Chinese - may no exhibit reaction to pain. Although it is acceptable to exhibit, they consider it impolite something when first offered - may need to offer interventions more than once.

Accupuncture

Arab/Middle Eastern - may be vocal in response to labor pain; may prefer pain meds in labor

Japanese - women may be stoic in response to pain, but may request meds when pain is severe

Southeast Asia - may endure severe pain before requesting relief

Hispanic - may be stoic until late labor, when they may become vocal and request relief

Native American - may use meds or remedies made from indigenous plants. Are often stoic in response to labor pain

African-American - may express pain openly; use of meds varies

Ask woman of another culture to describe her childbirth:
* reaction to pain, how sought relief
* atmosphere of setting
* How did culture influence her response to labor & associated pain?
* What expressions of pain are acceptable in her culture?
* What is the role of support persons?

**Cultural Considerations R/T Birth Practices**

Korea - stoic
   Fathers usually not present

Japan - natural childbirth practiced
   May labor silently
   May eat in labor
   Father may be present

China - stoic response to pain
   Fathers usually not present
   Side-lying preferred (thought to decrease infant trauma)

India - natural childbirth practiced
   Father usually not present
Female relatives usually present

Iran - Fathers not present
    Prefers female support and female care givers

Mexico - may be stoic until second stage, then may request relief
    Fathers and female relatives may be present

Laos - squatting position used
    Fathers yes or no
    Prefer female attendants