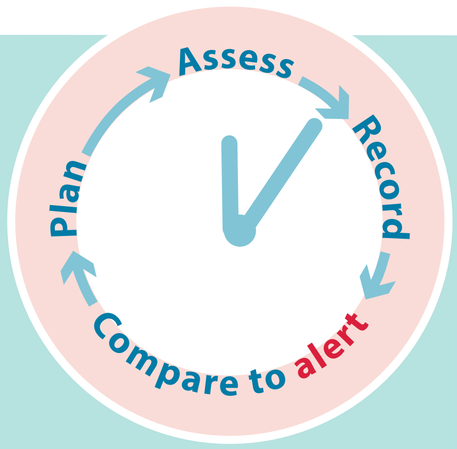
May 2026

Using the Labour Care Guide for PTL

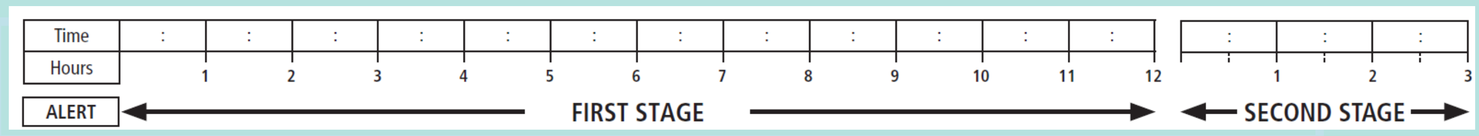


Prevent infection

Provide respectful care

Start documentation for women in PTL at <37+0 weeks and fetal viability confirmed by ultrasound

Complete the top section and time axis



Assess supportive care & coping → Record → Compare to alert

Every hour

Companion	N
Pain relief	N
Oral fluid	N

Circle and take action

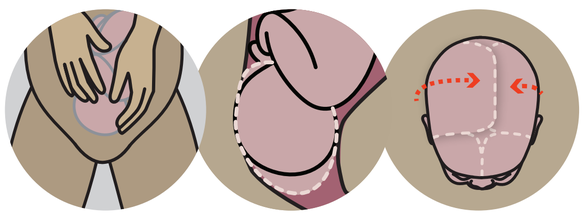
Assess baby → Record → Compare to alert

Every 60 min - Latent phase
Every 30 min - Active phase
Every 5 min - 2nd stage

Every hour - 1st stage
Every 30 min - 2nd stage

Liquor

Position Caput Moulding



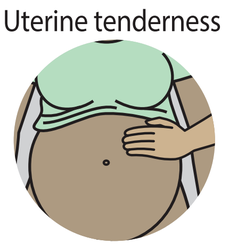
Every 4 hours - 1st stage
Every hour - 2nd stage

Baseline FHR	<110, ≥160
FHR deceleration	Late
Amniotic fluid	Meconium+++ Blood Pus
Fetal position	OP, OT, B, TL
Caput	+++
Moulding	+++

Circle and take action

Assess woman → Record → Compare to alert

Uterine tenderness



Every 60 min - Latent phase
Every 30 min - Active phase
Every 30 min - 2nd stage

Every 4 hours

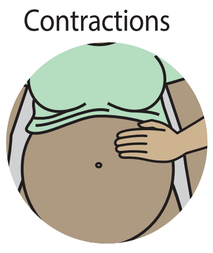
Every void

Pulse	<60, ≥120
Systolic BP	<80, ≥140
Diastolic BP	≥90
Temperature °C	<35.0, ≥ 37.5
Uterine tenderness	TU
Urine	Protein ++ Acetone ++

Circle and take action

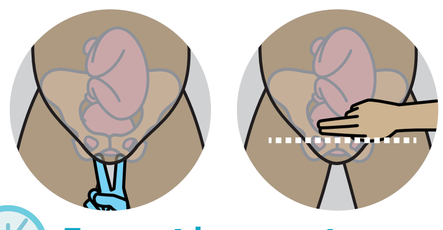
Assess labour status: has labour stopped or is it progressing? → Record → Compare to alert

Contractions



Every 60 min - Latent phase
Every 30 min - Active phase
Every 15 min - 2nd stage

Dilatation Descent



Every 4 hours - 1st stage
Every 30 min 2nd stage

Pushing

Every 15 min 2nd stage

Contractions per 10 min	>5
Duration of contractions	>60

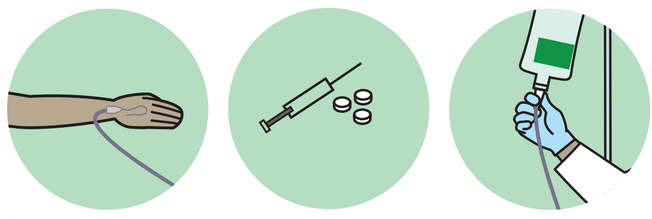
Circle and take action

Cervix	8-10 cm

Alert newborn team

Limit vaginal examinations

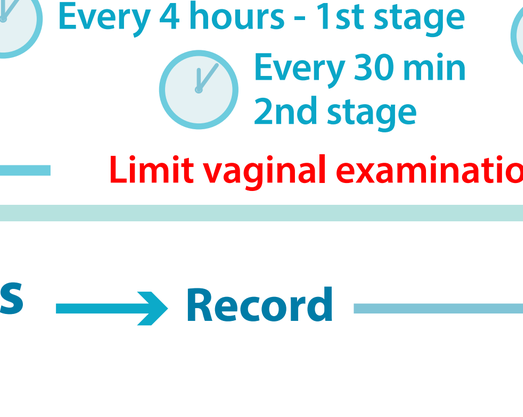
Assess need for medications to complete courses → Record →



Every assessment - at least every hour

<32+0 weeks: **$MgSO_4$** for neuroprotection
<34+0 weeks: nifedipine
<34+0 weeks: IM dexamethasone or IM betamethasone
<37+0 weeks: If PPROM, **prophylactic antibiotics**
Other medications as needed: IV, treatment as per protocols for infection, SPE/E, APH, pain relief

Shared decision-making → Record assessment → Share findings/ Options for care → Record the plan → Add your initials



Every assessment

Adapted from the MOMENTUM Country and Global Leadership/USAID and Laerdal Global Health's Action Plan for the WHO LCG.

WHO ACS-IR

Developed for the WHO Implementation Research to Scale-up and Evaluate the Impact of Antenatal Corticosteroids on Preterm Newborn Outcomes (ACS-IR).