

Warning Signs of Preterm Labor

Preterm labor is defined as labor which occurs before the 36th week of pregnancy. Listed below are the possible signs of preterm labor. Should you experience any of the symptoms listed below, call your physician.

Uterine contractions: frequent tightening or balling-up of the uterus; may be painless.

Menstrual-like cramps: constant or come-and-go, just above the pubic bone.

Low, dull backache: not relieved by bed rest.

Pressure in the lower abdomen or vaginal area: feels like the baby is pushing down.

Increase or change in vaginal discharge: mucousy, watery or bloody.

Abdominal cramping: with or without diarrhea.

Fluid leaking from the vagina.