

Emotional Support During Labor

Year: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____; _____; _____

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Expected Competency	Demonstrates Competency Date/Initial	Notes/Comments
Verbalizes need to respect the woman's desires and cultural influences.		
Encourages presence of a support person.		
Assesses woman's and support person's education and experiences related to labor , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attendance at prenatal classes • previous childbirth education • previous childbirth experience 		
Assesses woman's and support person's knowledge and level of anxiety about labor and encourages them to ask questions.		
Provides explanations and answers questions about procedures, labor process, and interventions, in language that is easily understood by laypersons.		
Verifies that woman and her support person understand explanations and answers to questions.		
Assists the support person as needed by encouraging behaviors such as application of cool cloths, wiping forehead and hand holding.		
Demonstrates the following supportive interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eye contact • encouragement • reassurance • acknowledging the stress of labor • limiting vaginal examinations. 		
Demonstrates coaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • breathing techniques • relaxation techniques. 		
Offers distractions, such as music, breathing techniques or focusing.		
Documents according to facility protocol.		

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses. (2008). *Nursing care and management of the second stage of labor* (2nd ed.) (Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline). Washington, D. C.: Author.

Simpson, K. R., & Creehan, P.A. (2008). AWHONN *Perinatal nursing* (3rd ed.) Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.