

Fetal membrane model for amniotomy training

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Objective : To develop a fetal membrane model for amniotomy training.

Design : Fetal membrane model consists of a plastic box, 9 cm wide, 10 cm long, 8 cm height, with an open top. A rubber sheet 1.5 mm thick, 8 x 9 cm, made from an automobile inner tube, is fixed in the frontwall. A 3 cm hole is made in the center of the rubber sheet to make a model of a 100% effacement and 3 cm dilated cervix. The wall of the box at the opposite side to the rubber sheet is sloped 45 degrees. A condom containing 50 ml of tap water is put into the box and the sloping wall, causes the condom cyst to press against the hole in the rubber sheet. The fetal membrane model is attached into the standard pelvic examination model.

Result : The fetal membrane model has used to train 96 fifth-year medical students for amniotomy in academic year 1999. Mean GPA of this group was 2.8 ± 0.45 (range 2.06-3.80), satisfactory score were 7.32 ± 1.77 from 10 (range 2.6-10). This model increased confidence to most of the students with the score of 6.62 ± 1.77 from 10 (range 2.6-10). This model was also used in OSCE for comprehensive examination of sixth-year medical students.

Conclusions : The fetal membrane model has helped medical students improve their amniotomy skill before performing it in patients, reducing the risk to the patient. This model is low cost and easily prepared and can also be used to test amniotomy technique.