# HEALTHY PREGNANCY



# Whew Nausea! The Menu of Options.



In collaboration with:



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# Nausea During Pregnancy

### In numbers:



70% of pregnant women experience **nausea**;



50% of pregnant women experience **vomiting**;



30% of them experience intense nausea and vomiting, which affects their daily lives.





# What cause nausea?

Mainly caused by hormonal changes in early pregnancy.



### When?

#### Start:

From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> weeks of pregnancy.



#### End:

Usually at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> trimester;

They can last up to 20 weeks and, in rare cases, longer.

It is common, but you do not have to suffer!

# When Should I Seek Medical Support?

# So, it is "normal"? Yes, but it should not:



Prevent eating



Prevent activities



Lead to weight loss



Lead to dehydration



Cause severe and persistent vomiting

## Consult a healthcare professional if:



Medication does not help



You have symptoms of dehydration



Fever, abdominal pain or blood are present



Your nausea and vomiting begin after 10 weeks of pregnancy



You have symptoms of hyperemesis gravidarum



Your well-being is important!

# I Am Nauseous, What Can I Do?

### **Menu of Options**

Talk to your healthcare team to determine which option(s) is right for YOU.

#### Appetizers: Change of Habits

Eat small quantities frequently

Drink to avoid dehydration

Smell ginger or lemon

Eat what you feel like when you feel like it

Prioritize **light foods** (e.g. banana, rice, applesauce, toast, salted crackers)

Eat before getting up in the morning

Avoid cooking or eating spicy, fatty or fried foods

#### Main Courses: Medications & Treatments\*

Substitute your multivitamins with vitamins lower in iron (while still taking your folic acid)

Vitamin B6

<u>\*</u> B6

**Anti-histamine** 

A combination of anti-histamine and vitamin B6

**Other** medications

Acupressure (3 fingers under the wrist)

Acupuncture

#### Dessert: Time

You might be tired of hearing it, but the nausea will go away eventually.

\*Self-medication is to be avoided. Talk to a healthcare professional BEFORE making any changes to the products you use.

## Hyperemesis Gravidarum

## Hyper... What?

### Hyperemesis gravidarum

This is a rare condition where the nausea and vomiting are very intense AND persistent...
the person can vomit 20 times a day.

The condition can cause **emotional and physical distress**, the appropriate support
can make a difference.



### Is it dangerous?

There are **no** direct **adverse effects** on the baby,

#### but...

complications could arise during pregnancy if hyperemesis gravidarum is left untreated (e.g. low birth weight, dehydration, etc.).

# Do not hesitate to ask for help...

Your **healthcare team** can help manage the physical and emotional challenges.

Your **partner** and entourage can **help** you too.



You are not alone.

## **Want To Know** More?



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