# UW Medicine UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON MEDICAL CENTER

## **Preterm Labor**

## Warning signs and symptoms

This handout gives signs and symptoms to watch for that may mean you are in preterm labor.

### When to Call

Call your pregnancy care provider if you have:

- Cramps like you may have during your period
- A dull, low backache
- Pressure in your pelvic area (vagina or perineum)
- Cramps in your intestines
- An increase or change in your vaginal discharge
- A general feeling that "something is not right"
- More than 4 to 6 contractions per hour for 2 hours, if you are less than 37 weeks pregnant
- Gush or trickle of fluid or blood from your vagina
- Feeling like your period is about to start
- Pain or burning when you urinate (pee)



If you have any of these symptoms, call your pregnancy care provider.

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns.

Maternal and Infant Care Clinic: 206-598-4070

Labor and Delivery: 206-598-4616