

Figure 23. Vacuum versus forceps; some generalities

Vacuum	Forceps:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easier to apply	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More difficult to apply
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slower delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Faster delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More likely to result in scalp trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased maternal soft tissue trauma
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Associated with increased rates of intracranial trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More prone to potential injury
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Higher likelihood of failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires better analgesia
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not recommended under 34 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May be used at any gestational age

Source: Modified from 24, 51-52