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# Hyperemesis gravidarum Initial assessment

Midwifery & O.G. Nursing | Initial assessment

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Fictional educational example. Individualize using verified patient findings, authorized treatment and current local protocols. No real patient record or observed outcome is claimed.

## Clinical assessment

Subjective: Cannot retain usual food or drinks and feels dizzy.

Objective findings and required checks: Reduced intake, weight loss and dehydration require maternity assessment.

Physical examination and investigations: Review weight, hydration, electrolytes, renal function and alternative causes as clinically indicated.

Supply actual values, units, timing and trends during supervised application. Do not invent missing clinical data.

## Clinical focus and pathophysiology

Hyperemesis gravidarum: Severe pregnancy-related nausea and vomiting can disturb nutrition, fluid and electrolyte balance.

## Medical / surgical management

Follow the maternity hydration, antiemetic and nutrition plan; monitor response and complications.

## Illustrative drug and treatment study



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| Medicine / treatment | Purpose | Nursing checks |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Prescribed pregnancy-appropriate antiemetic | Control nausea/vomiting | Verify product suitability and adverse effects |
| prescribed thiamine and fluids when indicated | Prevent deficiency harm and correct losses | Follow specialist timing and monitoring. |

Treatment examples are not a prescription. Verify the authorized product, dose, route, timing, contraindications and current local product information.



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# Nursing care plan

Nursing diagnoses use original clinical problem wording. They are not the licensed NANDA-I classification. Verify any formal label or code against your institution's licensed current edition; select actual or risk diagnoses only when supported by assessment.

Context task: Establish the immediate clinical priorities and verify the baseline before assuming a diagnosis.

Set individualized measurable targets and an exact review time. Select actual or risk statements only when supported by assessment.

| Assessment: subjective / objective | Nursing diagnosis: original problem wording | Short- and longer-term goals | Nursing interventions with rationale | Evaluation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ask: Ask about thirst, intake, vomiting, stools and dizziness. Assess: Monitor weight trend, intake/output, mucosa, circulation and relevant electrolytes. | Insufficient fluid replacement for current losses. Possible factors: intake below requirements or increased fluid loss. Validate against the patient's assessment. | Short-term: After the first indicated intervention, at the documented review time: Hydration and circulation improve within the agreed reassessment interval. Longer-term: Before the clinically approved transition or agreed follow-up: Patient or caregiver explains the individualized fluid plan and warning signs. | 1. Measure intake and losses using age-appropriate methods. Rationale: Accurate trends guide replacement and help prevent overcorrection. 2. Offer oral fluids only when swallowing, consciousness and the treatment plan permit; otherwise implement prescribed replacement. Rationale: The safest route depends on aspiration risk and clinical severity. 3. Reassess perfusion, weight and laboratory trends after prescribed replacement. Rationale: Both continued dehydration and fluid overload require prompt recognition. 4. Follow the maternity hydration, antiemetic and nutrition plan; monitor response and complications. Rationale: Severe pregnancy-related nausea and vomiting can disturb nutrition, fluid and electrolyte balance. The condition-specific plan addresses the underlying problem while response is monitored. | Record the baseline and reassessed finding, the time and whether this goal is met, partly met or not met. If not met, reassess causes and revise or escalate. Do not record an unobserved improvement. |



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| Assessment: subjective / objective | Nursing diagnosis: original problem wording | Short- and longer-term goals | Nursing interventions with rationale | Evaluation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ask: Ask about usual diet, recent intake, weight change and food access. Assess: Assess growth or weight trends, intake record and relevant nutritional findings. | Nutritional intake below current needs. Possible factors: poor appetite, increased requirements or feeding difficulty. Validate against the patient's assessment. | Short-term: After the first indicated intervention, at the documented review time: Tolerates the agreed nutrition plan without new complications. Longer-term: Before the clinically approved transition or agreed follow-up: Explains the individualized meal or feeding plan and follow-up arrangements. | 1. Assess nutritional risk and confirm swallowing safety and any fasting order. Rationale: The appropriate feeding route depends on clinical safety. 2. Offer suitable small meals or prescribed feeds with dietitian input when indicated. Rationale: Individualized support improves intake and nutrient adequacy. 3. Monitor tolerance, weight or growth and metabolic findings where required. Rationale: Progress and complications guide adjustment of support. | Record the baseline and reassessed finding, the time and whether this goal is met, partly met or not met. If not met, reassess causes and revise or escalate. Do not record an unobserved improvement. |
| Ask: Ask what worries the patient most and how they prefer to receive information. Assess: Observe distress, attention and ability to engage without making assumptions. | Emotional distress affecting participation in care. Possible factors: uncertainty, symptoms or unfamiliar treatment. Validate against the patient's assessment. | Short-term: After the first indicated intervention, at the documented review time: Identifies one immediate concern and participates in an agreed next step. Longer-term: Before the clinically approved transition or agreed follow-up: Describes helpful support and coping strategies before transition of care. | 1. Listen without judgment and acknowledge specific concerns. Rationale: Feeling heard supports trust and therapeutic engagement. 2. Explain one step at a time and use teach-back with permission. Rationale: Manageable information reduces uncertainty and checks understanding. 3. Offer culturally appropriate support and refer when distress persists or safety concerns arise. Rationale: Additional support may be needed beyond bedside reassurance. | Record the baseline and reassessed finding, the time and whether this goal is met, partly met or not met. If not met, reassess causes and revise or escalate. Do not record an unobserved improvement. |
| Ask: Ask what the learner already knows and wants to understand. Assess: | Learning needs about the condition and care plan. Possible factors: new | Short-term: After the first indicated intervention, at the documented review time: | 1. Assess language, literacy, hearing, vision and preferred learning method. Rationale: Accessible teaching improves understanding. 2. Teach a few | Record the baseline and reassessed finding, the time |



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| Assessment: subjective / objective | Nursing diagnosis: original problem wording | Short- and longer-term goals | Nursing interventions with rationale | Evaluation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Use teach-back or demonstration to identify specific gaps. | information, complex treatment or limited prior teaching. Validate against the patient's assessment. | Explains the most important immediate action in their own words. Longer-term: Before the clinically approved transition or agreed follow-up: Demonstrates the agreed care skills and names follow-up and warning signs. | condition-specific points using plain language and demonstration. Rationale: Focused information is easier to retain and apply. 3. Use teach-back, correct misunderstandings and provide an accessible written plan. Rationale: Checking understanding supports safer self-management. 4. Discuss tolerated intake, medicine instructions and early review for recurrent dehydration. Rationale: Condition-specific teaching connects the treatment plan to safe continuing care. | and whether this goal is met, partly met or not met. If not met, reassess causes and revise or escalate. Do not record an unobserved improvement. |



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## Health education and continuing care

Discuss tolerated intake, medicine instructions and early review for recurrent dehydration.

Transition only after clinical readiness is confirmed. Reconcile medicines, check access and caregiver support, and document who will review the patient and when.

## Urgent warning signs

**Fainting, very low urine, hematemesis, confusion or inability to maintain hydration requires urgent care.**

## Evaluation and conclusion

For each goal, document met, partly met or not met using observed evidence and the review time. Reassess and revise if progress is inadequate. Individual assessment, prioritized care and coordinated review guide this topic.

## Quick Revision

- Severe pregnancy-related nausea and vomiting can disturb nutrition, fluid and electrolyte balance.

- Priority concerns: Insufficient fluid replacement for current losses; Nutritional intake below current needs; Emotional distress affecting participation in care; Learning needs about the condition and care plan.

- Fainting, very low urine, hematemesis, confusion or inability to maintain hydration requires urgent care.

- Discuss tolerated intake, medicine instructions and early review for recurrent dehydration.

**Exam / viva: Which finding changes the order of priorities, and what must be escalated immediately?**

## References

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