

Table 9.1: Important Diameters of the Skull

Diameters	Measurement in cm (inches)	Attitude of the head	Presentation
Suboccipitobregmatic —extends from the nape of the neck to the center of the bregma	9.5 cm (3¾")	Complete flexion	Vertex
Suboccipitofrontal —extends from the nape of the neck to the anterior end of the anterior fontanel or center of the sinciput	10 cm (4")	Incomplete flexion	Vertex
Occipitofrontal —extends from the occipital eminence to the root of the nose (glabella)	11.5 cm (4½")	Marked deflexion	Vertex
Mentovertical —extends from the midpoint of the chin to the highest point on the sagittal suture	14 cm (5½")	Partial extension	Brow
Submentoververtical —extends from junction of floor of the mouth and neck to the highest point on the sagittal suture	10.5 cm (4½")	Incomplete extension	Face
Submentobregmatic —extends from junction of floor of the mouth and neck to the center of the bregma	9.5 cm (3¾")	Complete extension	Face

Table 9.2: Circumferences of the Head in Different Attitudes

Attitude of the head	Plane of engagement	Circumference
Complete flexion	Biparietal-suboccipitobregmatic (almost round shape)	27.5 cm (11")
Deflexed	Biparietal-occipitofrontal (oval shape)	34 cm (13½")
Incomplete extension	Biparietal-mentovertical (bigger oval shape)	37.5 cm (15")
Complete extension	Biparietal-submentobregmatic (almost round shape)	27.5 cm (11")

Note: Conversion of centimeters into inches is approximate.