PRETERM LABOR CASE  
Hacker, et al. 4th Ed: Ch. 13

A 22 year-old G2P0101 at 27 4/7 weeks gestation presents to labor and delivery with complaints of increased low back pain and pelvic pressure. She states that she has noted some blood-tinged discharge and “menstrual type cramping”.

On examination, there is scant blood from the cervix that appears old. The cervix is 2 centimeters dilated, 50% effaced, and soft in consistency. Tocometer reveals contractions every 3 minutes. The fetus is breech and appropriately grown for this gestation. Discuss your initial management and the long-term care plan for this patient.

Questions to Consider:
- How would your management differ if this patient were 35 weeks gestation?
- How would your management differ if this patient were 33 weeks gestation?
- What if you saw pooling of fluid in the posterior fornix of the vagina?
- What lab tests should you obtain in this patient?
- What medications are indicated in this patient?
- Given her history of preterm birth, how would you have counseled this patient preconceptually?
- What options are available to prevent recurrent preterm birth?
- Which patients are candidates for cerclage placement?
- What are the various techniques of cerclage placement?

APGO Educational Topic 24: Preterm Labor

- Cite the risk factors for preterm labor
- Distinguish preterm labor from Braxton Hicks contractions
- Identify the causes of preterm labor
- Counsel the patient regarding the signs and symptoms of preterm labor
- Describe the initial management of preterm labor
- List indications and contraindications of medications used to treat preterm labor
- Describe the adverse events associated with the management of preterm labor
- Counsel the patient who has experienced prior preterm birth
- Describe cervical incompetence
APGO Educational Topic 25: Premature Rupture of Membranes

a. Summarize the history, physical findings, and diagnostic methods to confirm rupture of the membranes
b. Cite the factors predisposing to premature rupture of membranes
c. List the risks and benefits of expectant management versus immediate delivery
d. Describe the methods to monitor maternal and fetal status during expectant management
e. Counsel the patient with preterm premature rupture of membranes

APGO Educational Topic 21: Fetal Death

a. Describe the common causes of fetal death in each trimester.
b. Describe the symptoms, physical findings and diagnostic methods to confirm the diagnosis of fetal death.
c. Describe the maternal complications of fetal death, including DIC
d. Counsel the patient experiencing death of the fetus.