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ANAESTHESIA

# Safety in Caesareans:

The decision to proceed and approach  
to anaesthesia and surgery

Free Webinar Summary



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## Factors to help determine whether to proceed with a caesarean section

### Presence and colour of vaginal discharge

- **Clear** = 'waters' breaking = second stage labour
- **Green** = placental separation = emergency
- **Red/brown** = very likely emergency

### Foetal HR as determined by an abdominal ultrasound

- **Normal** = 220-240 bpm
- **<180 bpm** = foetal distress, c-section indicated
- **<140 bpm** = severe foetal distress, c-section indicated

### Vaginal digital examination

- Is there an obstructive dystocia?

### Reproductive hormone assays

- Progesterone <2 ng/mL, immediate result ideal
- 65+ days since the LH surge

### No response to attempted medical treatment

- Administration of calcium + oxytocin every 20 minutes
- If does not respond to first treatment, less likely to respond to further treatments