



WHAT?

MATERNAL SEPSIS

Pregnant women are at increased risk of infections & sepsis. Signs & symptoms can be subtle.

ECTOPIC PREGNANCY

Classic symptoms:

- PV bleeding
- Missed period
- Abdominal pain

BUT atypical presentation is common.

Other symptoms include:

- Gastrointestinal symptoms
- Urinary symptoms
- Rectal pressure or pain on defecation
- Dizziness, fainting or syncope
- Shoulder tip pain

DON'T FORGET THE PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS CONSIDER PREGNANCY AS A POSSIBILITY IN PERI-PUBERTAL GIRLS

WHY?

Of the 237 maternal deaths in the period 2010-2012 **almost 25% had sepsis.**

In the UK there are more than 20,000 emergency admission per year due to ectopic pregnancy.

There are still 5 maternal deaths per year due to ectopic pregnancy in this country – most of these women present with atypical symptoms.

References:

Saving Lives: Improving Mothers' Care (2014) – MBRRACE-UK

<http://bit.ly/2wiq7Mf>

Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management (2012) – NICE Guideline (CG154)

<http://bit.ly/2KxvHxb>

HOW?

'Think Sepsis' in any unwell pregnant or recently pregnant patient.

Perform a pregnancy test in any female with possible symptoms of ectopic pregnancy.

Participate in weekly **in situ ED simulation** sessions.

Review physiological changes in pregnancy and relevant **#SimBlog**

