

**Table I: Indications of Operative Vaginal Deliveries**

Indication	ACOG	RCOG	SOGC	RANZCOG
Fetal	Suspicion of imminent or potential fetal compromise	Presumed fetal compromise	Non-reassuring fetal status	Fetal compromise suspected or anticipated
Maternal / Medical	Shortening of the second stage for maternal benefit	<p><b>Indications to avoid Valsalva</b></p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cardiac disease Class III or IV,</li> <li>hypertensive crises,</li> <li>cerebral vascular disease,</li> <li>myasthenia gravis,</li> <li>spinal cord injury</li> </ul>	<p><b>Medical indications to avoid valsalva</b></p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cerebral vascular disease,</li> <li>cardiac conditions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Maternal effort contraindicated</b></p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>aneurysm,</li> <li>risk of aortic dissection,</li> <li>proliferative retinopathy,</li> <li>severe hypertension or</li> <li>cardiac failure</li> </ul>
Obstetric	<p><b>Prolonged II<sup>nd</sup> stage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nulliparous women: lack of continuing progress for 3 hours with regional anesthesia, or 2 hours without regional anesthesia</li> <li>Multiparous women: lack of continuing progress for 2 hours with regional anesthesia, or 1 hour without regional anesthesia</li> </ul>	<p><b>Inadequate progress:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nulliparous women: lack of continuing progress for three hours (total of active and passive second stage of labor) with regional anaesthesia, or two hours without regional anaesthesia</li> <li>Multiparous women: lack of continuing progress for two hours (total of active and passive second stage labour) with regional anaesthesia, or one hour without regional anaesthesia</li> <li>Maternal fatigue/exhaustion</li> </ul>	<p><b>Inadequate progress:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate uterine activity documented</li> <li>No evidence of cephalopelvic disproportion</li> <li>Lack of effective maternal effort</li> </ul>	<p><b>Delay in the second stage of labour:</b></p> <p>There is no clear demarcation as to an appropriate length of time to wait before embarking on instrumental delivery for failure to progress.</p> <p>It is a matter for the clinician and patient given the particular circumstance.</p>