



Ultrasound Techniques in Pregnancy

Glossary of Terms in Later Pregnancy

- **Anaemia:** Anaemia occurs when there are too few red blood cells.
 - Anaemia of the mother is more common in multiple pregnancy and may lead to premature delivery and intrauterine growth retardation
 - Anaemia can also occur in the fetus, perhaps due to inherited conditions or as a result of infection in the womb. Fetal anaemia may lead to very serious problems in the fetus including heart failure, hydrops or death
- **Anencephaly:** This is the absent development of the head and brain.
- **Diaphragmatic hernia :** This is a hole in the diaphragm allowing the bowel, or even the liver, to be displaced into the chest. This can press on the heart and lungs and make breathing difficult.
- **External os:** This is the opening of the part of the cervix that protrudes into the vagina.
- **Femora:** This is the plural term for femur or thigh bone.
- **Hydrocephalus:** This is the enlargement of the ventricles within the brain - so-called water on the brain.
- **Hyperemesis:** This is severe and prolonged vomiting that can lead to severe maternal complications.
- **Hypertension:** Hypertension means high blood pressure. Hypertensive diseases are conditions and complications of high blood pressure.
- **Hypoplastic heart:** This means poor or no development of some of the heart chambers.
- **Internal os:** This is the opening of innermost part of the cervix, where the baby will enter the birth canal.
- **Orbits:** These are eye sockets.
- **Presenting part of the fetus:** The fetus can present as:
 - Cephalic: this describes the head. In this case, the head is the presenting part – the part of the fetus closest to the birth canal
 - Breech: the baby's bottom is closest to the birth canal. This is also sometimes called the fetal rump
 - Footling breech: in this case, the baby's feet are closest to the birth canal



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- **Septal defect:** The heart has left and right sides supplying the body and the lungs. If there is a septal defect (or hole in the heart), the blood from the left and right side can mix and the blood contains less oxygen than it should.
- **Spina bifida:** This is the failure of the spinal tube to close properly during development – the spinal membranes or even the cord can protrude through the opening. It can lead to a variable degree of disability depending on the size and level of the defect.