## **High-Risk Pregnancy Unit**



**Head Of the Unit:**Dr. Malbina Shwartzpeter

During the past 30 years significant progress has been made in reducing perinatal mortality – the death of unborn infants. High risk pregnancy units have been established in hospitals throughout the world to help women with pregnancies that have been defined as "high risk" due to the condition of mother, fetus or both. If you fall into this category, Laniado Hospital's High Risk Pregnancy Unit is dedicated to ensure the well-being of both mother and unborn infant.

## What is a high risk pregnancy?

Factors that contribute to the definition of a pregnancy as high risk include:

- The mother's age (under 15 or over 35)
- The mother's weight (underweight or overweight)

- Being pregnant with multiple fetuses
- Pre-existing medical conditions such as has gestational diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, lupus, asthma, a seizure disorder, and other longstanding medical problems
  - Previous premature labor
  - A previous baby with a birth defect, especially heart or genetic problems

## The High-Risk Pregnancy Unit

Women from week 24 of gestation, with complications arising pregnancy, whose treatment requires constant supervision or further investigation and assessment, are hospitalized in the High-Risk Pregnancy Unit.

## Conditions that require hospitalization include:

- Pre-existing conditions that require close supervision during pregnancy, such as diabetes and hypertension.
  - Multi-fetus pregnancy (3 and more).
- Preeclampsia (toxemia) a condition characterized by a sharp rise in blood pressure, swelling of the hands, feet, and face, and other symptoms, which can be a sign of serious problems.
  - Rise in blood pressure.
  - Vaginal bleeding.
  - Early breaking of water (before week 36).
  - Premature labor.

The Unit is operated by a staff of experts, with the assistance, as needed, of cardiologists, endocrinologists, dietitians and others specialists.
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