

Pregnancy Support During COVID-19 Webinar Resources

General Resources

- Up to date information on pregnancy and COVID-19
- Informative article on COVID-19 and pregnancy/breastfeeding
- Mercury levels in seafood
- Safe cosmetics
- Baby bonding article

Stress Management Resources

- Body Scan Meditation
- <u>"Worry Time"/Postponing your Worries</u>
- Self-Compassion
- Breathing
 - o 4,7,8 Breathing
 - Belly Breathing
- Mindfulness and Meditation Apps
 - Calm
 - Simple Habit
 - Headspace
 - Youtube clips for mindfulness, meditation, and guided imagery
 - <u>"Leaves on a Stream" exercise</u>
- Progressive Muscle Relaxation



Online Exercise Programs

- <u>Spinning Babies</u>
- <u>BirthFit</u>
- The Bump Method
- Matriarc (for post-natal)

Self or partner-assisted acupressure

• Link to Liz Cohen's, LAc 8-minute acupressure during pregnancy video

All of the points listed below are shown in the video, as well as the labor prep points

- Nausea/Vomiting
 - Acupressure: Pericardium 6, Stomach 36
 - P6: Palm facing up, the point is 3 finger widths down from wrist crease, right in the center of your arm, between two protruding tendons.
 - ST36: Located four finger widths down from the bottom of your knee cap, along the outer border of your shin bone.
- Fatigue
 - Acupressure: Stomach 36
 - ST36: Located four finger widths down from the bottom of your knee cap, along the outer border of your shin bone.
- Insomnia
 - Acupressure: Yintang, Kidney 1
 - Yin Tang: At the midpoint between the eyebrows, where the bridge of the nose meets the forehead
 - KD1: On the bottom of foot, start from between 2nd and 3rd toes and go down toward heel about 2 inches. You should feel a slight depression at the point, just behind the ball of the foot
- Low back pain/sciatica
 - Acupressure: Gallbladder 30, Gallbladder 34

crossover

- Gb30: Tender spot in your buttocks, right where your jean pocket lands, between your sacrum and greater trochanter
- Gb34: The point lies below the outside of the knee in a depression below (inferior) and in front of (anterior) to the head of the fibula

• Feet swelling

- Acupressure: Spleen 9, Liver 3
- SP9: Located on the inner aspect of your lower leg just below your knee.
 Find the bony-bump just below your knee cap and move your finger about an inch down towards the inner calf. This spot might be sore when you apply pressure.
- LV3: Located on the top of your foot between your big toe and second toe.
 Start at the base of your toes and move your finger towards the ankle an inch.
- Carpal tunnel
 - Acupressure: Large Intestine 10, San Jiao 5, Pericardium 6
 - Li10: on the outer surface of the forearm and three fingers breadth below the elbow crease when the elbow is bent 90 degrees.
 - Sj5: Palm facing down, the point is 3 finger widths down from wrist crease, right in the center of your arm
 - P6: Palm facing up, the point is 3 finger widths down from wrist crease, right in the center of your arm, between two protruding tendons.

Labor Resources

- Labor prep with acupressure, can start at 38 weeks with permission of your OB
 - Acupressure points: Li4, Gb21, Sp6, Ub32 **These specific points are contraindicated to use before 38 weeks of pregnancy **
 - LI4: Located on the top of the hand, in the muscle at the tender point of the "V" made between your thumb and index finger. Soreness may occur with pressure.
 - GB21: located at top of shoulder/upper back, at the midpoint between the spine and outer shoulder
 - SP6: Located on your inner leg near the ankle, about 2 inches straight above the protruding ankle bone in the soft tissue directly adjacent to the shin bone

Crossover

- Ub32: one index finger lengths above the top of the buttock crease, approximately one thumb width either side of the spine
- Other recommendations for labor prep: sex, nipple stimulation, walking, red raspberry leaf tea (1-2 cups a day, steep teabag for 10-15 minutes), eating dates (7 a day starting at 36 weeks)

• Visualizations during labor

- <u>Hypnobirthing</u>
- Gentle Birth
- Rachel Yellin's Yes to Birth

• Movement during labor

- Upright and active positioning during the first stage of labor
- Yoga poses during labor
- Using a birth ball
- Massage during labor
 - During contractions: strong massage on sacrum/hips/glutes; Between contractions: Soft rhythmic massage up and down back; Jaw, scalp, and foot massage to release tension
 - Acupressure during labor (a great resource with free content)