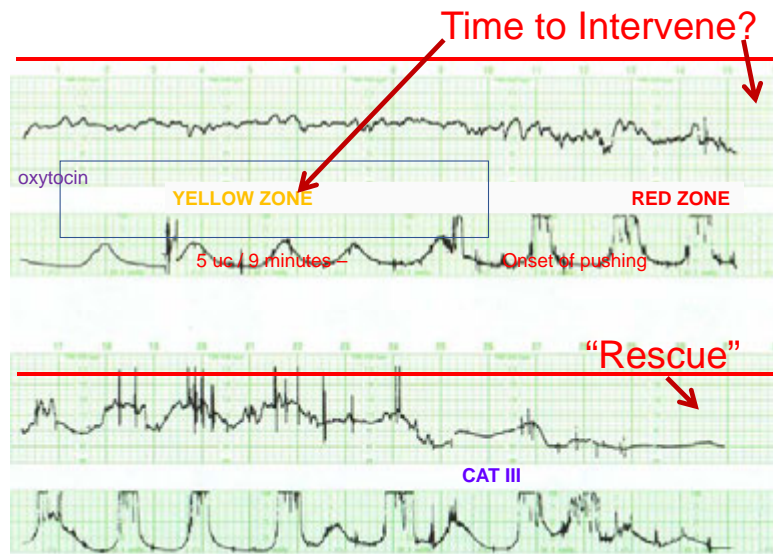


### Combined prenatal and postnatal prediction of early neonatal compromise risk

Robert D. Eden<sup>a\*</sup>, Mark I. Evans<sup>a,b,c\*</sup>, David W. Britt<sup>a</sup>, Shara M. Evans<sup>a,d</sup>, Paula Gallagher<sup>a</sup> and Barry S. Schifrin<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Fetal Medicine Foundation of America, Mt. Sinal School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA; <sup>b</sup>Comprehensive Genetics, PLLC, Mt. Sinal School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA; <sup>c</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Mt. Sinal School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA; <sup>d</sup>Department of Maternal and Child Health, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA





= IR ?

**EFM MUST BE A "LAB" TEST**

- Improves prediction of HIE
- Promotes safety not rescue
- Identifies need for early IR
- Assesses standard of care
- Assesses causation of injury

**WHICH COMES FIRST ?**



**Decreased Fetal Reserve or Birth Trauma**





### Case: 21 y.o. G4 P3003 at 40 3/7 wks

TIME	MAT	OB	RET	HR	VAR	ACC	DEC	UA	TS	FBI	CX	IOL
0:00	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
0:20	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
0:40	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
1:00	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
1:20	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
1:40	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
2:00	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
2:20	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
2:40	WAKH	OLUSO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
3:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
3:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
3:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
4:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
4:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
4:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
5:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
5:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
5:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
6:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
6:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
6:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
7:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
7:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
7:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
8:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
8:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
8:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
9:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
9:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
9:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
10:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
10:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
10:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
11:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
11:20	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
11:40	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
12:00	WAKH	AROM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		

S/S of oligo abruption, macrosomia on Pitocin 6 hrs prior to delivery despite EXUA

Abnormal variability, NR, lates, and EXUA 4-5 cms/-2 station

All 4 EFM variables abnormal after 3 hours of Red Zone at 5cms/-2 station

CAT III 1 hour prior to C/S without evaluation of 4<sup>th</sup> Cardinal movement of labor at 0 station

Apgars: 3/5 pH: 6.89 BE: -21.0

### Case: 33 y.o G3 P1021 39 2/7 wks - IOL

TIME	MAT	OB	RET	HR	VAR	ACC	DEC	UA	TS	FBI	CX	IOL
0:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
0:20	OBESI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
0:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
1:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
1:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
1:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
2:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
2:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
2:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
3:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
3:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
3:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
4:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
4:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
4:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
5:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
5:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
5:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
6:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
6:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
6:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
7:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
7:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
7:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
8:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
8:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
8:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
9:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
9:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
9:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
10:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
10:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
10:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
11:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
11:20	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
11:40	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		
12:00	CHRNI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875		

Sh. Stature, obesity, and EXUA for hours resulting in tachycardia, decreased variability, NR, lates, EXUA after epidural (? IV Hydration)

4 hour 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of labor with abnormal EFM without descent of 2 cm/hr for multipara

Fetal injury evident after 4 hours of labor IN THE Red Zone, then CAT III

Total Red Zone > 5 hrs

Forcep delivery → Shoulder Dystocia

No cord gas, HIE, Seizures

FORCEPS INJURY/SHOULDER DYSTOCIA OR LABOR ?

## Case: 25 y.o G1P0 at 40 5/7 wks

TIME	MAT	OB	FET	FHR	VAR	ACC	DEC	UA	TS	FRI	CK
0:00	OBES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
2:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
1:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
2:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
4:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
5:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
6:00	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:20	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
0:40	SH ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.875	
7:00											
8:00											
9:00											
0:20	SH ST	AROM	MEC	1	DEC	NR	LATE	1	2	0.30	8-9/90%/
0:40	SH ST	AROM	MEC	1	DEC	NR	LATE	1	2	0.30	
10:00	SH ST	AROM	MEC	1	DEC	NR	LATE	1	2	0.30	
0:20	SH ST	AROM	MEC	1	DEC	NR	LATE	1	2	0.30	
0:40	SH ST	AROM	MEC	1	DEC	NR	LATE	1	2	0.30	
11:00	SH ST	PRIO	ZND	1	NODAL	NR	PROL	EXUA	1	10	
0:20	SH ST	PRIO	BRADY	+90	NODAL	NR	PROL	EXUA	1	10	
0:40	SH ST	PRIO	BRADY	+90	NODAL	NR	PROL	EXUA	1	10	
12:00	SH ST	PRIO	BRADY	+90	NODAL	NR	PROL	EXUA	1	10	

Sh. Stature (5'0"), Obese, Pre-E admitted in labor with normal tracing.

Off the monitor at 6-7 cms for almost 2 hours, then at 8-9 cms, AROM with thick meconium with decreased variability, NR, Lates.

Became C/C 1.5 hours later in the Red Zone then began pushing causing bradycardia, nodal rhythm, NR, and EXUA, and no Terbutaline given.

Kiwi vacuum attempted for 7 minutes at +1 station before Stat c/s ordered. Tight nuchal cord noted at delivery of 3640 gms baby

Apgars: 2/5/6 pH 6.629 BE: -18.1

Severe HIE despite head cooling.

## The KEEP LABOR SAFE (KLS) System



## NEXT STEPS

- Building database of abnormal and problem cases
- Computerization of algorithms
- EMR database studies
  - Late 2019 and 2020
- Go "live" studies
  - 2020



## FETAL RESERVE INDEX SUMMARY

- Category system metrics fail all statistical principles of screening:
  - Poor sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative predictive values.
  - Current methods work "well" in true expert hands, but 98% of labors are managed by others – much too subjective interpretation.
- The contextualization of EFM with contractions, and medical, obstetrical, and fetal risk factors provides a better assessment of fetal reserve & status.
- Our first 8 papers show improved performance for both CP (retrospective analysis) and the ability to reduce emergency deliveries without adverse outcomes (prospective).
- With computerization of the KLS system (in progress) and weighting of variables, performance should improve further.
- Fetuses are steadily using up their "reserve" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage
  - Decreasing Fetal Reserve (BE) blunted by IR.
  - Should not "power through" concerning EFM tracings by upping Pitocin.
  - Should turn Pitocin down to give fetus a chance to recover.

## INCHON SUMMARY

- Neonatal physiologic parameters at birth usually WORSEN before IMPROVING.
- The degree of neonatal decompensation (increased NHR, decreased pH and BE) directly correlates with the FRI before delivery.
- By adding postnatal data, the INCHON Index significantly improves the prediction of persistent metabolic acidosis and risk of neurologic injury.
- Earlier recognition of increased risk may permit more expeditious and aggressive treatment of fetuses and neonates.
- **Direct, continuous intrapartum monitoring should be continued into the neonatal period for as long as risk persists to guide neuroprotective interventions.**