



**Arabian Gulf University – Kingdom of Bahrain**  
**Year 5 – Gynecology and Obstetrics – 1<sup>st</sup> Week**  
**Salmanya Medical Complex – Dr. Zainab Al-Juffairi – Obstetrics (Terms and Definitions)**

- The following terms are important especially when you present your history.
- Pregnancy duration:
  - **Term:** 37-42 weeks.
  - **Pre-term:** 24 - < 37 weeks.
  - **Post-term:** > 42 weeks
  - **Post-date:** when a female delivers after her Expected Date of Delivery (EDD)  
→ what does this mean?
    - ✓ The lady is passing her EDD which is estimated at 40 weeks but before 42 weeks, that is why we don't call it post-term.
- Terminologies:
  - **Abortion:** < 24 weeks.
  - **Parity:** > 24 weeks (it refers to the number of deliveries regardless of outcome: dead or alive).  
Notice that weight is not accurate to depend on that is why they depend on gestational weeks nowadays.
  - **Gravidity:** the number of pregnancies assuming if the lady is pregnant at the moment or not.
  - **Lie:** it is the relation of the long axis of the fetus to the uterus of the mother:
    - ✓ Longitudinal (most of the time).
    - ✓ Transverse.
    - ✓ Oblique.
  - **Presentation:** part of the fetus which is occupying the lower uterine segment (cephalic or breech).
  - **Engagement:** consider the head of the fetus as a ball and divide it into five parts. If you can only feel 1/5 or 2/5 of the ball (while doing pelvic grip) → this means that the head is engaged.
  - **Station:** it is important and used in induction of labour by checking the relation of the presenting part of the fetus to ischial spines.
    - ✓ Above the ischial spines: described as -1, -2, -3... etc
    - ✓ Below the ischial spines: described as +1, +2, +3... etc.
  - **Presenting part:** it is the first part of the fetus which an examiner can feel when introducing fingers through the vagina.
  - **Position:** it is the relation of the presenting part of the fetus to the periphery of the pelvis. Notice that position is difficult to feel by abdominal examination thus vaginal examination is used.
    - ✓ What is the widest diameter of the pelvic inlet? transverse diameter → the head will enter it at the beginning and then will rotate.