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Consent for Risks of Pregnancy in Obese Women

The most common method of determining obesity is by calculation of the body mass index (BMI). BMI is calculated as the weight in kilograms divided by the height in meters.

Category	BMI
Normal	20-25
Overweight	25-29.9
Obese	30-34.9
Morbidly obese	35 and over

Obese women are at increased risk for a variety of complications during pregnancy. It is our recommendation that obese women should delay pregnancy until enough weight can be lost to move below the obese range.

By signing this consent, I, , acknowledge that I have been informed that obese women have

- lower pregnancy rates with fertility treatment. In one study, it was found that with treatment
 - obese women had a 27% lower chance for pregnancy
 - morbidly obese women had a 50% lower chance for pregnancy
- a higher rate of miscarriage. In one study it was found that
 - obese women had a 71% higher risk of miscarriage
 - morbidly obese women had more than double the risk of miscarriage
- a higher rate of tubal (ectopic) pregnancy
- a higher rate of babies with birth defects including severe defects
 - Neural tube defects were 87% higher
 - Spina bifida was 124% higher
 - Heart abnormalities were 30% higher
 - Cleft lip and left palate were 20-23% higher
 - Anal atresia (absence of the anal opening) was 48% higher
- double the risk for a stillbirth (death of the fetus before delivery)
- a higher rate of other pregnancy complications
 - Preeclampsia (high blood pressure in pregnancy) was 3 times higher
 - Gestational diabetes was 3.5 times higher for obese women and 8.5 times higher for morbidly obese women
- double the risk for cesarean section and an increase in complications during cesarean section
- increase in the risk for blood clots during pregnancy and after delivery

I acknowledge that I have read the above agreement in its entirety and have had any questions answered completely and to my satisfaction.

X _____