



## Protocol for small for gestational age (SGA) fetus with normal umbilical artery Doppler at the High Risk Clinic (HRC)

This protocol only applies when there is a SGA fetus at the Tygerberg High Risk Clinic [symphysis fundal growth (SF) <10<sup>th</sup> centile] with normal umbilical artery Doppler test at the Fetal Evaluation Clinic (FEC). SF <10<sup>th</sup> centile at community clinics will still be referred to their respective district hospital fetal evaluation clinics with management according to the provincial ultrasound policy.

- Verify correct dating (history, first scan)
- Perform HRC growth scan including liquor volume (deepest vertical pool DVP)
- Plot size and Doppler on graphs for correct gestation  
**If current EFW < P10 or HC/AC > P95 (or AC < P5 if head measurements difficult) for the correct gestation, manage further at HRC as below.**  
**If not SGA on ultrasound as above, this protocol does not apply**  
*(reference ranges: Salomon, Snijders, INTERGROWTH, NOT Theron or Fenton)*
- Advise on smoking, alcohol, etc.
- **These pregnancies are at risk of term IUFD (rarely preterm), fetal distress in labour and preeclampsia - they CANNOT be referred back to MOU or BANC and belong in a High Risk Antenatal Clinic!**
- **Rule out PE at least two-weekly**
- Once viable: Instruct mother on **daily kick count chart**
- **This finding is not a contra-indication to vaginal delivery but requires continuous CTG monitoring throughout labour**
- **Deliver no later than 40 weeks**

**SGA < 28 weeks:** Repeat HRC growth scan + FEC Doppler at 27-28 weeks

**SGA ≥28 weeks:**

- Repeat FEC Doppler 2 weekly and manage accordingly if it becomes abnormal
- **If EFW < P3 on diagnosis, Doppler remains normal and no PE:** Repeat HRC growth scan at **34 weeks**, incl. EFW, DVP
  - Adequate growth trend AND normal liquor AND reactive CTG – aim to deliver at 36<sup>0</sup>-36<sup>6</sup> weeks
  - Clearly slowing growth trend OR reduced liquor (DVP < 2cm): perform CTG
    - CTG reactive – repeat CTG at 35 weeks - aim to deliver at 36 weeks
    - CTG non-reactive twice on same day – admit and consider delivery
- **If EFW P3-10 on diagnosis, Doppler remains normal and no PE:** Repeat HRC growth scan at **36 weeks**, incl. EFW, DVP

- If EFW at 36 weeks remains > P3 AND adequate growth trend AND normal liquor AND reactive CTG – aim to deliver at 40 weeks
- If EFW at 36 weeks is < P3 OR clearly slowing growth trend OR reduced liquor (DVP < 2cm): perform CTG
  - CTG reactive – repeat CTG at 37 weeks – aim to deliver at 38 weeks
  - CTG non-reactive twice on same day – admit and consider delivery

*S Gebhardt*

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