OUR PHILOSOPHY OF COOPERATIVE PRENATAL CARE

Prospective parents often ask about our group philosophy of care during the prenatal period, labor and delivery and the postpartum course. While we cannot cover all possible exceptions and conditions that may occur during a pregnancy, we offer the following as general principles for our management of these next important months.

Pregnancy is not a disease; but, sometimes problems co-exist or develop that are outside the range of normal. As long as your pregnancy and delivery follow a normal course, there is room for mutual decision making and exploration of personal options. We invite you to discuss your desire with us. Within the realm of sound obstetrical judgment and hospital policy, we will honor those desires to the best of our ability. However, if abnormalities present which involve medical judgment, particularly in emergency situations where decisive action is required, we do reserve the right to exercise control as "captain of the ship" in order to assure a safe outcome for mother and baby. We strongly feel that a time of potential obstetrical crisis is a time to act. We will be more than happy to discuss our rationale for the decisions we make, but we reserve the right to control those decisions when circumstances dictate immediate action.

The months of prenatal care are the months when we get to know one another. It should be a time of building trust. We ask that you use this time in such a way that you come to trust our judgment just as we will work to establish a basis for your trust. If we are not communicating "on the same wavelength", we ask you to let us know that your needs are not being met.

Our entire staff will work very hard to give you the respect and support you deserve during the unique experience of pregnancy. We ask that you return with mutual respect for our knowledge and experience in providing and directing your care. Remember, our goal is to have a healthy and happy mother and child.