



International  
Vasa Previa  
Foundation

## RISK FACTORS, TESTING, AND MANAGEMENT

*Specific ultrasound screening is the key  
to diagnosing vasa previa.*

### **Risk Factors:**

- Low-lying placenta or placenta previa
- Bilobed or succenturiate-lobed placenta
- Velamentous insertion of the cord
- In-vitro fertilization pregnancies
- Multiple pregnancies
- History of uterine surgery or D&C
- Painless bleeding

### **Diagnostic Testing:**

- Transvaginal color Doppler ultrasound for women with above risk factors
- Document normal central umbilical cord placental insertion during all routine obstetrical ultrasounds

### **Management:**

- Pelvic rest
- Hospitalization in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester
- Delivery by C-section at 35 weeks
- Immediate blood transfusion and aggressive resuscitation of the infant in the event of a rupture

*The International Vasa Previa Foundation believes that infant death due to vasa previa is an avoidable tragedy. IVPF recommendations are based on the consolidated results of science, technology, and its experience with hundreds of vasa previa families. Infant death and injury can be prevented when vasa previa is prenatally diagnosed and Cesarean section is performed at 35 weeks.*