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PRO DROMOS (πρ ▪ δρομος): Appropriate clinical care models

ABSTRACT

The prodromal period or latent phase is the first phase of labor, in which the mother enters, with the fetus, in the birth path. The care provided by professionals and healthcare facilities to the mother appears, today, weak and confused. The present study, exploring this theme in order to "take a picture" of its phenomenology and its management, discusses tools used by midwife for the diagnosis of prodromal period, examines the clinical care models proposed to the woman and the experiences of some Italian and foreign Birth Centres in the management of this stage of labor.

The conclusions of this work describe the prodromal period as a delicate and easily influenced stage of labor and suggest to build a clinical care model, based on the figure of the midwife, which meets the needs of the mother and respects the physiological phenomenon. Among the possible models, it seems that it should be abandoned admission, to propose to the mother the stay at home, possibly associated with the opening of a remote connection between the woman and the midwife, like telephone contact.