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Physical Symptoms Associated with Postpartum Depression

Loss of appetite

Headaches **Nightmares** Difficulty breathing Insomnia

Palpitations Excessive sleeping

Hot flashes/chills **Shakiness** Panic attacks

Sugar and/or starch cravings Nausea/upset stomach

Extreme agitation Overeating

Fatigue Lack of energy Poor concentration

Emotional Symptoms Associated with Postpartum Depression

Inadequacy Poor concentration Sadness Excessive crying Guilt Loneliness Isolation Helplessness Anger Anxiety Resentment Fear Hopelessness

Shame Loss of control Worthlessness Lack of confidence Irritability Thoughts of hurting yourself Low self-esteem

Thoughts of hurting your baby Oversensitivity Scary fantasies Confusion

Feeling "I'm not myself" Extreme agitation Being overwhelmed Inability to laugh Depletion

Kleiman, K and Valerie Raskin. This Isn't What I Expected. New York: Bantam Books, 1994.

This handout is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be diagnostic. If you feel that you may have postpartum depression or postpartum psychosis, schedule an appointment immediately with your physician, psychologist or counselor for a complete evaluation.