

# Topic 1: Anatomy and physiology applied to pregnancy

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## Anatomy and physiology

Anatomy and physiology is an important part of the knowledge required by midwives. You need to be able to understand the anatomy and physiology of the body's systems so that you can fully understand the changes that occur in pregnancy, labour and birth and in the postnatal / newborn period.

Begin by revising the anatomy and physiology worksheets you completed prior to attending the Residential School.



### Read

**Textbook:** Baddock. (2015). The physiology of conception and pregnancy. In *Midwifery: Preparation for practice* (3rd ed., chap. 20, pp. 461-500).

**Textbook:** *Mayes midwifery* (14th ed.). Part 4: Chapters 24, 25, 29 & 30.



### Activity

There are numerous physiological changes that occur to the woman's haematological system during pregnancy. Iron supplementation is often routinely offered during pregnancy but it is not without risk and there is no evidence to support routine iron supplementation.

As part of **assessment 3**, you are required to complete the following eModule: "Iron deficiency anaemia" (from Bloodsafe eLearning). Follow the link below and complete the eLearning module making sure you keep a copy of the certificate to submit with the other eLearning module certificates required for assessment 3.

<https://bloodsafelearning.org.au/course/iron-deficiency-anaemia-ida/>



