

**Table II. Prophylactic Indications of Operative Vaginal Deliveries**

<u>Type of indication:</u>	<u>Purpose:</u>	<u>Condition treated:</u>	<u>Examples:</u>
<b>Maternal</b>	Prevention of Valsalva maneuver and maternal decompensation	Cardiovascular diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Class III-IV valvulopathies</li> <li>✓ Mycardiopathies</li> <li>✓ Active rheumatic or lupic pericarditis</li> </ul>
	Prevention of Valsalva maneuver and potential rupture of aneurysms	Cerebrovascular abnormalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ H/O subarachnoid bleeding</li> <li>✓ H/O berry aneurysms</li> </ul>
	Prevention of Valsalva and worsening of hypoxemia	Respiratory Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Severe asthma</li> <li>✓ Pulmonary fibrosis</li> <li>✓ COPD</li> </ul>
<b>Fetal</b>	Prevention of IC hemorrhage in prematures (*)	Avoid sudden decompression of the fetal head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Prematurity</li> </ul>
	Prevention of head deflexion and spinal trauma	Avoid head entrapment and cervical spine trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Breech vaginal delivery</li> </ul>

(\*): Controversial study results; an effect seems to be present for the prevention of late IC hemorrhages in a subset of infants less than 1500 grams.

Reference: 7