

Pain Medication Preference Scale

Penny Simkin The Birth Partner p. 249

Check all that apply:

- ♥ Definite desire for anesthesia during labor as soon as the doctor will allow it
- ♥ Definite desire for anesthesia before labor becomes painful
- ♥ Desire for epidural anesthesia in active labor (at 4 to 5 cm dilation)
- ♥ Willingness to cope with pain without an epidural until active labor
- ♥ Consider use of narcotic medication until active labor, then use an epidural
- ♥ Desire to use medications to reduce pain rather than to take away all sensation; light epidural or low dose of narcotics
- ♥ No preference about medication, will just see how things go
- ♥ Would like to avoid pain medications unless coping becomes difficult
- ♥ If coping becomes difficult mom would feel like a “martyr” if she doesn’t get medication
- ♥ Strong preference to avoid pain medications to avoid side effects on the baby
- ♥ Strong preference to avoid pain medications to avoid side effects on the labor
- ♥ Will accept medications for a long or difficult labor
- ♥ Very strong desire for natural childbirth for a sense of personal gratification as well as to benefit the baby and the progress of labor
- ♥ Will be disappointed if she needs to get medication