

Solutions

2.1

- Ischial spine.

2.2

- The pelvic viscera above from the perineum below.

2.3

- S2, S3, S4 ✓.

3.1

- Pudendal nerve compressed against the ischial spines by the fetal head.
- Neurapraxia from stretch recovers; the nerve is intact.
- Test: perineal sensation, anal squeeze, bulbocavernosus reflex.

3.2

- Third degree: tear through the external anal sphincter ($\pm$ rectal mucosa = fourth).
- Continence is the sphincter's mechanical closure; a divided muscle cannot squeeze until repaired.
- Nerve injury (observe/recover) vs sphincter injury (surgical repair and protection of the wound).