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Table 15. Classification of intrapartum EFM tracings

	Normal	Atypical	Abnormal
Uterine activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal contraction pattern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tachysystole may be present with normal, atypical, or abnormal tracings; monitor closely for concerning FHR characteristics 	
Baseline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 110– 160 bpm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100– 110 bpm • > 160 bpm for 30– 80 minutes • Rising baseline • Arrhythmia (Irregular rhythm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 100 bpm • > 160 bpm for > 80 minutes • Erratic baseline
Variability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6– 25 bpm • ≤5 bpm for <40 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≤5 bpm for 40– 80 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≤5 bpm for > 80 minutes • ≥25 bpm for > 10 minutes • Sinusoidal
Acceleration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spontaneous accelerations but not required • Acceleration with scalp stimulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of acceleration with scalp stimulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually absent (accelerations, if present, do not change classification of tracing)
Deceleration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None • Non-repetitive uncomplicated variable decelerations • Early decelerations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repetitive uncomplicated variables • Non-repetitive complicated variables • Intermittent late decelerations • Single prolonged deceleration ≥2 minutes but <3 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repetitive complicated variables • Recurrent late decelerations • Single prolonged deceleration ≥3 minutes but <10 minutes
Interpret clinically (in light of total situation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No evidence of fetal compromise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physiologic response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible fetal compromise
Terminology	Recurrent: Decelerations occur with ≥50% of uterine contractions in any 20-minute window. Intermittent: Decelerations occur with <50% of uterine contractions in any 20-minute segment. Repetitive: ≥ 3 in a row Non-repetitive: 1 or maximally 2 in a row		

EFM: electronic fetal monitoring; FHR: fetal heart rate.