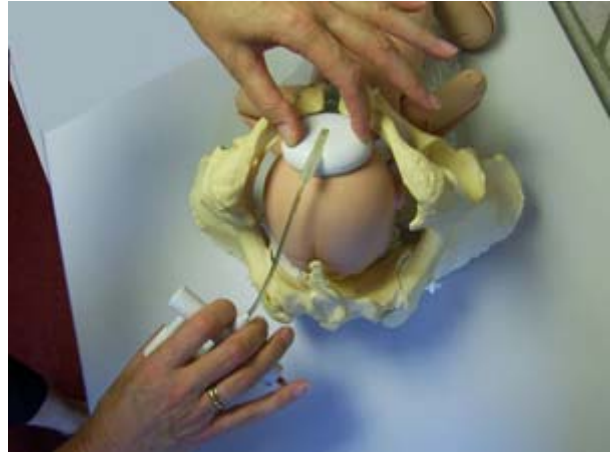
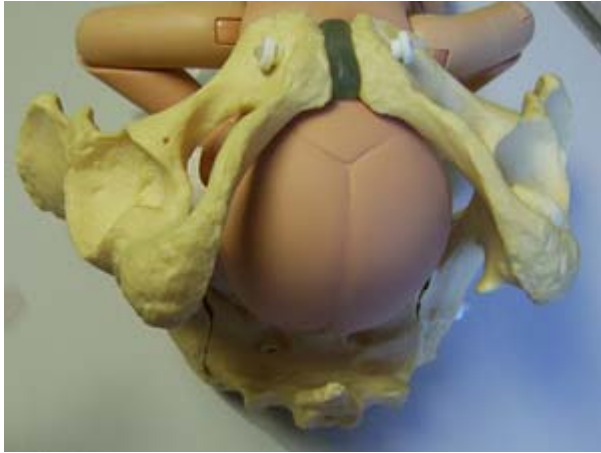


Ventouse Assisted Birth

The Kiwi ventouse is used by midwives who have had training to use it. It is becoming more and more popular and widely used in hospitals and in the community.

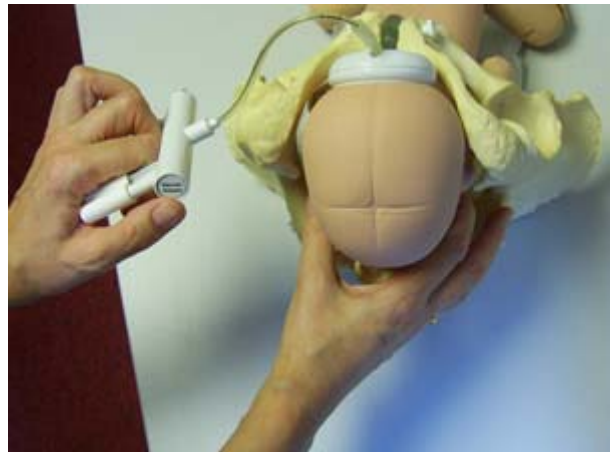


It is important to carry out the usual essential care skills such as:
Introduce yourself to the woman
Consult the antenatal notes
Respect hygiene measures and the privacy of the woman (see neumonic) and the cup of the ventouse is placed as near as possible to or on...

...the flexion point of the fetal head. The vacuum is then increased gradually so as to achieve a close application of this to the fetal head. The kiwi has indicators to show when the vacuum has become sufficient (green area).



When the vacuum is achieved, traction is applied with a contraction and with maternal effort. Traction is applied in a downwards and backwards direction, then in a forwards and upwards direction, following the curve of carus.



When the jaw is reachable, or when the head would no longer recede, (crowning has occurred) the vacuum is released (see *vacuum release*, above thumb on the image above) and the cup is removed.