



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals

# Postpartum Emergencies

*Uterine Rupture*

*Amniotic Fluid Embolism*

*Pulmonary Embolism*

*Sepsis*

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# Disclosures

- We have no financial relationships with any commercial interests
- No relevant financial relationships exist

# Objectives

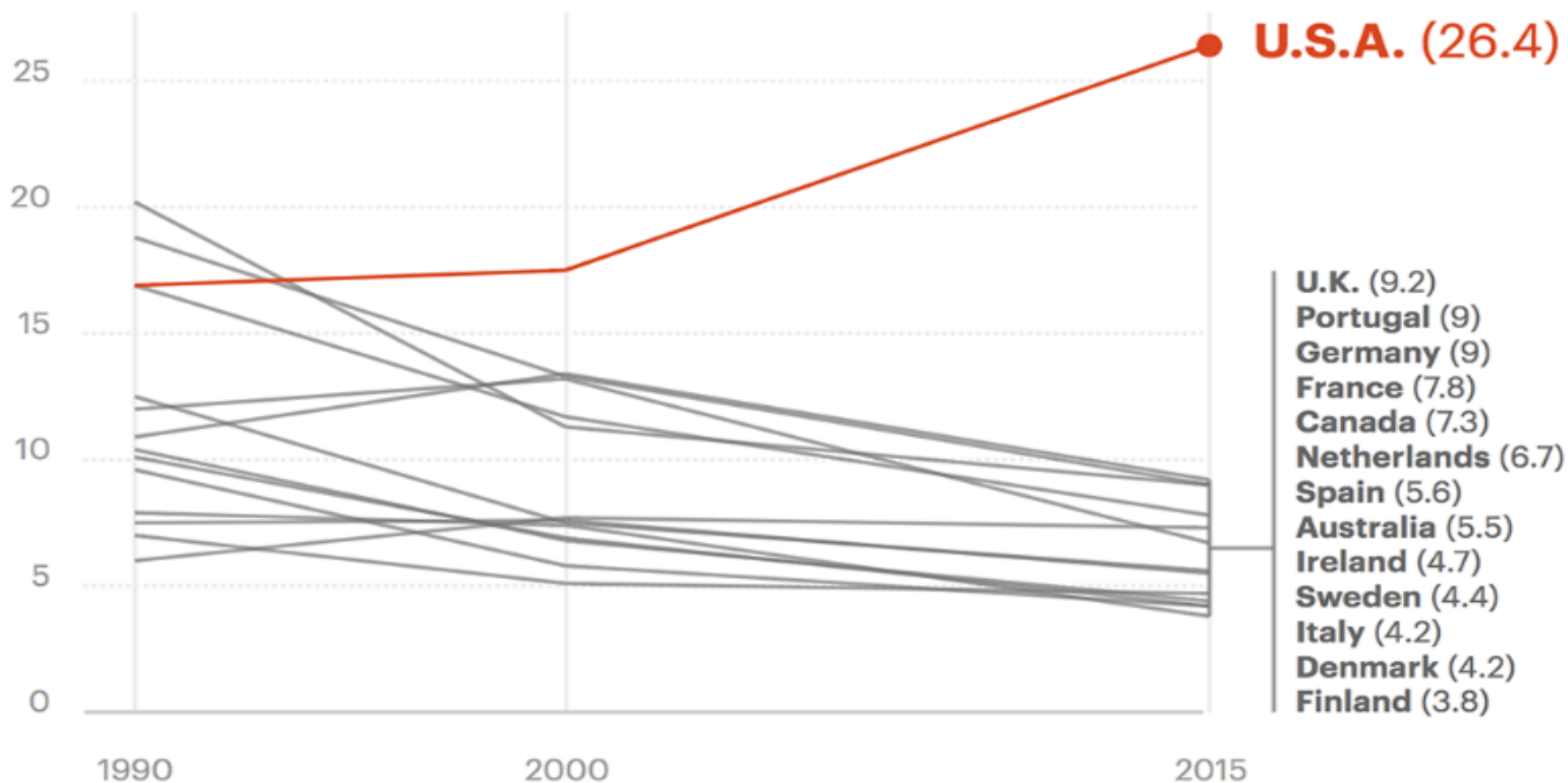
- Discuss abnormal conditions that increase a pregnant woman's risk for rapid decline
- Review the physiological changes of pregnancy that mask the severity of maternal decompensation
- Describe the importance of multidisciplinary care teams aimed to provide comprehensive care
- Cite at least 3 patient safety bundles aimed to prevent maternal morbidity and death

# Objectives

- Review normal physiologic changes of pregnancy that impact maternal decompensation
- Highlight abnormal conditions that contribute to the severity of obstetric emergencies.
- Cite four Maternal Safety Bundles aimed to reduce maternal morbidity and death
- Describe how direct care nurses can improve patient safety with their organization

# Maternal Mortality Is Rising in the U.S. As It Declines Elsewhere

Deaths per 100,000 live births



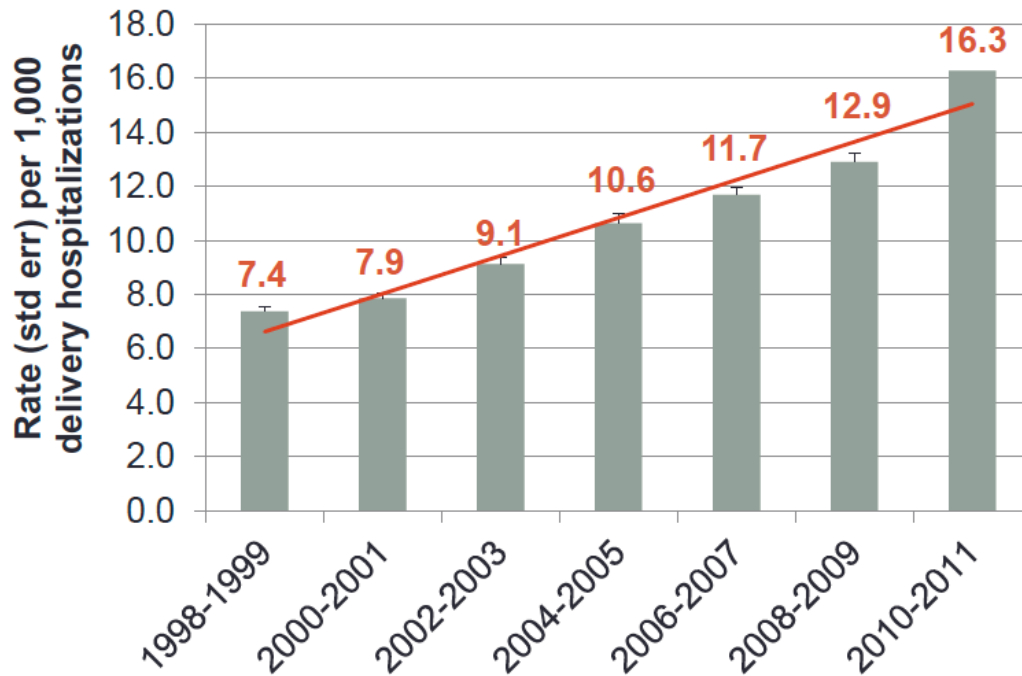
## Notes

"Global, regional, and national levels of maternal mortality, 1990–2015: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015," *The Lancet*. Only data for 1990, 2000 and 2015 was made available in the journal.

Source: *The Lancet*

Credit: Rob Weychert/ProPublica

# Trends in severe maternal morbidity during delivery hospitalizations: United States, 1998-2011



□ severe morbidity during delivery hospitalizations more than doubled

□ blood transfusion, hysterectomy & eclampsia accounted for ~75% of severe morbidity



# The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

▪ WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

## *Current Commentary*

Obstetrics & Gynecology  
VOL. 123, NO. 5, MAY 2014

# The National Partnership for Maternal Safety

Mary E. D'Alton, MD, Elliott K. Main, MD, M. Kathryn Menard, MD, and Barbara S. Levy, MD

## *Current Commentary*

Obstetrics & Gynecology  
VOL. 124, NO. 4, Oct 2014

# The Maternal Early Warning Criteria

*A Proposal From the National Partnership for Maternal  
Safety*

Mhyre, J., D' Oria, R., Hameed, A., et al

# Maternal Warning Systems

- The Joint Commission (2010) requires hospitals to have written criteria to observe change or deterioration in a patient's condition and how to recruit staff to manage patient care
- Signs and symptoms of impending severe maternal illness or collapse went unrecognized in many cases (CEMACH, 2011) due to the relative rarity of such events and normal changes in physiology associated with pregnancy and childbirth compounds the problem
  - **Recommendation:** Develop and adopting systems to alert the team of maternal deterioration to assist in early recognition, intervention and timely referral of treatment of women (CEMACH, 2011)
- The *National Partnership for Maternal Safety* is a multi-stakeholder consensus effort and is comprised of representatives from organizations in women's health care and other provider, state, federal, and regulatory bodies which supports early warning criteria to promote patient safety

<http://www.safehealthcareforeverywoman.org/maternal-safety.html>





# Vital Sign Assessment

- Vital sign assessment is critical during active bleeding. Blood pressure, pulse and respirations have been the standard in assessing vital signs.
- Often variations in vital signs are ignored or dismissed as “normal” due to the physiological changes in pregnancy (CEMACH, 2011)
- Lack of standardized documentation can result in delays in recording of abnormal results which can effect timeliness of clinical decision making (Yeung, Lapinsky, Granton, Doran, & Cafazzo, 2012)

# Maternal Early Warning Systems

- Abnormal physiologic signs and symptoms precede critical illness
- Early intervention will avoid severe M&M occurrence
- Effective policy of escalation of care



# Maternal Early Warning Criteria

| The Maternal Early Warning Criteria   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Measure   | Value       |
| Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)   | <90 or >160 |
| Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)  | >100        |
| Heart rate (beats per minute)   | <50 or >120 |
| Respiratory rate (breaths per min)  | <10 or >30  |
| Oxygen saturation on room air, at sea level %                                     | <95         |
| Oliguria, mL/hr for $\geq 2$ hrs  | <35         |
| Maternal agitation, confusion, or unresponsiveness                                |             |
| Woman with preeclampsia reporting a non-remitting headache or shortness of breath |             |

**The Maternal Early Warning Criteria: A Proposal From the National Partnership for Maternal Safety.**

Mhyre, Jill; DOria, Robyn; MA, RNC; Hameed, Afshan; Lappen, Justin; Holley, Sharon; CNM, DPN; Hunter, Stephen; MD, PhD; Jones, Robin; King, Jeffrey; DALton, Mary

# National Partnership Strategy to Enhance Maternal Safety

## BUNDLE SCIENCE

A "bundle" is a group of interventions related to a disease process that, when executed together, result in better outcomes than when implemented individually.



# COUNCIL ON PATIENT SAFETY IN WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE

safe health care for every woman

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SOGH  
Society of OB/GYN Hospitalists  
Enhancing the Safety and Quality of OB/GYN Hospital Medicine

## Organizations United to Provide Safe Health Care for Every Woman

### Missed something?

All of our informative [Safety Action Series sessions are available for audio playback](#).

[Click here for a comprehensive listing of these sessions](#). All sessions and recordings are provided free of charge.

### Want to make a change but don't know where to start?



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# CA-PAMR: Chance to Alter Outcome

## Grouped Cause of Death; 2002-2004 (N=145)

| Grouped Cause of Death                            | Chance to Alter Outcome |           |           |            |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|   | Strong / Good (%)       | Some      | None      | Total      |
| Obstetric hemorrhage                              | 69                      | 0         | 0         | 69         |
| Deep vein thrombosis/<br>pulmonary embolism       | 53                      | 0         | 0         | 53         |
| Sepsis/infection                                  | 50                      | 0         | 0         | 50         |
| <b>Preeclampsia/eclampsia</b>                     | <b>50</b>               | 0         | 0         | 50         |
| Cardiomyopathy and other<br>cardiovascular causes | 25                      | 61        | 14        | 28 (19)    |
| Cerebral vascular accident                        | 22                      | 0         | 78        | 9 (6)      |
| Amniotic fluid embolism                           | 0                       | 87        | 13        | 15 (10)    |
| All other causes of death                         | 46                      | 46        | 8         | 26 (18)    |
| <b>Total (%)</b>                                  | <b>40</b>               | <b>48</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>145</b> |



# Normal physiologic changes

Cardiovascular

Hematologic

Pulmonary

# Cardiovascular

## Normal Cardiac Adaptation during Pregnancy

### Cardiac Changes

**Stroke Volume**

↑ 30-50%

**Heart Rate**

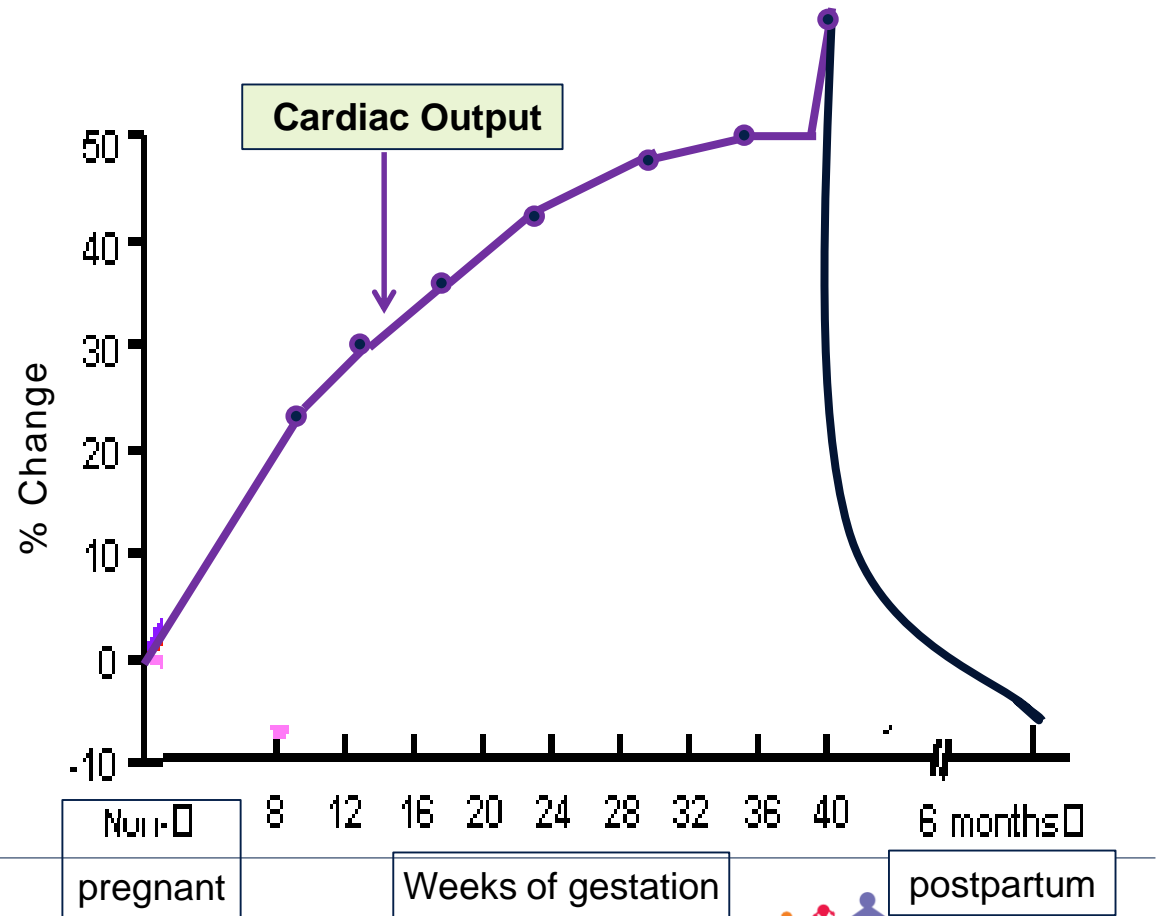
↑ 20% (~10-20 beats)

**Anatomic Changes**

↑ Uterus

**Vascular Resistance**

↓ SVR   ↓ PVR





# Hematologic

## Normal Hematologic Events Associated with Pregnancy

### Blood Volume Changes

#### Total Volume

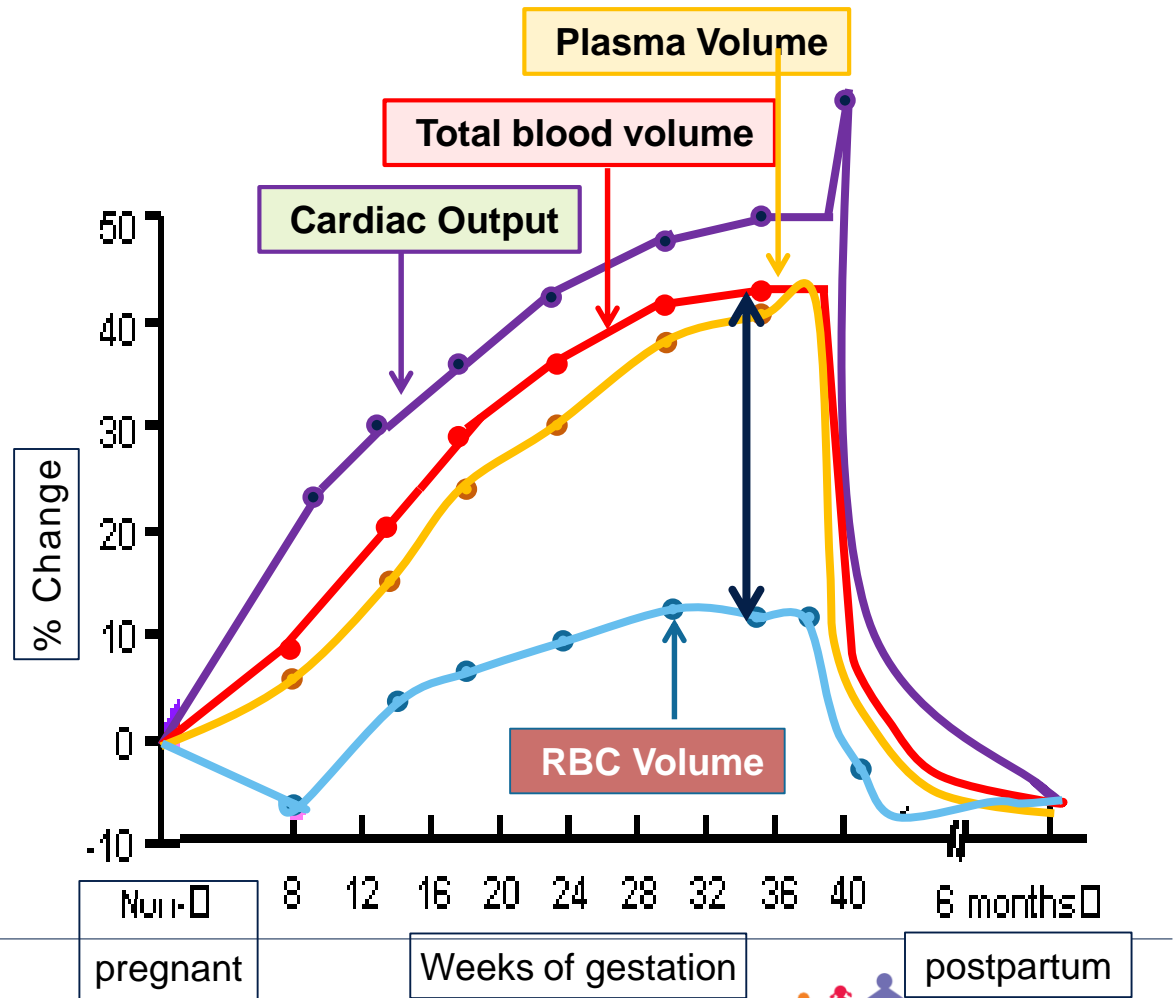
↑ 35% (~ 2,000ml)

#### Plasma Volume

↑ 50% (~ 1,600ml)

#### RBC Mass

↑ 17% (~ 350mL)



# Hematologic continued:

## Clotting Factors During Pregnancy

| Parameter                                 | Change                          |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Fibrin                                    | Increases 40% at term           |
| Plasma fibrinogen                         | Increases 50% (300 – 600) mg/dl |
| Coagulation factors I, VII, VIII, X, XII  | Increases markedly              |
| Von Willebrand factor antigen             | Increases markedly              |
| <b>Coagulation factor XI</b>              | <b>Decreases 60% - 70%</b>      |
| <b>Coagulation factor XIII</b>            | <b>Decreases slightly</b>       |
| Coagulation factors II, V                 | Increases slightly or unchanged |
| <b>Protein S (anticoagulant) activity</b> | <b>Decreased</b>                |
| Clotting and bleeding time                | Unchanged                       |
| Prothrombin time                          | Increases slightly or unchanged |
| Partial plasma thromboplastin time        | Increases slightly or unchanged |
| Fibrin degradation products               | Increased (D–Dimer increased)   |
| Platelets                                 | Unchanged (150 K – 500K)        |

# Hematologic

↑ Factors V, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII

↓ **Fibrinolysis**

↑ Fibrinogen

↑ Prothrombin

# Pulmonary

- ↑ Diaphragm 4-7 cm –ribs flare
- ↓ Functional Residual Capacity 25%
- ↑ Respiratory Rate 16-20
- ↑ Tidal volume from 500 – 700 ml
- ↑ Compensatory Alkalemia

## *Not Pregnant*

pH 7.35 – 7.45

pO<sub>2</sub> 90 -100

pCO<sub>2</sub> 35 – 45

HCO<sub>3</sub> 22 - 26

## *Pregnant*

pH 7.40 – 7.45

pO<sub>2</sub> 104 -108

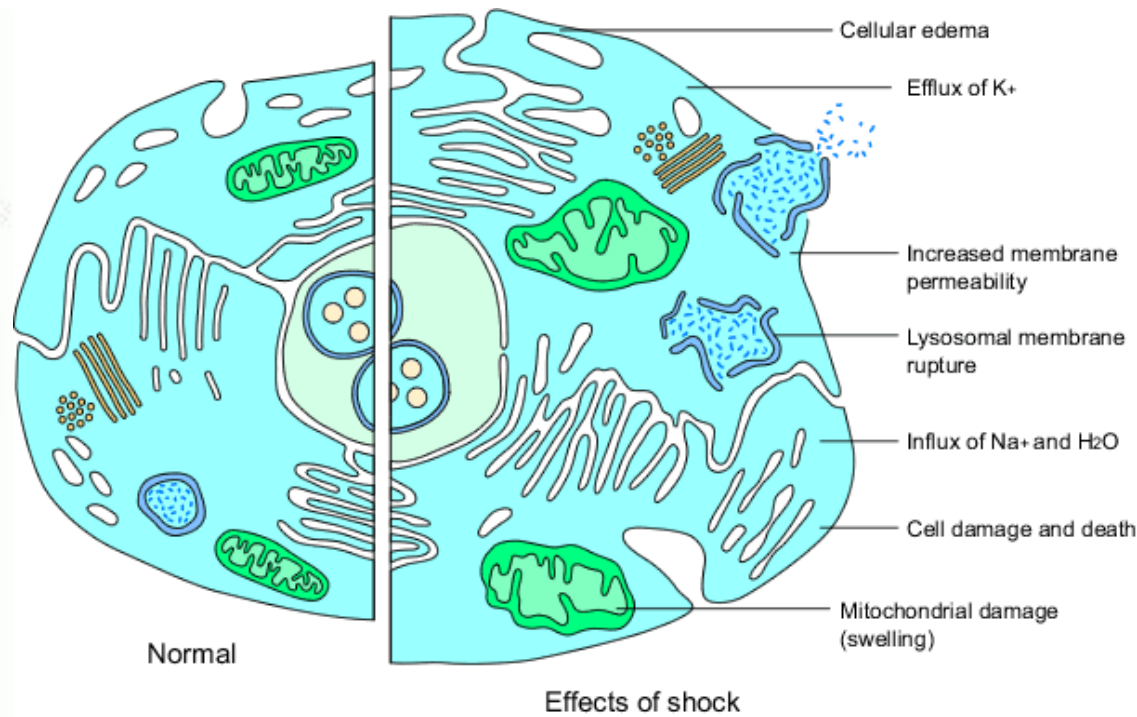
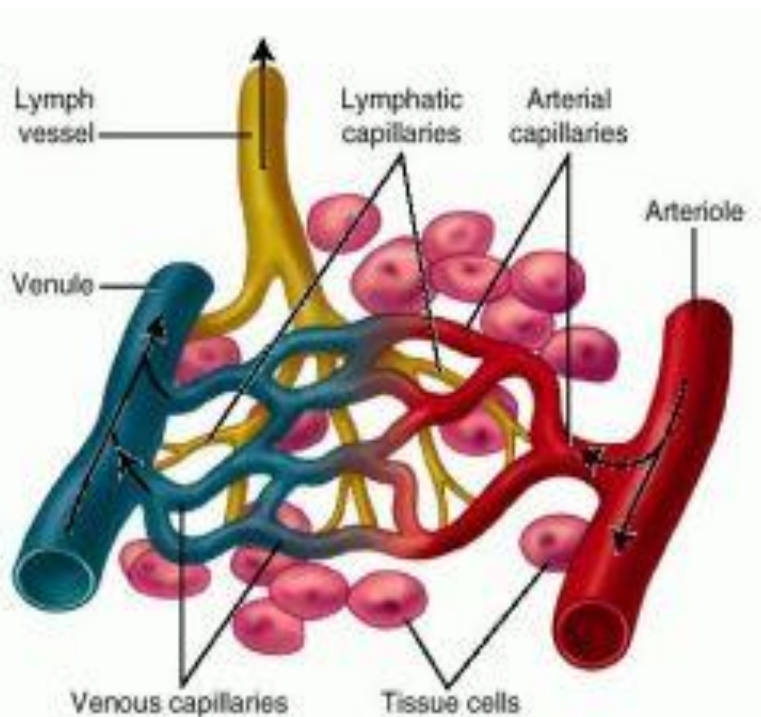
pCO<sub>2</sub> 27 – 32

HCO<sub>3</sub> 18 - 22



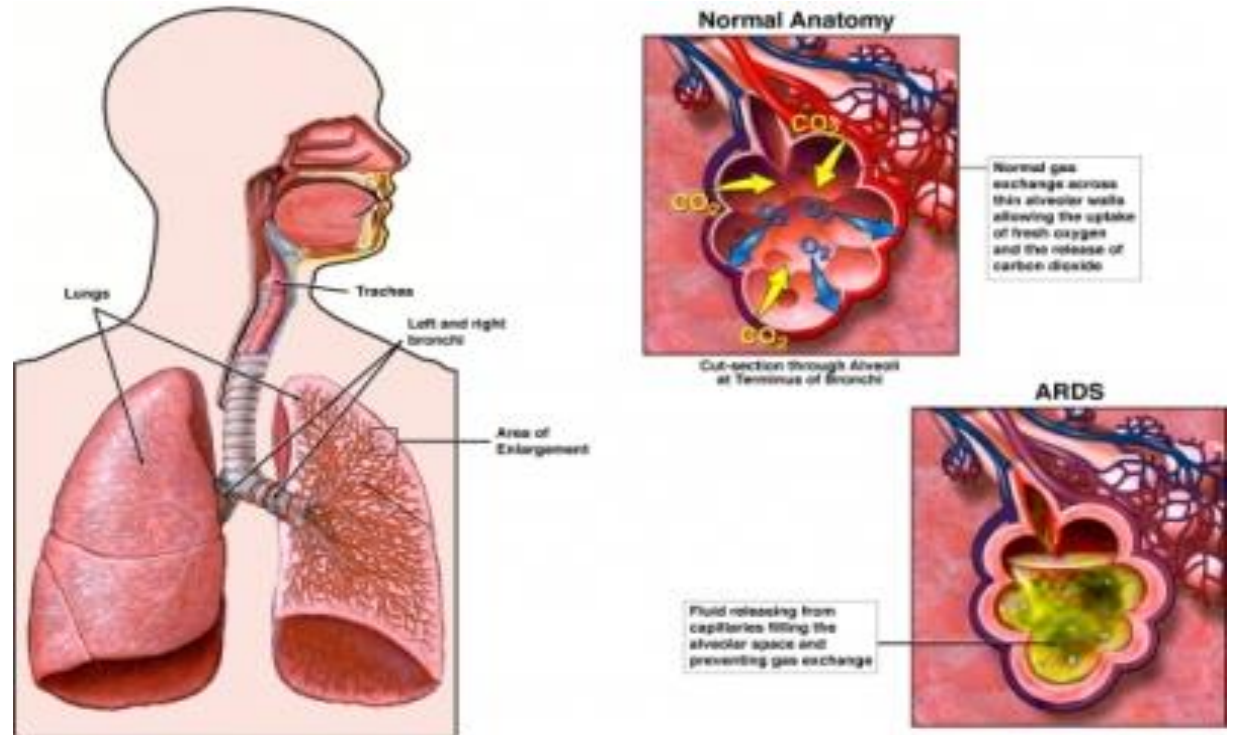
# Pathophysiology of Hypovolemic Shock

- Tissue hypoperfusion → metabolic acidosis → inflammatory mediators → tissue and vascular injury → multiple organ failure



# Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Hemorrhagic  
Shock →



Damage to endothelial cells in pulmonary vasculature →  
Fluid leaks from vascular space into alveoli →  
Respiratory failure

# Case Presentation: Hemorrhage

- 38 y.o. @40+2 admitted for elective IOL:
  - Hgb 12.5, Hct 39.2, Plt 195K, Blood Type A+, Antibody screen: neg
- Dinoprostone placed, misoprostol X2, AROM, oxytocin started
- Epidural is placed
- Rapidly progress to 10 cm , MD Notified
- 15 minute 2<sup>nd</sup> stage → male infant
- 1 minute later: Placenta delivered spontaneously
- Manual exploration of uterus “cleared of clots “
- Fundal checks (6) RN charted “moderate”

# Case Presentation: Hemorrhage

- 1 hour 22 minutes later patient to MBU – Pulse: 82 BP: 126/70
- Patient passes “large clot” and “gush” when transferred to MBU bed
- IM methylergonovine
- 30 minutes later carboprost given
- 5 minutes later misoprostol given
- 30 minutes later 2<sup>nd</sup> carboprost given
- 10 minutes later VS: Pulse 106, BP: 116/72
- Foley catheter placed – urine concentrated, amount not documented
- Shift change



# Case Presentation: Hemorrhage

- RN weighs chux 462 gm
- RN reports to MD patient has “bled out” and is short of breath
- Patient feels light headed
- MD orders type and cross 2 units PRBC’s, another fluid bolus and wants to go to Main OR for D&C
- 3 more chux “saturated with blood” no clots
- Coagulation Lab values obtained and sent to lab
- 2<sup>nd</sup> IV is started
- 1 hour and 20 minutes later, 1<sup>st</sup> unit of blood is transfused
- 8 liters of crystalloid up to this point

# Case Presentation: Hemorrhage

- Laboratory values:
    - Hct nadir 13, Plts 22K (dysfunctional/abnormal aggregation)
    - Fibrinogen 137, D Dimer >35,000, ABG pH: 7.14
  - Multiple doses of pressor support
    - **Norepinephrine** drip to maintain BP/MAP
    - To OR for unplanned emergency Hysterectomy
  - Patient to ICU intubated on IV pressor support
  - Blood products received:
    - 6 units PRBC
    - 4 units, FFP
    - 2 units Single Donor Platelets
    - 2 units of Cryoprecipitate
-

# Unplanned Hysterectomy: Postoperative Course

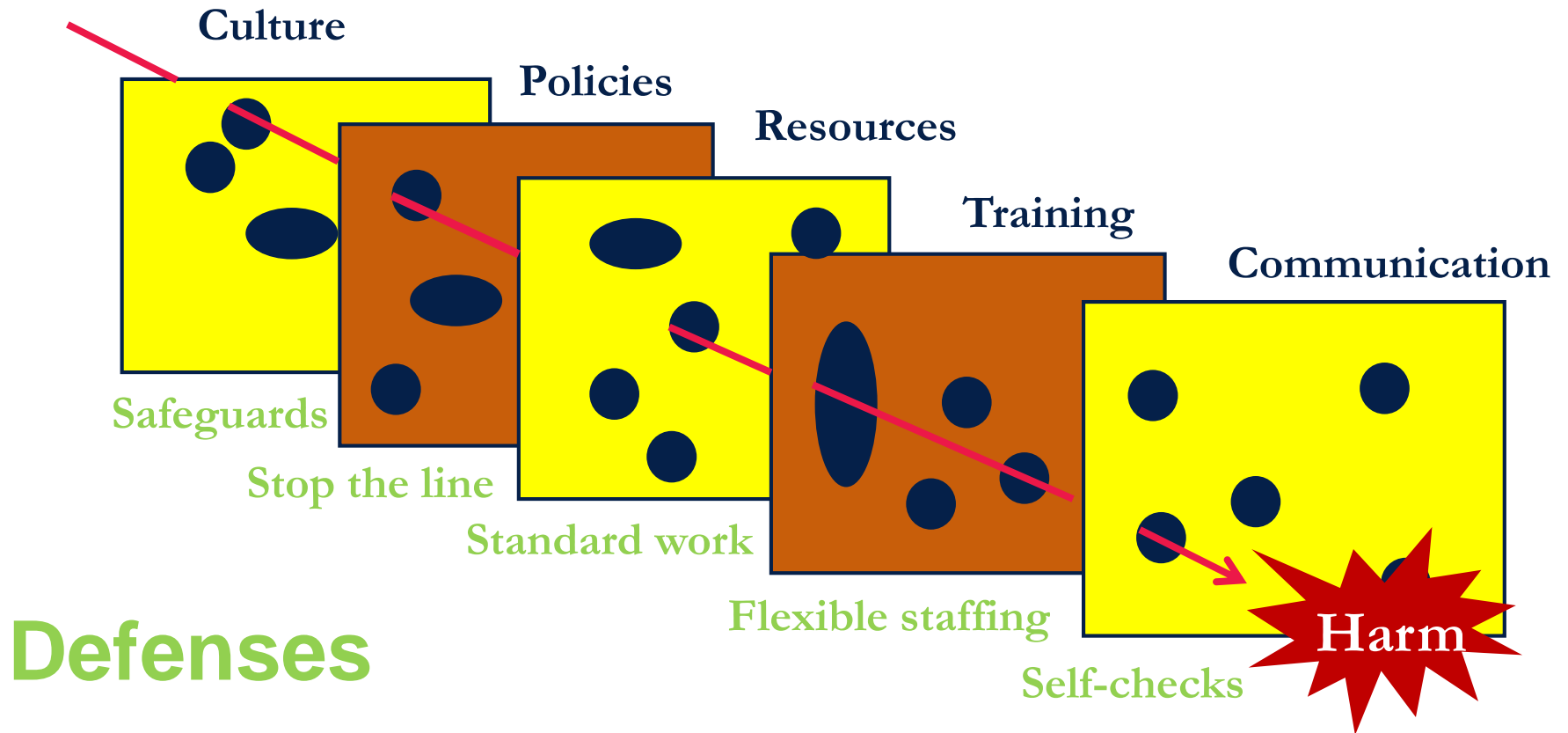
- Transfer from ICU
- Weak but stable
- Loss of choice
- Hbg Hct
  - Iron—IV (sucrose)
  - Rh-Erythropoeitin
  - Heparin



➤ Discharge home with support

# How Errors Occur

## Failures





## READINESS

Every unit

- Hemorrhage cart with supplies, checklist, and instruction cards for intrauterine balloons and compressions stitches
- Immediate access to hemorrhage medications (kit or equivalent)
- Establish a response team - who to call when help is needed (blood bank, advanced gynecologic surgery, other support and tertiary services)
- Establish massive and emergency release transfusion protocols (type-O negative/uncrossmatched)
- Unit education on protocols, unit-based drills (with post-drill debriefs)

## RECOGNITION & PREVENTION

Every patient

- Assessment of hemorrhage risk (prenatal, on admission, and at other appropriate times)
- Measurement of cumulative blood loss (formal, as quantitative as possible)
- Active management of the 3rd stage of labor (department-wide protocol)

## RESPONSE

Every hemorrhage

- Unit-standard, stage-based, obstetric hemorrhage emergency management plan with checklists
- Support program for patients, families, and staff for all significant hemorrhages

## REPORTING/SYSTEMS LEARNING

Every unit

- Establish a culture of huddles for high risk patients and post-event debriefs to identify successes and opportunities
- Multidisciplinary review of serious hemorrhages for systems issues
- Monitor outcomes and process metrics in perinatal quality improvement (QI) committee

## PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Obstetric Hemorrhage

## The Maternal Safety Bundle for Obstetric Hemorrhage

- Proactive approach
- Includes 13 elements
- Establishes resources
- Manage OB Hemorrhage

# Hemorrhage

ACOG defines OB hemorrhage as:

cumulative blood loss  $\geq 1000$  mL

accompanied by s/sx of hypovolemia within 24 hrs after birth (including intrapartum blood loss) regardless of mode of birth.

- Even with proper management can occur in
  - ~ 4% of vaginal births and ~ 6% of cesarean birth
  - As a result: 1/20 women will experience PPH
- Early or Primary ( $\leq 24$  hr after birth)
  - **Highest risk in the first hour after delivery because large venous areas are exposed after placental separation**
- Late or Secondary ( $>24$  hr to 6 weeks after)
  - **Caused by infection, placental site subinvolution, retained placental fragments, or coagulopathies (DIC)**

ACOG.(2017). Postpartum hemorrhage. Practice Bulletin No.183. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 130(4), e168-e186.



# Etiologies of Obstetric Hemorrhage

## Postpartum

### Antepartum

- Uterine rupture
- Placental abruption
- Placenta Previa
- Vasa Previa

### Intrapartum

- Uterine rupture
- Placental abruption

- **Uterine atony**
- **Retained Placenta**
- **Lower genital tract lacerations**  
(cervix, vagina, perineum)
- **Upper genital tract lacerations**  
(uterine rupture)
- **Placenta accreta, increta, percreta**
- **Uterine inversion**
- **Inherited coagulopathy**  
(Von Willebrand Disease)
- **Acquired coagulopathy**  
(abruption, AFE, retained dead fetus syndrome)

# Improve Recognition...

Perform on-going objective quantification of actual blood loss during and after all births (*record output on a flow sheet*)

- **Training and quantification of how blood loss is estimated – put up posters**
- **Measurement of actual blood**
  - **Fluid in canisters, under buttocks drapes**
  - **Weigh saturated items**
  - **and subtract dry weight**



AWHONN

# Postpartum Hemorrhage Project Video



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F\\_ac-aCbEn0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_ac-aCbEn0)

# OB Hemorrhage Cart

- Quick access to emergency supplies
- Refrigerator for meds
- Establish necessary items and par levels
- Label drawers/compartments
- Include checklists
- Develop process for checking and restocking
- Educate nursing and physician staff

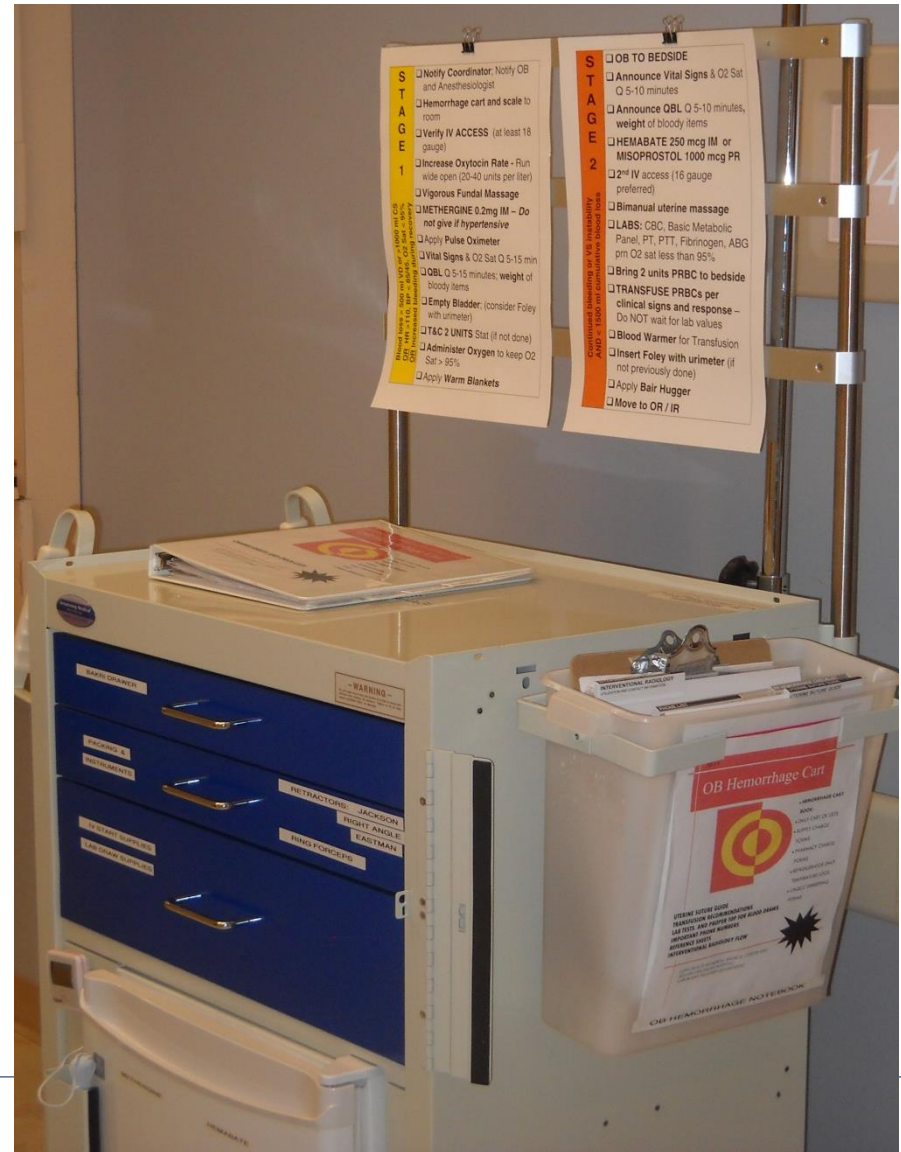


Photo courtesy of J. McNulty MD, 2014.

# Tranexamic acid (TXA)

- For women with established PPH
  - Not responsive to medications or treatments
  - Considered an adjunct treatment
  - Most effective if used within first 3 hours
  - Dose: 1 gram
  - may repeat in 30 minutes if bleeding persists

WOMAN Trial Collaborators. (2017) Effect of early TXA administration on mortality, hysterectomy, and other morbidities in women with post-partum haemorrhage (WOMAN): an international, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Lancet*, 389(10084), 2105–2116.

# Intrauterine Balloons

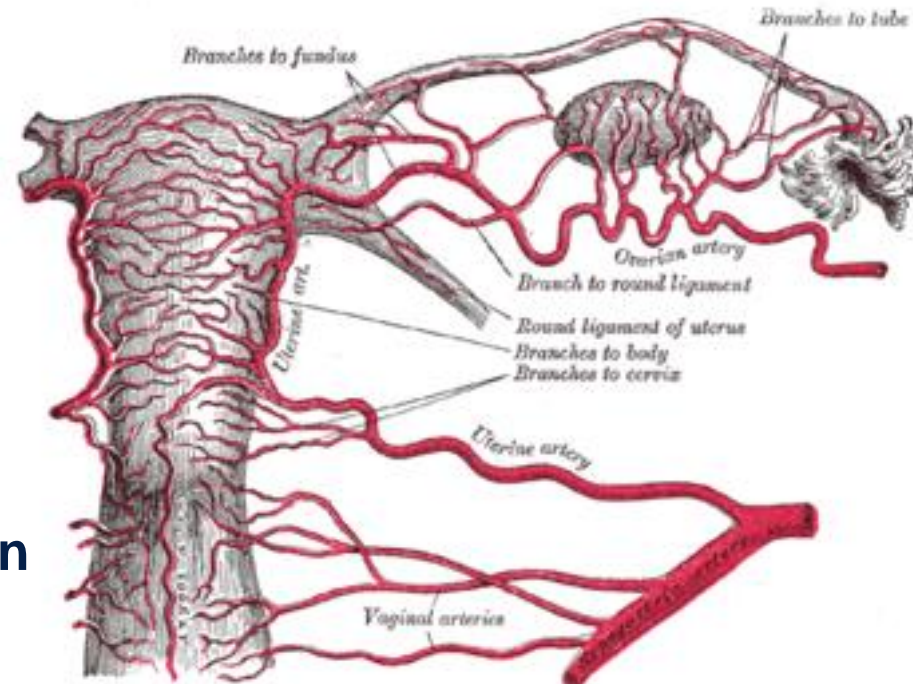
- Used for intrauterine tamponade during hemorrhage
- Need ultrasound guidance to determine placement
- Use sterile solution (normal saline)
- Average filling volume = 250 ml – 300 ml (500 ml max)
- Document amount of NS used
- Insert vaginal packing and secure tubing
- Connect to a closed system/urinary catheter bag

# Additional Hemorrhage Management

## Intervention Radiology

- Uterine artery embolization
- Collateral circulation
- Ongoing assessment

☆ Patient must be in stable condition



# Blood Products and Equipment

## Massive Transfusion Guideline



- Rapid Infuser
- Platelet infusion set
- Mechanical warming device

Photos courtesy of Holli M. Mason MD, 2017  
CPMS Blood Bank Webinar Slide Set



# Blood Component Therapy

| <b>PRODUCT</b>                | <b>VOLUME (ML)</b> | <b>CONTENTS</b>   | <b>EFFECT (PER UNIT)</b>                                     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| <b>Packed Red Blood Cells</b> | <b>240</b>         | <b>RBC, WBC, plasma</b>                                       | <b>↑ hematocrit 3% &amp; Hgb 1 g/dl</b>                      |
| <b>Platelets</b>              | <b>50</b>          | <b>Platelets, RBC, WBC, plasma</b>                            | <b>↑ platelet count 5,000-10,000 mm<sup>3</sup> per unit</b> |
| <b>Fresh Frozen Plasma</b>    | <b>250</b>         | <b>Fibrinogen, antithrombin III, factors V* &amp; VIII*</b>   | <b>↑ fibrinogen by 10mg/dl</b>                               |
| <b>Cryoprecipitate</b>        | <b>40</b>          | <b>Fibrinogen, factors VIII &amp; XIII and Von Willebrand</b> | <b>↑ fibrinogen by 10mg/dl</b>                               |

# Laboratory Diagnosis of DIC

All routine screening tests of coagulation yield grossly abnormal results

| Laboratory Test       | Value               |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Platelets             | Decreased           |
| Fibrinogen            | Less than 200       |
| Fibrin Split Products | Increased           |
| PT & aPTT             | Initially increased |
| D Dimer               | Increased           |



# The Lethal Triad of Coagulopathy: Why?

## ■ Dilutional

- Transfusion of crystalloid and packed cells devoid of clotting factors
- A problem once 1 ½ total blood volume replaced

## ■ Hypothermia

- Significantly decreases platelet function: even if counts are adequate

## ■ Acidemia

- Occurs with massive hemorrhage due to hypovolemia, peripheral tissue hypoxia: as hydrogen ion concentration increases, enzyme functions involved in coagulation pathway stop functioning
- VERY DIFFICULT TO REVERSE!

# What is DIC?

- Underlying disorder
- Activates coagulation cascade
  - Blood clot formation
  - Coagulation factors become depleted
  - Results in uncontrolled bleeding
    - Death

# Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation

Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis defines “DIC as:

*An **acquired** syndrome characterized by the **intravascular activation of coagulation** with loss of localization arising from different causes. It can originate from and cause damage to the **microvasculature** which if sufficiently severe **can produce organ dysfunction.***

- Accompany certain obstetrical conditions
- Varied clinical presentation and prognostic course
- **An “effect “ of other disease processes**
- Treatment will be focused on **removal of the causative agent**

# Etiology of DIC

Cancer

OB/Gyn  
Complications

Infection



# OB Complications

## Placental Tissue



# After Birth

- Coagulation is initiated to prevent hemorrhage at placentation
- Platelet plugs and fibrin clots for to provide hemostasis
  - Fibrinogen and platelet counts decrease

# Physiology Review: Hemostasis

Failure or deficiencies in any of the components can lead to varying degrees of uncontrolled hemorrhaging or clotting

Primary components:

- Vascular endothelium
- Circulating platelets
- Circulating proteins

# Vascular System: Blood Vessels

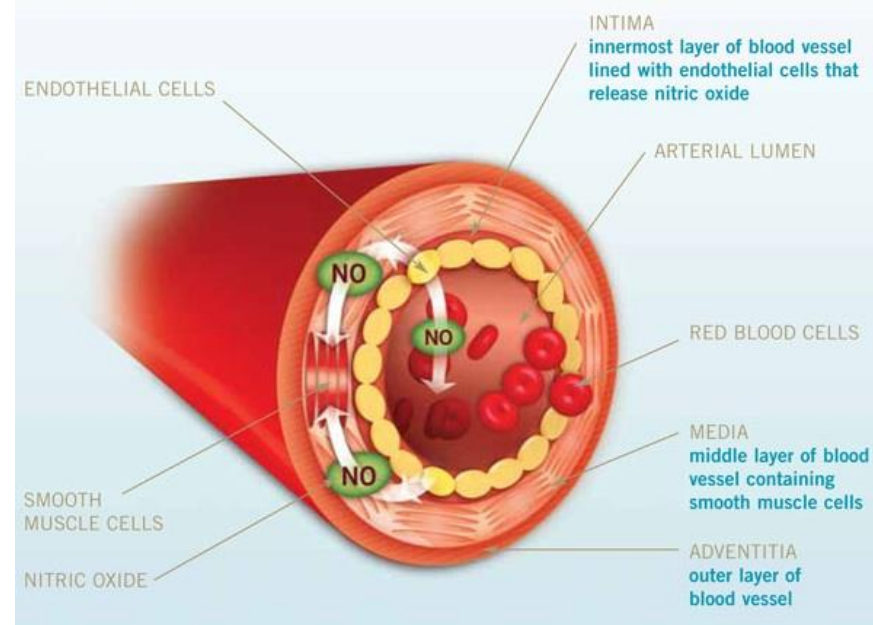
## Daily Function

- Endothelium
  - Controls vessel permeability
  - Controls blood flow rate
    - vasoconstriction
  - Produces and releases substances that inhibit or stimulate platelets, coagulation, and fibrinolysis



# Endothelium

## Anatomy



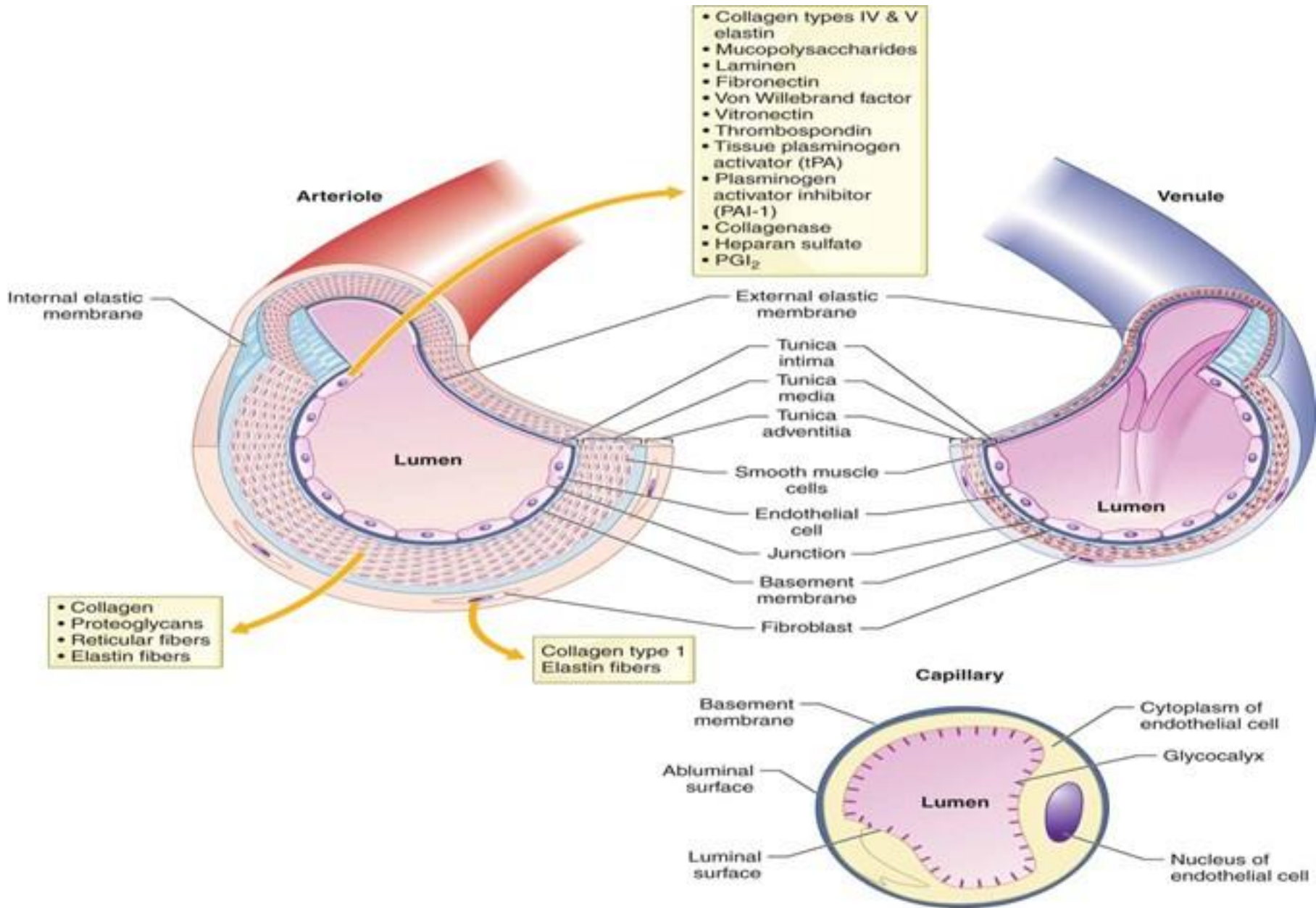
- Endothelium
- Single layer of endothelial cells, lining vessels
- Coated by glycocalyx (protein and mucopolysaccharides)
- Protects basement membrane
- Negatively charged, repels circulating proteins and platelets
- Secretes substances to keep the blood vessel in a nonreactive environment

# Vascular System

## Anatomy of the blood vessels

### ▪ Subendothelium

- Smooth muscle and connective tissue with collagen fibers
- Basement membrane
  - Collagen – stimulates platelets
  - Tissue Factor (TF) – activates coagulation & fibrin formation
- Connective tissue
  - Elastic fibers – provide support around vessels



- Collagen types IV & V
- elastin
- Mucopolysaccharides
- Laminin
- Fibronectin
- Von Willebrand factor
- Vitronectin
- Thrombospondin
- Tissue plasminogen activator (tPA)
- Plasminogen activator inhibitor (PAI-1)
- Collagenase
- Heparan sulfate
- PGI<sub>2</sub>

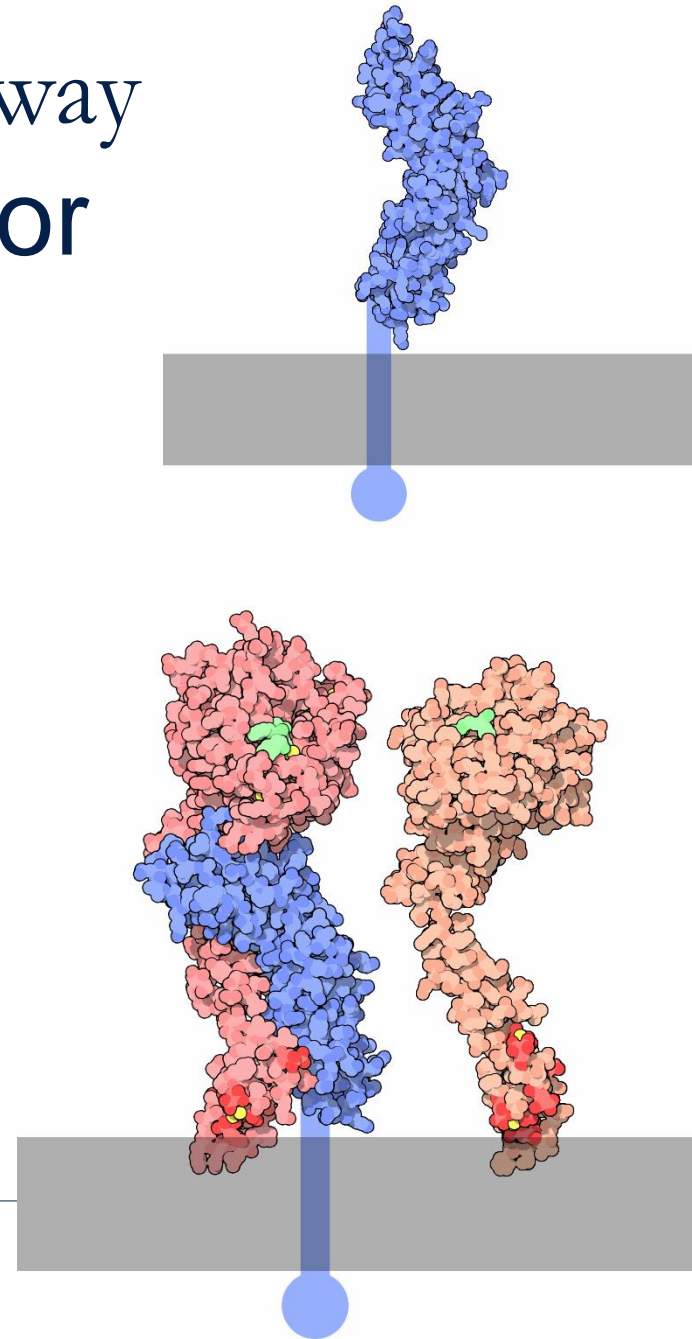
- Collagen
- Proteoglycans
- Reticular fibers
- Elastin fibers

Collagen type 1  
Elastin fibers

# Coagulation Cascade Pathway

## The Role of Tissue Factor

- Tissue damage
- Tissue factor is released
  - Tissue factor is a protein found tissue

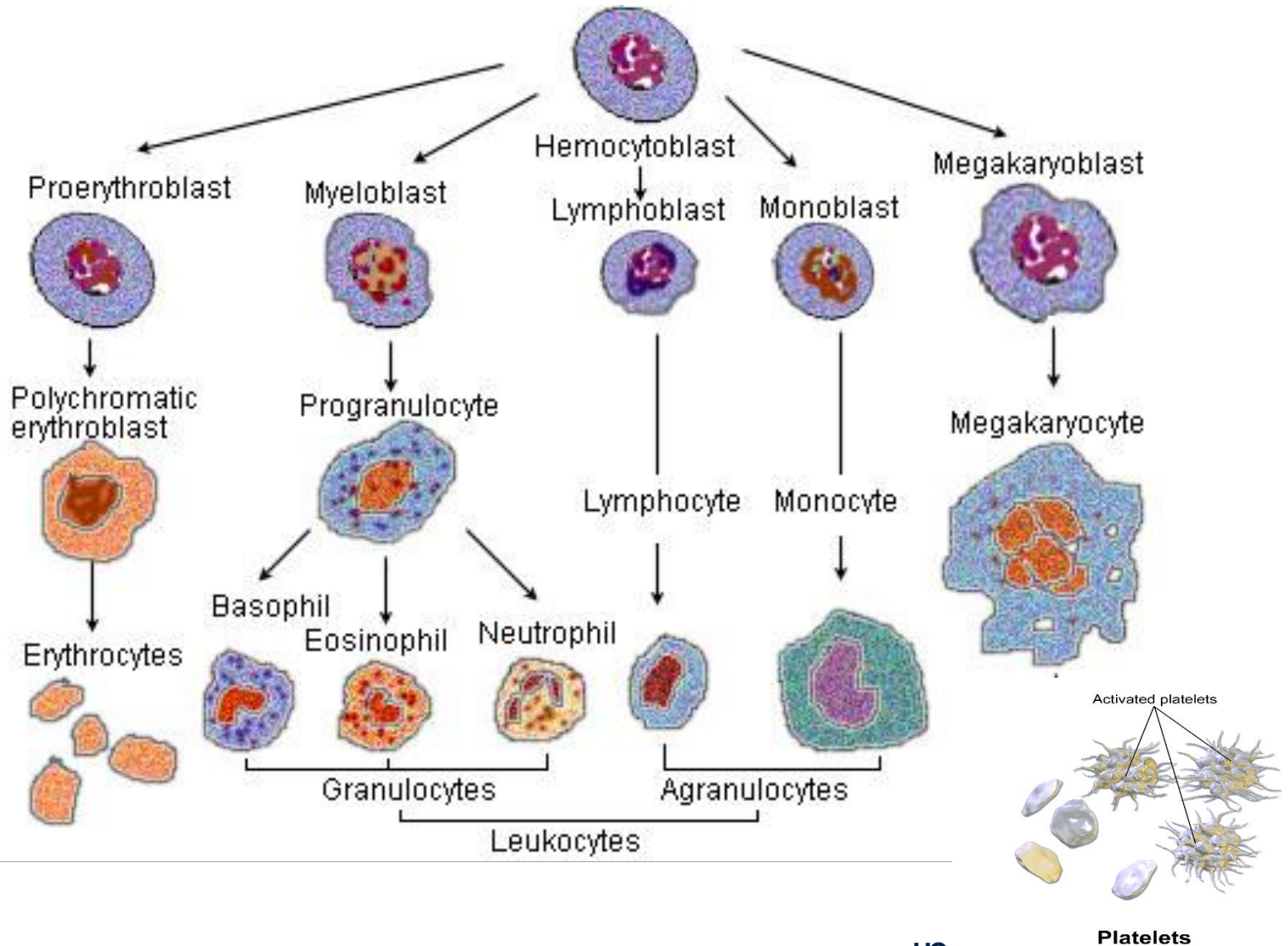


# Hemostatic Trigger

Once vessel damage occurs, action begins!

- Arteries and arterioles vasoconstrict
- Smooth muscle cells contract to reduce blood flow
- The endothelium becomes thrombogenic
  - Platelets and coagulation proteins are activated
  - VWF is secreted
  - Fibrinolysis initiated

# Bone Marrow Stem Cells



# Platelets: The 3A's

## ▪ Role of Platelets in Hemostasis

### ▪ Platelet Adhesion

- Injury
- Platelets contact subendothelium
- vWF
- Fibrinogen
- Platelets bind with subendothelium

### ▪ Platelet Activation

- Adhere and activate
- Change shape
- Release proteins and coag factors
- Localized vasoconstriction

### ▪ Platelet Aggregation

- Platelet agonists attract more platelets
- Activated platelets combine with adhered platelets
- Thrombin
- Fibrinogen
- Platelet plug formed



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v+R8JMfbYW2p4>



# The population we serve



# Pathophysiology of DIC

## 1. Disseminated Fibrin Thrombi

- Obstructed blood flow
- End organ ischemia / necrosis

## 2. Activation of kinin system

- Vascular permeability
- Hypotension
- Shock

# Pathophysiology of DIC

## **3. Activation of the complement system**

- Red cell and platelet lysis
- ↑ vascular permeability
- Shock

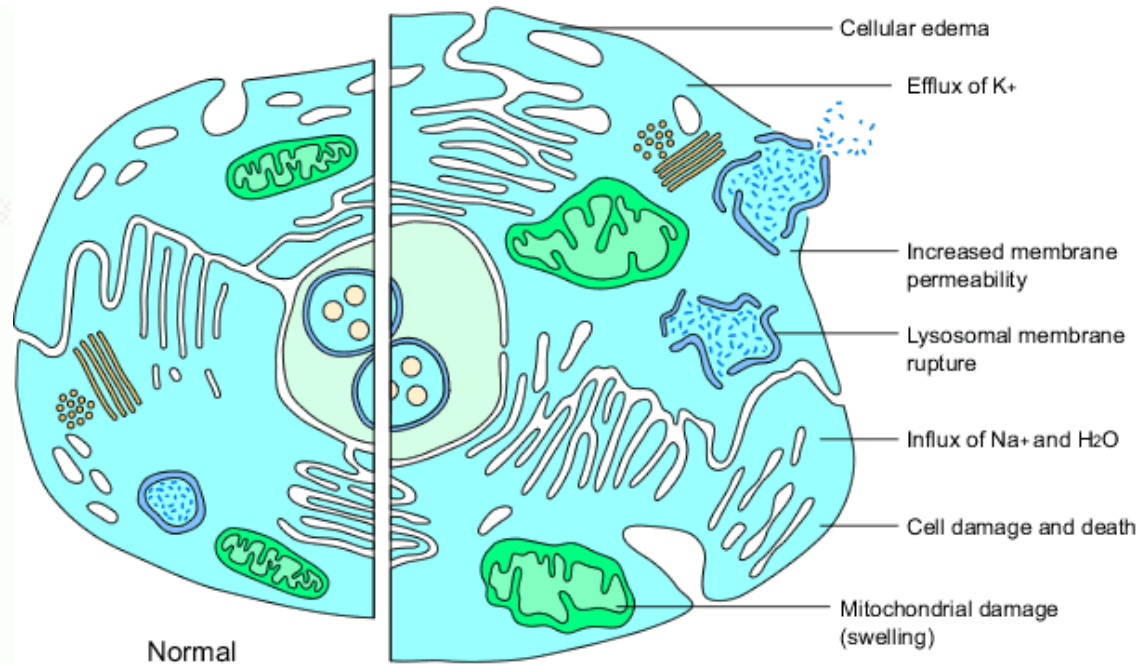
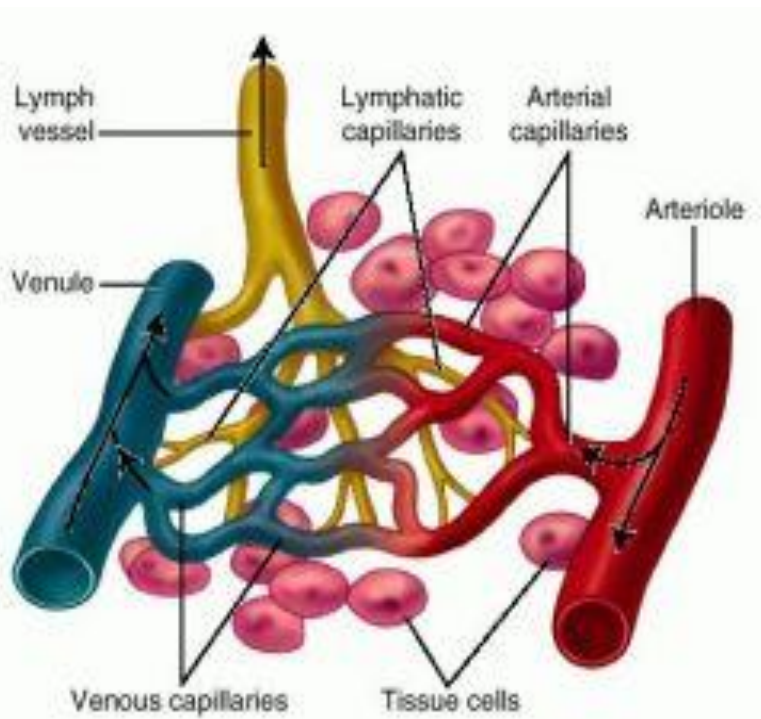
## **4. Release of cytokines (IL 1 & 6) and TNF**

## **5. Plasma-induced lysis of fibrin**

- FDP's
- Depletion of Coag factors
- Hemorrhage and shock

# Pathophysiology of Hypovolemic Shock

- Tissue hypoperfusion → metabolic acidosis → inflammatory mediators → tissue and vascular injury → multiple organ failure



Normal

Effects of shock

# The Nurse Detective



# Etiology of DIC



# Underlying OB conditions associated with DIC

- Intrauterine Fetal Demise                      ▪ 25%
- Placental abruption                                ▪ 37%
- PPH / Hypovolemia / MBT                      ▪ 29%
- Severe Pre E / HELLP                            ▪ 14%
- Acute Fatty Liver                                    ▪ 8%
- Amniotic Fluid Embolism                        ▪ 6%
- Sepsis    ▪ 6%

} 100 %

# Intrauterine Fetal Demise 25%

## Mechanism

- Release of
  - Necrotic tissue and Thromboplastin
- ↓ Plasma fibrinogen
- FDP's circulate

## Diagnosis

- U/S ⇒ Confirm fetal demise
- Baseline coagulation tests
  - Platelet count
  - PT
  - aPTT
  - Fibrinogen

## Management

- Deliver fetus and placenta
  
- If DIC is Present
  - Volume
  - Blood products
  - Supportive care





# Placental Abruption 37%

## Mechanism

- Release of procoagulant substances
- Activation of fibrinolytic enzyme pathway

## Diagnosis

- Vaginal bleeding
- Abdominal pain
- Uterine tenderness
- Uterine contractions
- Coagulation tests

## Management

- Delivery v/s Expectant
  
- If DIC is Present
  - Volume
  - Blood products
  - Supportive care



# Clinical Presentation

- Peripheral cyanosis
- Renal impairment
- Drowsiness
- Confusion
- Coma
- Cardiorespiratory failure
- Large and small vessel thrombosis
- Ischemia
- End organ damage

# Bleeding from unrelated sites

- Venipuncture sites
- Epistaxis
- Ecchymosis
- Purpura
- Petechiae
- Hematomas

# Diagnosis of DIC

- Obvious with massive hemorrhage
- Lab tests
  - CBC, Plts
  - Fibrinogen, FDP's
  - PT, aPTT
  - D Dimer
- Rotem

# Risk Factors for PPH

## Maternal Hx

- High parity
- History of PPH
- Previous uterine surgery

## Labor Factors

- Chorioamnionitis
- Rapid or prolonged labor
- Augmented labor
- Preeclampsia
- Prolonged third stage

## Pregnancy Factors

- Uterine overdistension
  - Macrosomia
  - Polyhydramnios
  - Multiple gestation

## – Placental abnormality

- Previa
- Accreta
- Abruption



# RISK ASSESSMENT

LOW

MEDIUM

HIGH

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| No previous uterine incision   | History of previous PPH  | Placenta previa/Low lying placenta   |
| No known bleeding disorder   | Prior cesarean birth(s) or uterine surgery   | Suspected placenta accreta   |
| No history of PPH  | Multiple gestation   | Active bleeding (greater than show) on admission   |
| ≤ 4 previous vaginal births  | Large uterine fibroids   | Hematocrit < 30  |
| Singleton pregnancy  | Chorioamnionitis   | Known coagulopathy   |
|  | Magnesium sulfate  | Active anticoagulation therapy   |
|  | Preeclampsia   | Platelets <100,00  |
|  | Rapid or prolonged labor   | EBL on admission >1500   |
|  | Antibody positive on prenatal type & screen  | Other factors designated by physician  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verify Type & Screen on prenatal record<br><input type="checkbox"/> Send HOLD CLOT on admission<br><input type="checkbox"/> Order T&S if not on available on record | <input type="checkbox"/> Order Type & Screen on admission<br><input type="checkbox"/> Review hemorrhage protocol | <input type="checkbox"/> Order Type & Crossmatch X 2 unit on admission<br><input type="checkbox"/> Review hemorrhage protocol<br><input type="checkbox"/> Notify anesthesia and blood bank of patient risk |



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals

# CMQCC Toolkit Version 2.0

## *OB Hemorrhage Emergency Management*

### **Stage 2 – Continued bleeding $\leq 1,500\text{ml}$**

#### **Meds/ Procedures**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> IV access 18 gauge

#### **Blood Bank**

- Send additional Labs
- DIC Panel



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals

# CMQCC Toolkit Version 2.0

## *OB Hemorrhage Emergency Management*

**Stage 3 – Blood loss >1,500ml or 2 units PRBC's  
or unstable VS or suspicion of DIC**

### Meds/ Procedures

- Activate MTP

### Blood Bank

- Transfuse aggressively
- Near 1:1 PRBC to FFP
- 1 PLT apheresis pack  
(per 4-6 units PRBC's)





UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals

# Clinical Signs of Hypovolemia

*CMQCC OB Hemorrhage Emergency Management*

## Cumulative blood loss of 500 -999 mL

- Should trigger increased supervision and intervention

### Amount of Blood Loss

- 1000 mL
- 1500 mL
- 2000 mL
- $\geq$  2500 mL

### Clinical Signs

- Slight BP  $\Delta$ , HR, RR UO normal
- Narrow PP, HR  $>100$ , diaphoretic
- $\downarrow$  BP, Narrow PP, HR  $> 120$ , pale cool, restlessness
- Profound Hypotension, HR  $>140$ , RR  $> 40$ ,  $\downarrow$  UO, anuria

# Where do we go from here?

- Immediate post-op plan
  - Ongoing maternal assessment
  - Treat anemia
    - IV Iron Sucrose
  - Care of newborn
- Long term patient follow-up
  - Negative impact on patient
    - **Hemorrhage during childbirth**
    - **Unexpected hysterectomy**
    - **Near death experience**



Photo courtesy of UCSF, Circa:1906.

# Postpartum Care and Patient Satisfaction after Hemorrhage

- Australian study: 206 women primary PPH >1500 ml
  - Written questionnaire 1<sup>st</sup> week and 2 and 4 months
  - Four Themes:
    1. Adequacy of care
    2. Emotional response
    3. Future Implications
    4. Concern for the baby
- Findings suggest pay particular attention to informational and emotional needs of women who experience significant PPH

# Meghan's Case Study

# Case Presentation

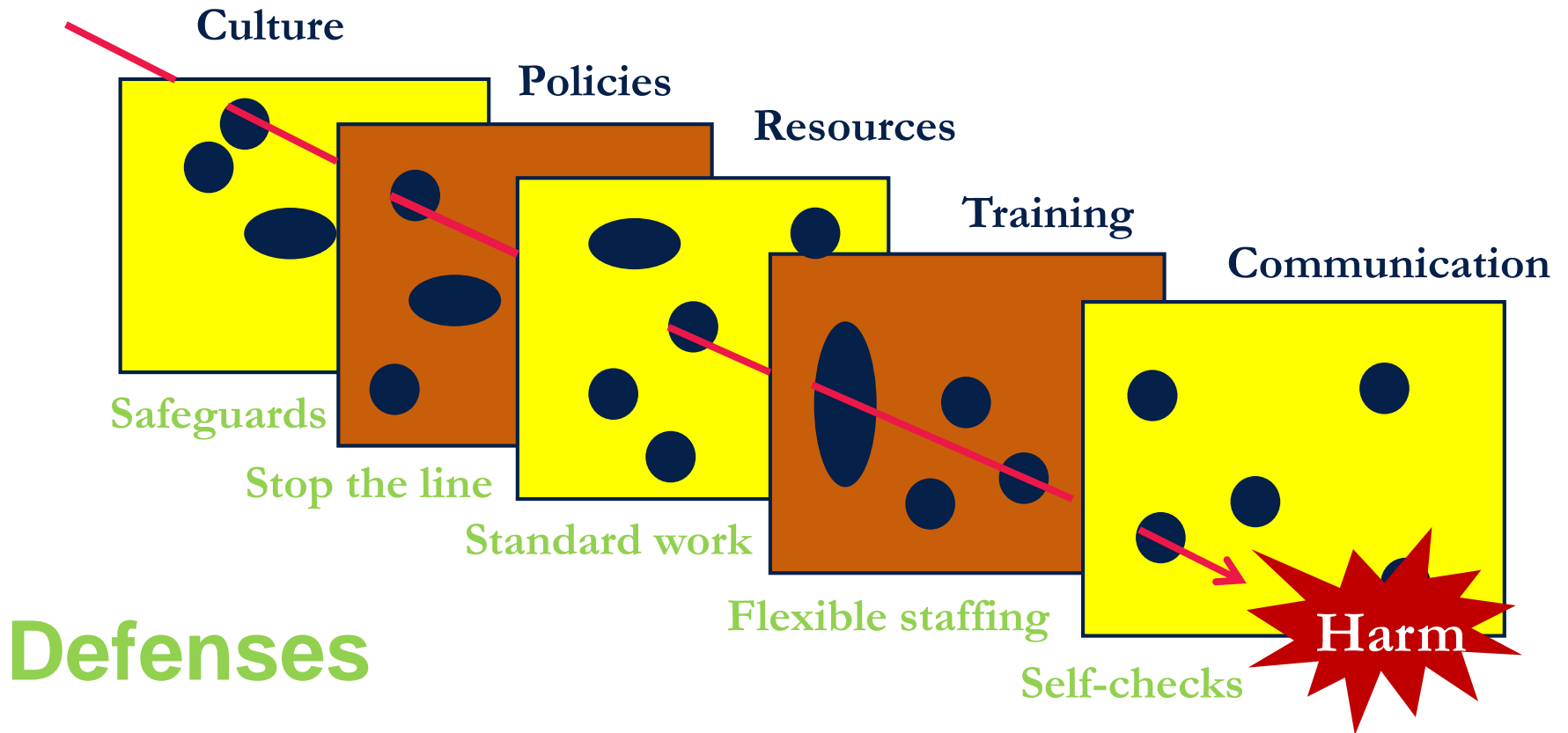
- 33 yo G5 P0 admitted at 36 +2 weeks admitted for IOL
  - Hx Hypothyroidism, Severe Hyperemesis
  - IUGR – severe (1% ile)
    - Reactive NST / Baseline 145 - FHR: Cat I Tracing
    - Normal AFI
    - normal Doppler flow
  - Admission VS: 98.5F, 117, 20, 117/78
  - SVE: 1cm/60%/-3/soft /posterior
  - UC's 4-9 minutes – patient describes as “tightening's” pain + 0/10
  - IV started
  - Cervidil placed

C D



# How Errors Occur

## Failures



# HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

- 1926 AFE is identified by Meyer in a Spanish medical journal
- 1941 Described in detail by Steiner and Lushbaugh, as AFS
- 1979 272 cases reported by Morgan weakened uterine stimulation theory
- 1988 Clark at University of Utah SOM created a national registry
- 1995 Clark describes anaphylactoid syndrome of pregnancy



# INCIDENCE and FINDINGS

- AFE accounts for 10% of US maternal deaths
- Occurs 1/20,000 deliveries
- US reported a mortality rate of 60%
  - 15% of patient's survive neurologically intact
- Neonatal survival rate 79%
  - Only 50% of these infants survive w/o neurological impairment
- Can occur up to 48 hours postpartum

# PATHOGENESIS

- Breech in the maternal fetal barrier
- Amniotic fluid enters maternal circulation
- Fetal squames and trophoblasts initiate a pathophysiological cascade similar to anaphylaxis and sepsis

Fetal surface

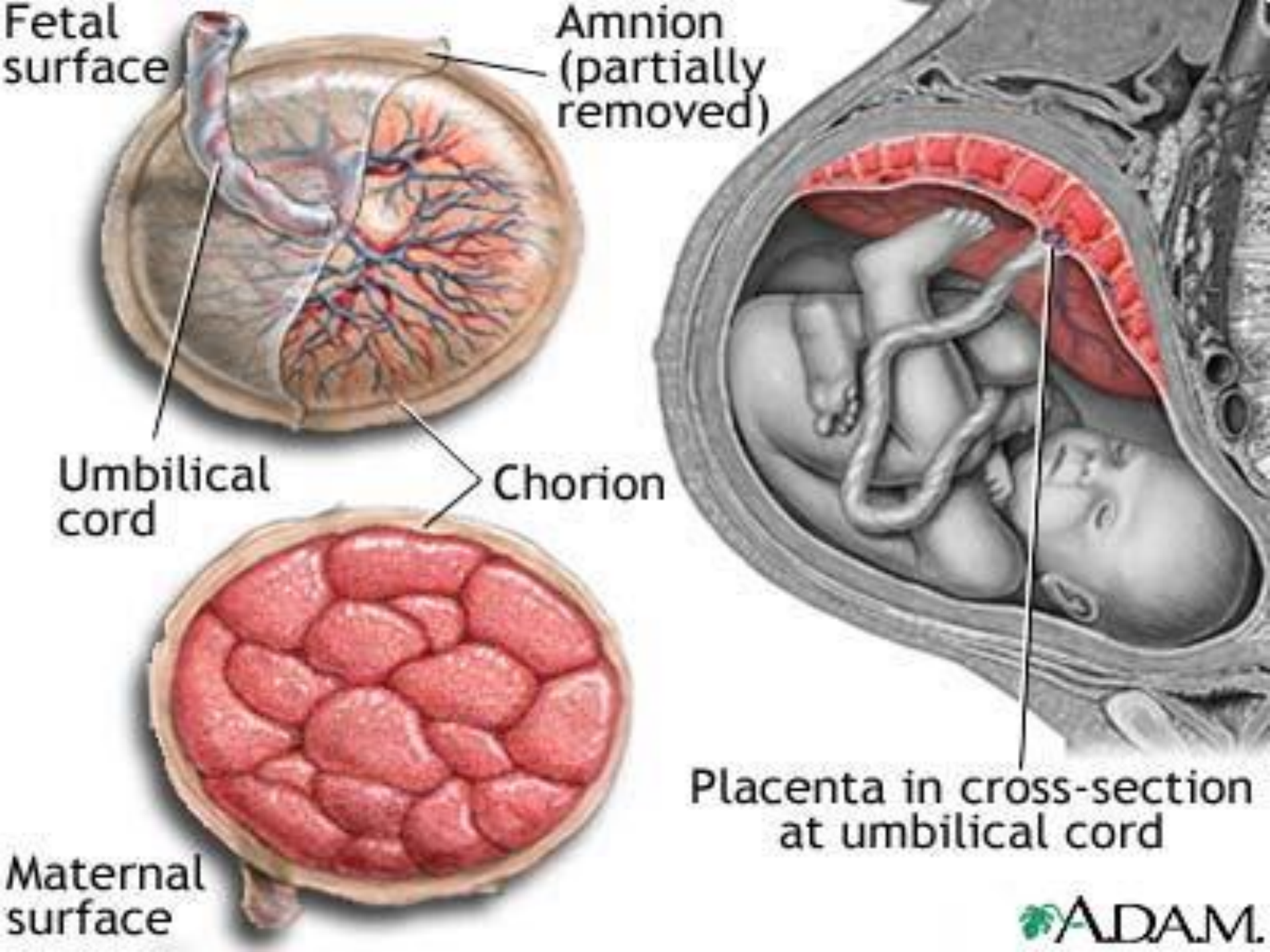
Amnion (partially removed)

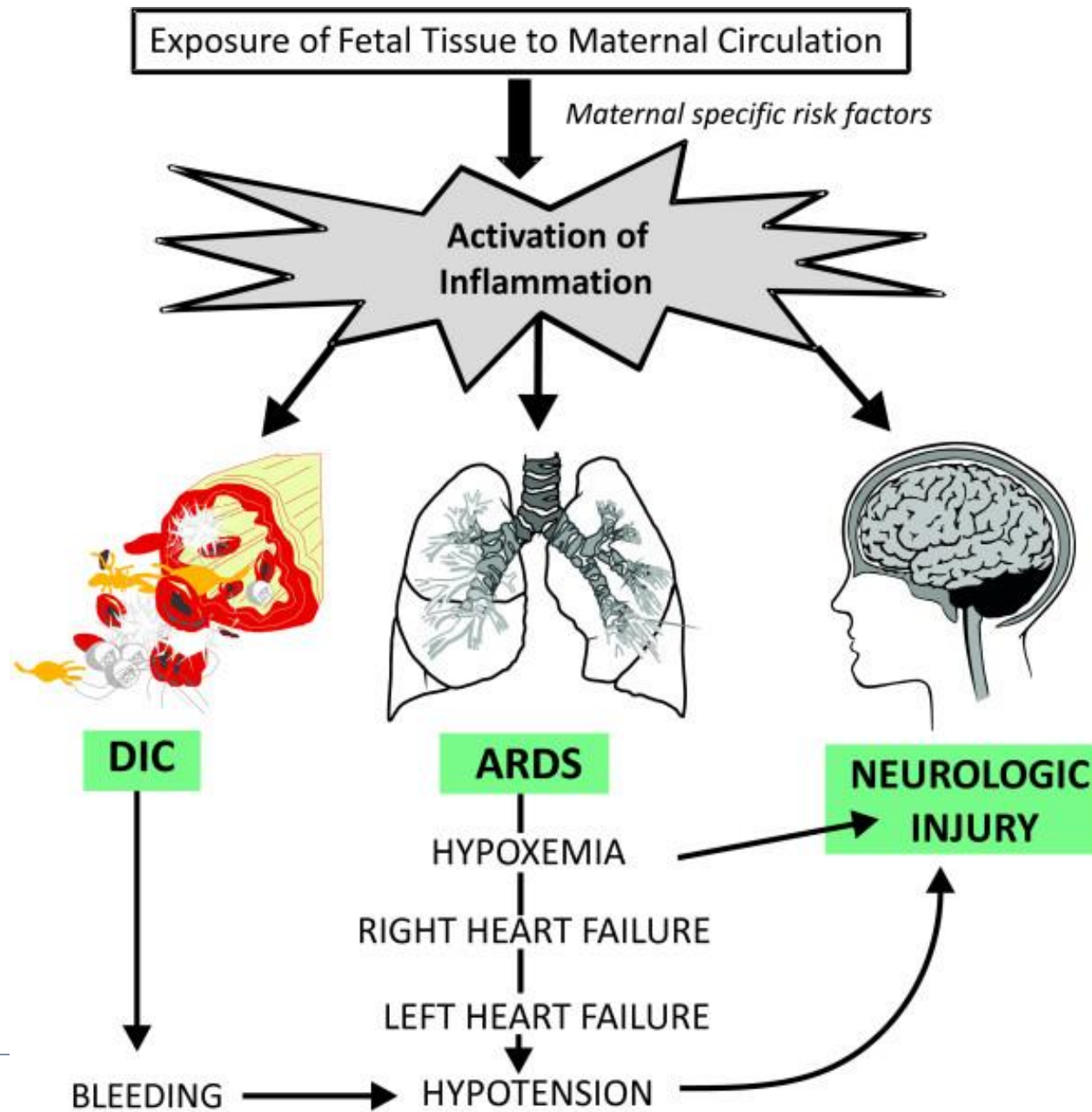
Umbilical cord

Chorion

Maternal surface

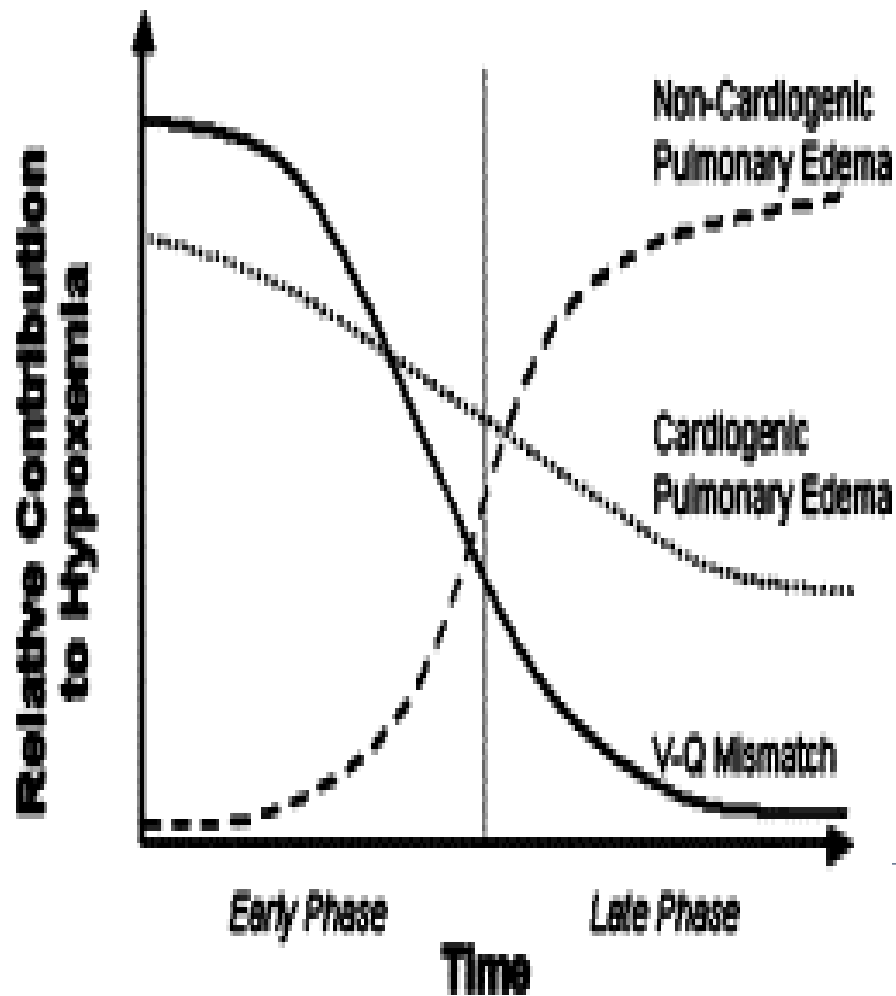
Placenta in cross-section at umbilical cord



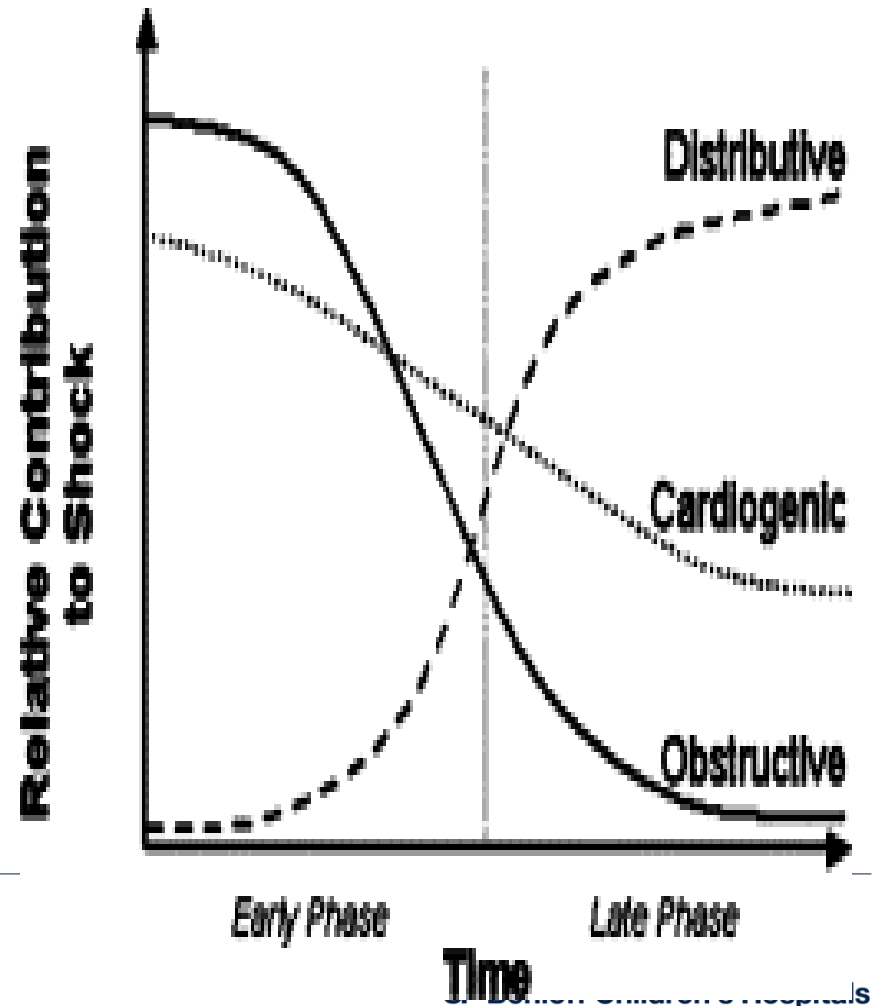


# Primary and Secondary Phases of AFE

## Hypoxemia



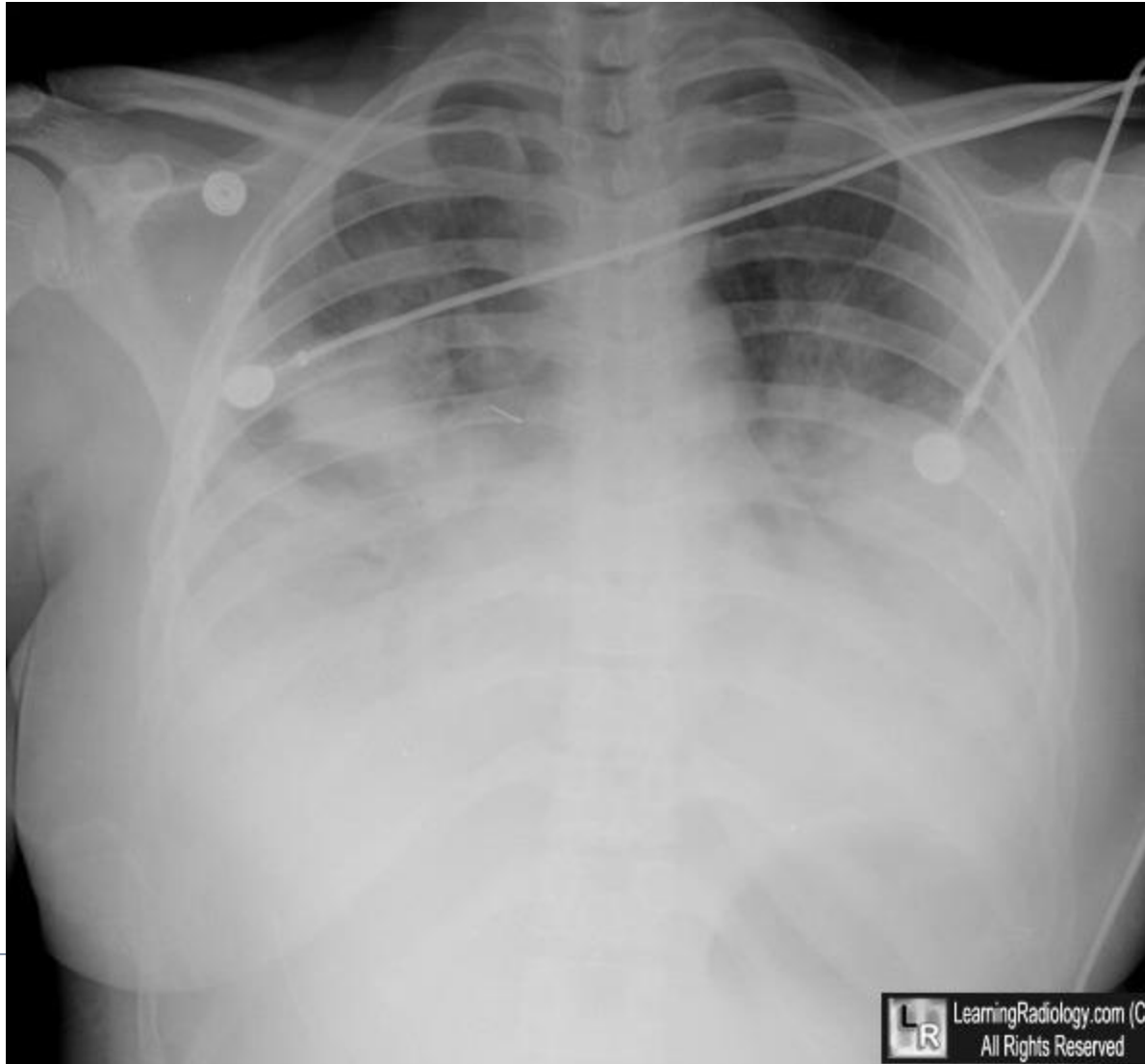
## Shock



# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Pulmonary thromboembolism
- Air embolism
- **Hemorrhage**
- Aspiration of gastric contents
- Anesthetic complications
- **Anaphalaxis**
- Sepsis/systemic inflammatory syndrome
- Myocardial Infarction
- Cardiomyopathy
- **Eclampsia**
- Transfusion Reaction

# Chest radiographs usually show pulmonary edema



# Initial Management of AFE

- Optimize hemodynamic function
- Improve cardiac output
- Optimize preload - IV fluids wide open
- Administer high concentration oxygen (100%)
- If respirations are absent: BMV or intubate
- Improve oxygenation
- Transfuse PRBC's – more hemoglobin
- Reverse coagulopathy
- Transfuse blood components:
- Fresh or liquid plasma, Platelets, clotting factors



# Initial Management of AFE

- Prompt Diagnosis – requires collaboration
- Prompt Resuscitation restore equilibrium

## Maintain:

- ✓ Systolic BP > 90
  - ✓ Arterial pO<sub>2</sub> > 60 mm Hg
  - ✓ SaO<sub>2</sub> > 95%
  - ✓ Urine output > 25 ml/hr
- Postmortem cesarean delivery - 5 min
  - Re-establishing uterine tone
  - Implement Massive Transfusion Protocol
  - Crisis intervention for the family



# Links to Stephanie Arnold videos

Watch in order below:

▪ Book Trailer:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgUux2u30ms>

▪ Regression Footage: WARNING: Graphic Video)

- <http://stephaniarnold.net/intuition-general/>

▪ Press Video for book:

- <https://vimeo.com/156957431>
- Password: Afterlife37SA

# Case Presentation:

42 y.o. G3 P1, two days after emergency cesarean for fetal intolerance to labor

- On your initial assessment in the morning:
  - Afebrile, vital signs stable, lungs are clear
  - Dressing dry and intact, bowel sounds in four quadrants
  - Fundus firm midline and below umbilicus
  - Lochia normal

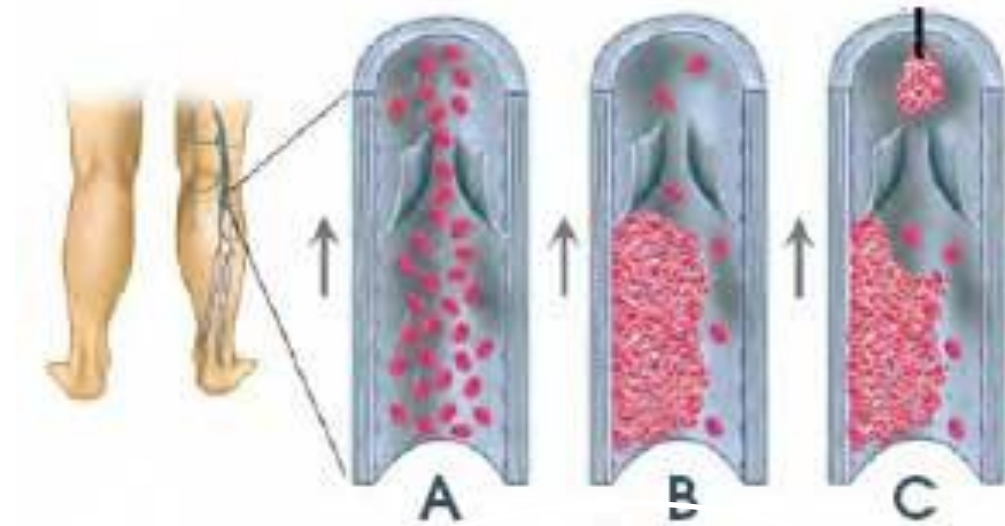
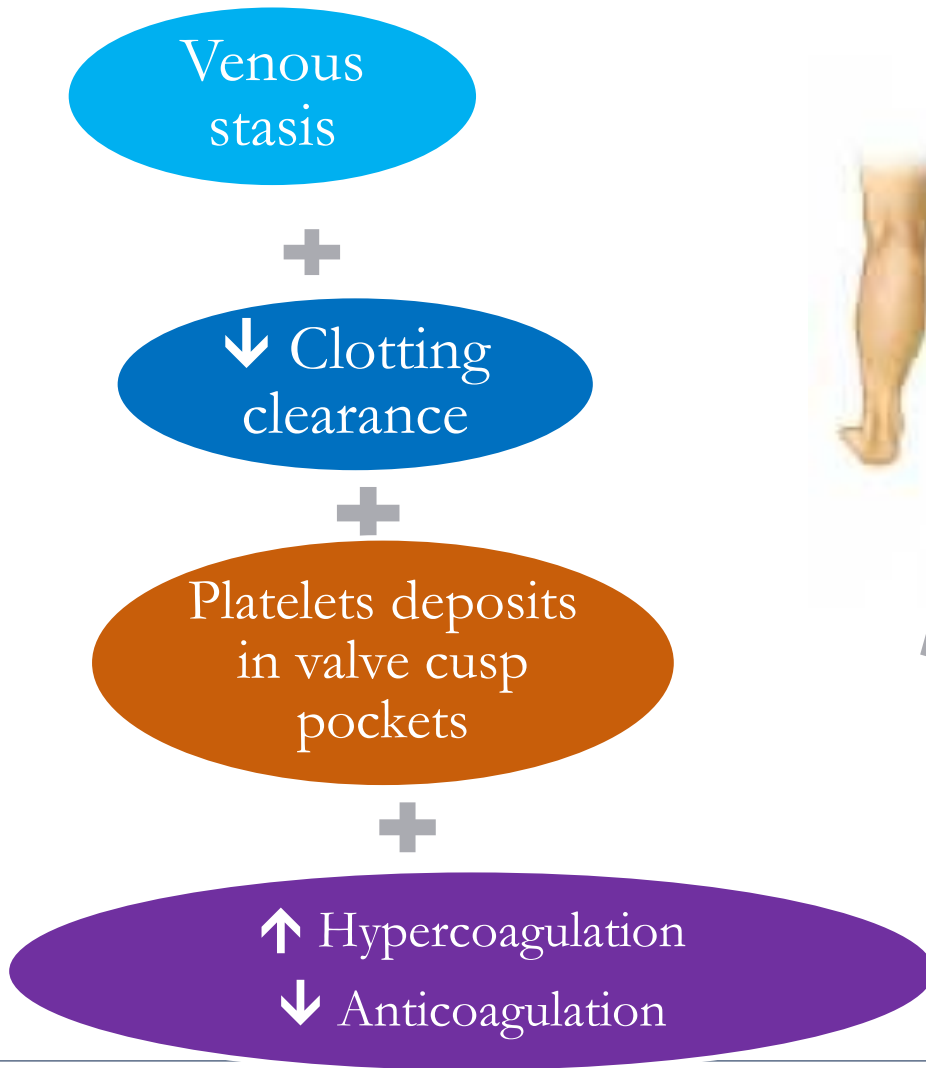
# Case Presentation:

## Venous Thromboembolism

You take out her IV and help her get up to take a shower  
As she returns from the bathroom she says her leg hurts  
On exam you note redness in one leg.

- What do you think?
- What do you do next?

# Deep Vein Thrombosis Formation



A. Normal Blood Flow

B. Deep Vein Thrombosis

C. Embolus

# The Nurse Detective





## READINESS

### Every Unit

- Use a standardized thromboembolism risk assessment tool for VTE during:
  - Outpatient prenatal care
  - Antepartum hospitalization
  - Hospitalization after cesarean or vaginal deliveries
  - Postpartum period (up to 6 weeks after delivery)

## RECOGNITION & PREVENTION

### Every Patient

- Apply standardized tool to all patients to assess VTE risk at time points designated under "Readiness"
- Apply standardized tool to identify appropriate patients for thromboprophylaxis
- Provide patient education
- Provide all healthcare providers education regarding risk assessment tools and recommended thromboprophylaxis

## RESPONSE

### Every Unit

- Use standardized recommendations for mechanical thromboprophylaxis
- Use standardized recommendations for dosing of prophylactic and therapeutic pharmacologic anticoagulation
- Use standardized recommendations for appropriate timing of pharmacologic prophylaxis with neuraxial anesthesia

## REPORTING/SYSTEMS LEARNING

### Every Unit

- Review all thromboembolism events for systems issues and compliance with protocols
- Monitor process metrics and outcomes in a standardized fashion
- Assess for complications of pharmacologic thromboprophylaxis

Standardization of health care processes and reduced variation has been shown to improve outcomes and quality of care. The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care disseminates patient safety bundles to help facilitate the standardization process. This bundle reflects emerging clinical, scientific, and patient safety advances as of the date issued and is subject to change. The information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed. Although the components of a particular bundle may be adapted to local resources, standardization within an institution is strongly encouraged.

The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care is a broad consortium of organizations across the spectrum of women's health for the promotion of safe health care for every woman.

For more information visit the Council's website at [www.safehealthcareforeverywoman.org](http://www.safehealthcareforeverywoman.org)

# PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Maternal Venous Thromboembolism Prevention

October 2015

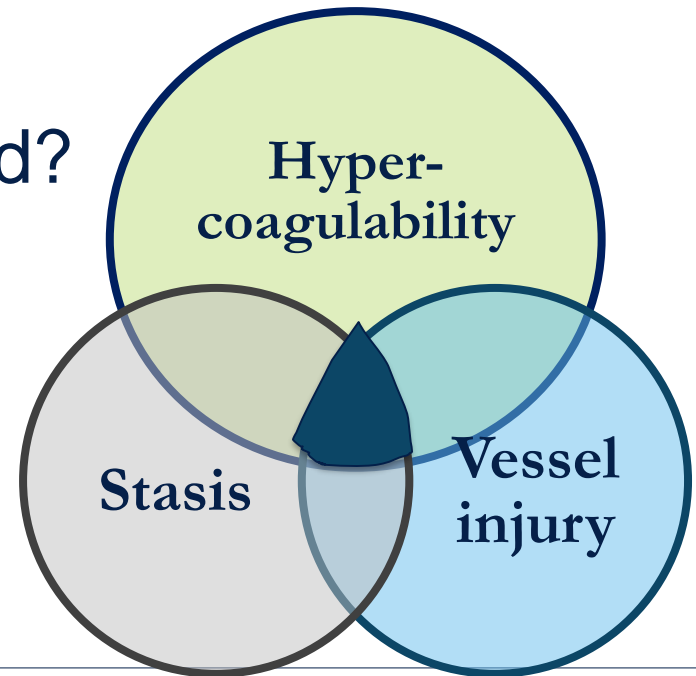


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# Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)

- Pregnancy predisposes to DVT due to:
  - Venous stasis from enlarge uterus compression, and decreased vascular tone
  - Hypercoagulability
  - Remember Virchow's triad?
    - Hypercoagulability
    - Stasis of blood flow
    - Endothelial injury



# Risk Factors for DVT

| Maternal       | Pregnancy                        | Labor          |
|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Obesity        | Multiparity                      | Cesarean Birth |
| Smoking        | Preeclampsia                     | PPH Blood      |
| Hx of VTE      | Physiologic changes of Pregnancy | Infection      |
| Diabetes       |                                  | Immobilization |
| Age > 35 years |                                  |                |

# AWHONN Post Birth Warning Signs VTE Parent Education



- What is VTE?
  - VTE is when you develop a blood clot usually in your leg (calf area)
- Signs of VTE
  - Leg pain, tender to touch, burning or redness, particularly in calf area
- Getting Help
  - Call healthcare provider immediately for signs of VTE if no response call 911 or go to nearest hospital emergency department

<http://www.awhonn.org/?page=POSTBIRTH>

# VTE: Key Summary Points

- All patients require VTE **risk assessment at multiple time points** in pregnancy and postpartum
- All patients undergoing cesarean delivery require mechanical prophylaxis, early ambulation, and adequate hydration
- Women with additional risk factors for VTE after delivery may benefit from pharmacologic prophylaxis
- Empiric pharmacologic prophylaxis is a reasonable option for:
  - All women undergoing cesarean delivery
  - All antepartum patients hospitalized >72 hours

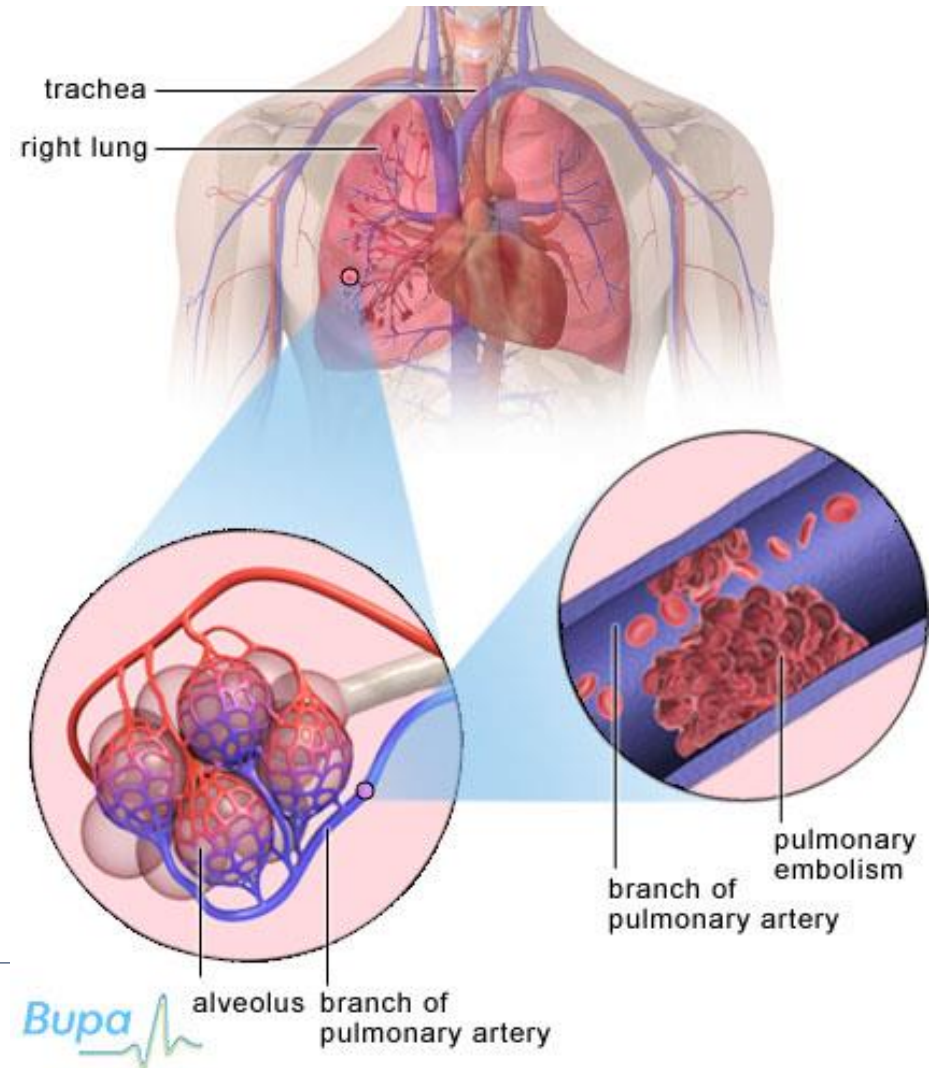
\_\_\_\_ D'Alton, M. E., et.al.(2016). National Partnership for Maternal Safety: Consensus bundle on venous thromboembolism. *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing*, 45, 706–717. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jogn.2016.07.001>. \_\_\_\_\_

# Pulmonary Embolism

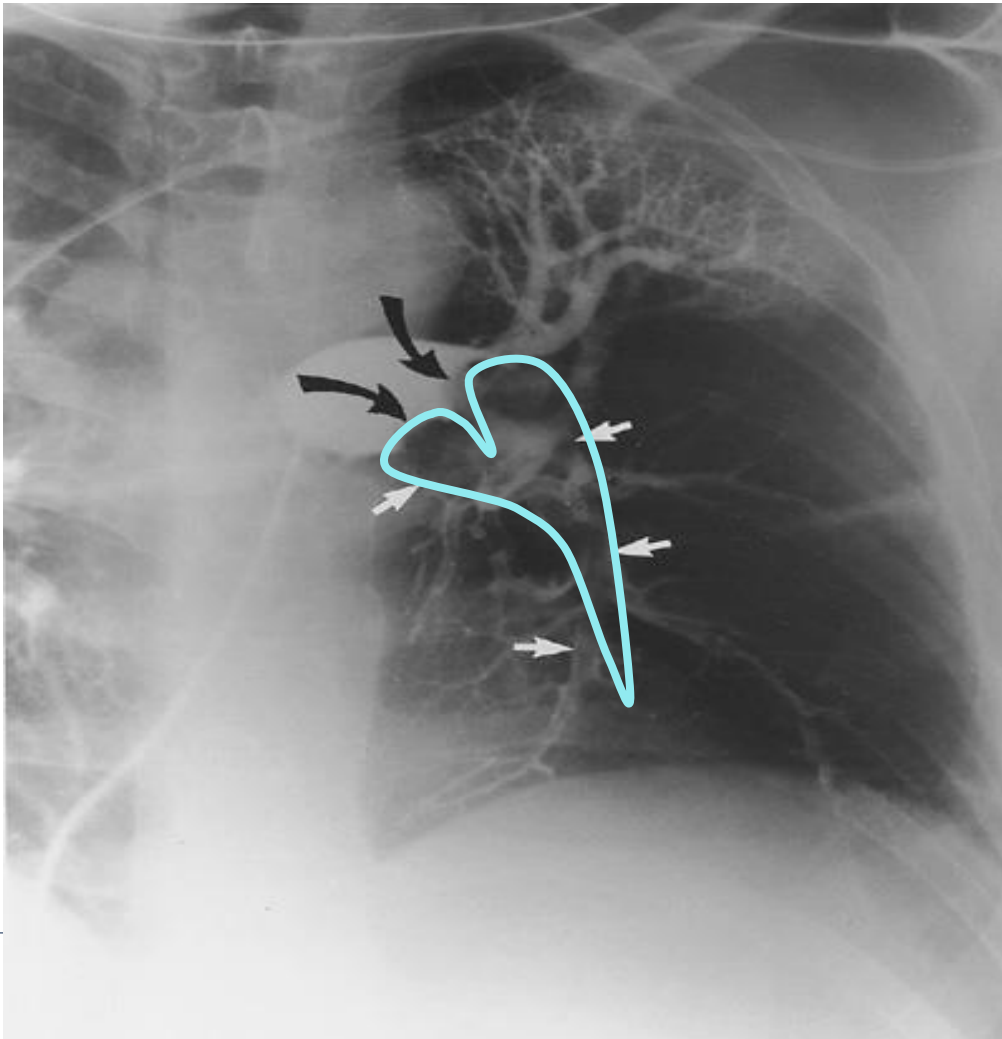
- Classic Triad (25%)
  - Dyspnea
  - Pleuritic Chest Pain
  - Hemoptysis
- May Display Hypoxia

## Diagnostics

- Blood Gas Studies
- VQ Scan
- CT
- Pulmonary Angiography



# Pulmonary Arteriogram



- Black arrows
  - The meniscus of contrast outlines the trailing edge of the thrombus
- White arrows
  - A rim of contrast around the body of the thrombus

# Nursing Care: Pulmonary Embolism

- Elevate HOB
- Administer Oxygen 10L/min nonrebreather mask
- O2 Sat Monitor
- Rapid Response Team
- Heparin
- Dopamine
- Morphine
- ICU Transfer



# Heparin “*High Alert*”

- Maintain therapeutic Heparin level
  - (aPTT >1.5 -2.5)
- Protocol provides management guidelines
- Continue for 5 days postpartum
  - Clinical improvement
- Begin oral anticoagulant therapy
  - Warfarin





# CVD Case Presentation

- 25 year old obese (BMI 38) African-American G2P2 presents 10 days after an uncomplicated vaginal delivery with fatigue and persistent cough since delivery.
- BP 110/80, HR 110, RR 28, afebrile, with O2 sat 94% on room air.
- She gets diagnosed with respiratory infection and is prescribed an antibiotic. Fatigue is attributed to lack of sleep.

## CVD Case Presentation (*CONTINUED*)

- One week later, she presents again with continued symptoms. Antibiotics are switched and beta-agonists are added for presumptive “new-onset asthma.”
- Two days later, the patient experiences cardiac arrest at home and resuscitation attempts are unsuccessful.
- Autopsy findings were indicative of cardiomyopathy.

A California Toolkit to Transform Maternity Care

Improving Health Care Response to  
Cardiovascular Disease in Pregnancy:  
A California Quality Improvement Toolkit

THIS COLLABORATIVE PROJECT WAS DEVELOPED BY:  
THE CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE IN PREGNANCY TASK FORCE

CALIFORNIA MATERNAL QUALITY CARE COLLABORATIVE  
MATERNAL, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH DIVISION; CENTER FOR FAMILY HEALTH  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**CMQCC**  
California Maternal  
Quality Care Collaborative



# For More Information and to Download the Toolkit

- Visit
- [www.cmqcc.org](http://www.cmqcc.org)
- <https://www.cdph.ca.gov>
- Contact:  
[info@cmqcc.org](mailto:info@cmqcc.org)

# Rationale for Toolkit

## Cardiovascular Disease is

- the leading cause of maternal mortality in CA and U.S.
  - under-recognized in pregnant or postpartum women
  - higher among African-American women
- 
- 25% of deaths attributed to cardiovascular disease may have been prevented if the woman's heart disease had been diagnosed earlier.
  - Pregnancy is a period of frequent interaction with health care providers and offers an opportunity to detect and treat heart disease, improve pregnancy outcomes, and affect future cardiovascular health.

# CVD Toolkit Goals

Given that CVD is the leading cause of maternal mortality & morbidity in California, the Toolkit aims to:

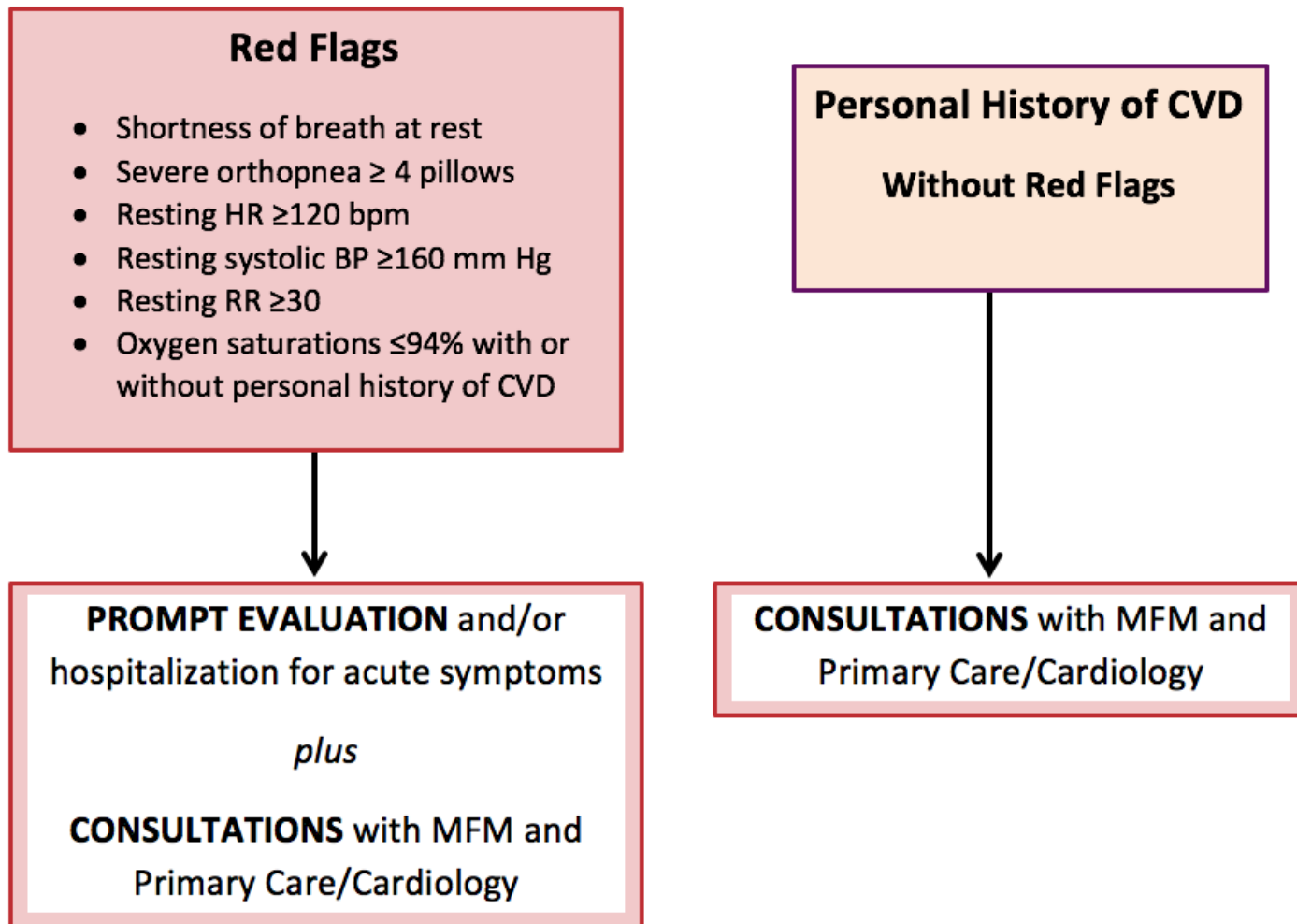
- Encourage obstetric and other healthcare providers to retain a high index of suspicion for CVD, particularly among women with risk factors who present with symptoms in late pregnancy or early postpartum period
- To serve as resource for generalists who provide maternity care to women, with special emphasis on
  - Prenatal visits
  - Postpartum encounters

# Rationale for Toolkit

## Cardiovascular Disease is

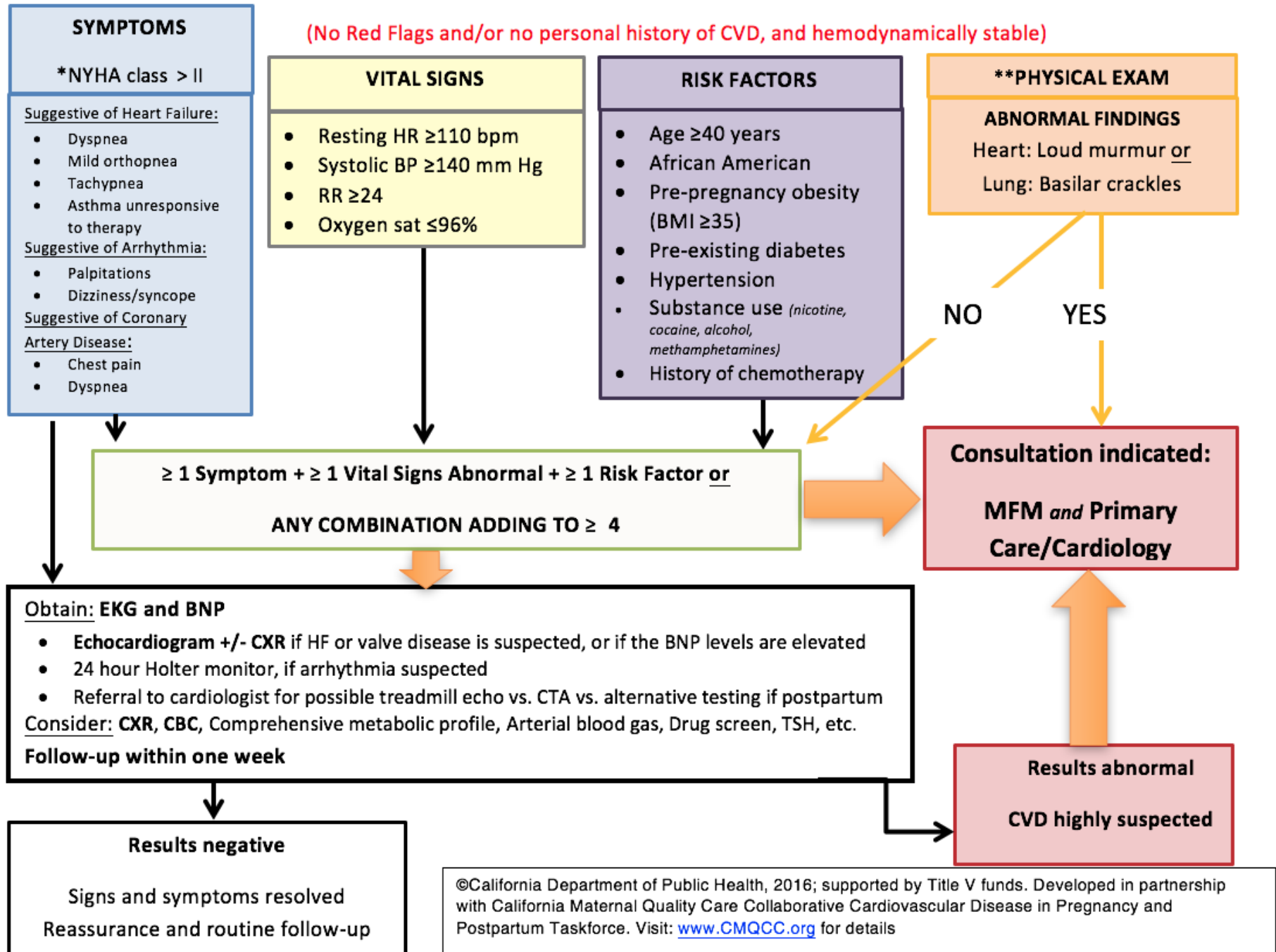
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- 
- 25% of deaths attributed to cardiovascular disease may have been prevented if the woman's heart disease had been diagnosed earlier.
  - Pregnancy is a period of frequent interaction with health care providers and offers an opportunity to detect and treat heart disease, improve pregnancy outcomes, and affect future cardiovascular health.

# CVD Assessment Algorithm For Pregnant and Postpartum Women



# CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE ASSESSMENT IN PREGNANT and POSTPARTUM WOMEN

(No Red Flags and/or no personal history of CVD, and hemodynamically stable)

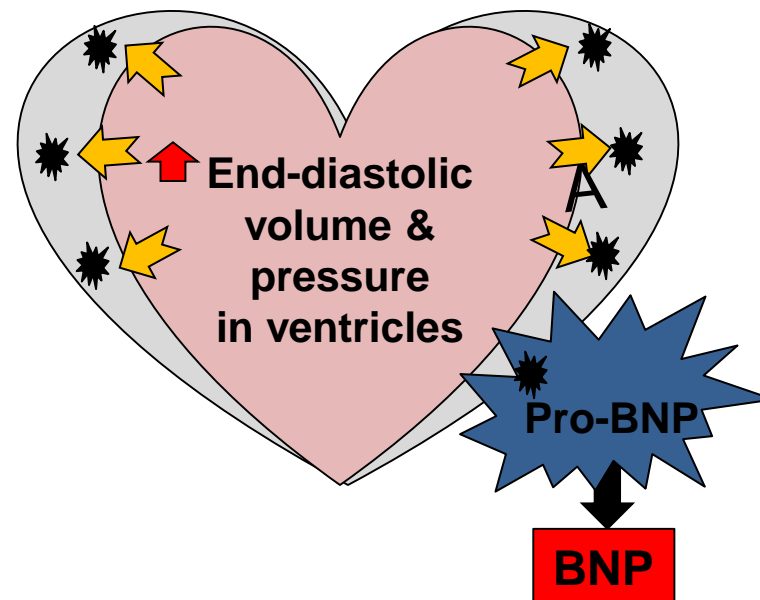


©California Department of Public Health, 2016; supported by Title V funds. Developed in partnership with California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative Cardiovascular Disease in Pregnancy and Postpartum Taskforce. Visit: [www.CMQCC.org](http://www.CMQCC.org) for details



# B Type Natriuretic Peptide (BNP)

Neurohormone secreted by the cardiac ventricles in response to ventricular volume expansion and pressure overload



Relaxes vascular smooth muscle

Inhibits renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system

Increases natriuresis and diuresis

# Clinical Uses of BNP in Pregnancy

- Diagnosis of heart failure
  - In pregnant women with dilated CMP, higher BNP predicts adverse cardiovascular outcomes
- Asymptomatic left ventricular function
  - Useful to evaluate shortness of breath
- Predictor of cardiovascular outcome
  - In pregnant women with congenital heart disease, higher BNP levels are associated with poor outcomes

- Blatt A, Svirski R, Morawsky G, et al. Short and long-term outcome of pregnant women with preexisting dilated cardiomyopathy: An NTproBNP and echocardiography-guided study. *The Israel Medical Association journal : IMAJ*. Oct 2010;12(10):613-616.
- Tanous D, Siu SC, Mason J, et al. B-type natriuretic peptide in pregnant women with heart disease. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. Oct 5 2010;56(15):1247-1253.
- Kansal M, Hibbard JU, Briller J. Diastolic function in pregnant patients with cardiac symptoms. *Hypertens Pregnancy*. 2012;31(3):367-374.

# Key Clinical Pearls

- First presentation of cardiovascular disease may be during pregnancy or early postpartum.
- The highest risk period for CVD worsening is between 24-28 weeks or postpartum.
- CVD symptoms or vital sign abnormalities should not be ignored in pregnant/postpartum women.
- New onset or persistent asthma may be a sign of heart failure.
- Bilateral infiltrates on chest x-ray may be due to heart failure rather than pneumonia.

## Key Clinical Pearls (continued)

- Pregnancy or postpartum women with significant risk factors should be counseled regarding future CVD risk.
- Women with known CVD should receive pre- & inter-conception counseling by an experienced perinatologist and cardiologist.
- Contraception choices should be tailored to the individual.
- Provider and patient education is essential.
- High index of suspicion, early diagnosis, appropriate referrals and follow up are the key elements to a successful outcome.

# Postpartum Presentations to the ED, PCP or OB Provider

When a woman presents in the postpartum period with complaints of shortness of breath, ask if she has experienced:

- Worsened level of exercise tolerance
- Difficulty performing activities of daily living; Unexpected fatigue
- Symptoms that are deteriorating, especially chest pain, palpitations, or dizziness
- New onset of cough or wheezing
- Leg edema and if it is improving or deteriorating
- Inability to lay flat; if this is a change; how many pillows she uses to sleep
- Failure to lose weight or unusual weight gain, and how much
- A history of cardiac or pulmonary conditions
- A history of substance abuse and/or cigarette use
- Or has been seen by other providers or in other Emergency Departments since giving birth.

# Postpartum Presentations to the ED, PCP or OB Provider

## Key Points (1)

- Symptoms related to physiologic changes of pregnancy should be improving in the postpartum period.
- Any visits to Emergency Department for dyspnea should raise suspicion for cardiovascular disease.
- Women of childbearing age should be questioned about recent pregnancies, in addition to their last menstrual period (LMP).
- Postpartum dyspnea or new onset cough is concerning for cardiovascular disease.

# Postpartum Presentations to the ED, PCP or OB Provider

## Key Points (2)

- New onset asthma is rare in adults.
- Bilateral crackles on lung examination are most likely associated with Congestive Heart Failure (CHF).
- Improvement of dyspnea with bronchodilators does not confirm the diagnosis of asthma, as CHF may also improve with bronchodilators. Likewise, a lack of response to bronchodilators should prompt the entertainment of a diagnosis other than asthma.

# Racial Disparities in CVD

## Clinical Implications

- **Listen to women.** Take patient complaints seriously, and maintain a high index of suspicion for CVD especially in ALL African-American women.
- Any co-morbidity should further heighten the clinical index of suspicion.
- African-American women with chronic or gestational hypertension, high BMI (>35) who present with symptoms suggestive of CVD or vital signs indicated in the CVD Assessment Algorithm should be evaluated carefully and thoroughly for potential CVD.



# Guide to Contraception Information for Women with Cardiovascular Disease

Patients with cardiovascular disease including hypertension, congenital heart defects, arrhythmia and heart failure should be educated about contraceptive choices to improve overall health and prevent unwanted pregnancy.

- **Non-hormonal methods** are the preferred contraception in patients with cardiovascular disease, given the minimal risk of thromboembolism with their use.
- **Hormonal methods** containing estrogen products and depot medroxy-progesterone acetate injection should be used with caution in patients who have multiple risk factors or a history of cardiovascular disease.

# Lifetime Risks of Heart Disease After Pregnancy Complications

- Pregnancy complications increase heart disease (CVD) risk:
  - Gestational hypertension, preeclampsia and HELLP syndrome
  - Gestational diabetes
  - Preterm birth.
- Women are often unaware of their CVD risk but are enthusiastic to learn more.
- Hypertension and diabetes in pregnancy = wake-up call for women and families.
- Future CVD risk can be reduced by 4-13% with healthy lifestyle changes.



## FROM BIRTH TO THE COMPREHENSIVE POSTPARTUM VISIT

### READINESS

#### *Every woman*

- Engages with her provider during prenatal care to develop a comprehensive personalized postpartum care plan that includes designation of a postpartum medical home, where the woman can access care and support during the period between birth and the comprehensive postpartum visit.
- Receives woman-centered counseling and anticipatory guidance regarding medical recommendations for breastfeeding in order to make an informed feeding decision.
- Receives woman-centered counseling regarding medical recommendations for birth spacing and the range of available contraceptive options.
- Identifies a postpartum care team, inclusive of friends and family, to provide medical, material, and social support in the weeks following birth.

#### *Every provider*

- Ensures that each woman has a documented postpartum care plan and care team identified in the prenatal period.
- Develops and maintains a working knowledge of evidence-based evaluation and management strategies of common issues facing the mother-infant dyad.

#### *Every clinical setting*

- Develops and optimizes models of woman-centered postpartum care and education, utilizing adult-learning principles when possible and embracing the diversity of family structures, cultural traditions, and parenting practices.
- Develops systems to connect families with community resources for medical follow up and social and material support.
- Optimizes counseling models, clinical protocols, and reimbursement options to enable timely access to desired contraception.
- Develops systems to ensure timely, relevant communication between inpatient and outpatient providers.
- Develops protocols for screening and treatment for postpartum concerns, including depression and substance abuse disorders, and establishes relationships with local specialists for co-management or referral.

## PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Postpartum Care Basics for Maternal Safety





## PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

### MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH: PERINATAL DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY

#### READINESS

##### *Every Clinical Care Setting*

- Identify mental health screening tools to be made available in every clinical setting (outpatient OB clinics and inpatient facilities).
- Establish a response protocol and identify screening tools for use based on local resources.
- Educate clinicians and office staff on use of the identified screening tools and response protocol.
- Identify an individual who is responsible for driving adoption of the identified screening tools and response protocol.

#### RECOGNITION & PREVENTION

##### *Every Woman*

- Obtain individual and family mental health history (including past and current medications) at intake, with review and update as needed.
- Conduct validated mental health screening during appropriately timed patient encounters, to include both during pregnancy and in the postpartum period.
- Provide appropriately timed perinatal depression and anxiety awareness education to women and family members or other support persons.

# Maternal Mental Health





## RESPONSE

### *Every Case*

- Initiate a stage-based response protocol for a positive mental health screen.
- Activate an emergency referral protocol for women with suicidal/homicidal ideation or psychosis.
- Provide appropriate and timely support for women, as well as family members and staff, as needed.
- Obtain follow-up from mental health providers on women referred for treatment. This should include the necessary release of information forms.

## REPORTING/SYSTEMS LEARNING

### *Every Clinical Care Setting*

- Establish a non-judgmental culture of safety through multidisciplinary mental health rounds.
- Perform a multidisciplinary review of adverse mental health outcomes.
- Establish local standards for recognition and response in order to measure compliance, understand individual performance, and track outcomes.

# PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Maternal Mental Health

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Standardization of health care processes and reduced variation has been shown to improve outcomes and quality of care. The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care disseminates patient safety bundles to help facilitate the standardization process. This bundle reflects emerging clinical, scientific, and patient safety advances as of the date issued and is subject to change. The information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed. Although the components of a particular bundle may be adapted to local resources, standardization within an institution is strongly encouraged.

The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care is a broad consortium of organizations across the spectrum of women's health for the promotion of safe health care for every woman.





## READINESS

### *Every patient/family*

- Provide education to promote understanding of opioid use disorder (OUD) as a chronic disease.
  - Emphasize that substance use disorders (SUDs) are chronic medical conditions, treatment is available, family and peer support is necessary and recovery is possible.
  - Emphasize that opioid pharmacotherapy (i.e. methadone, buprenorphine) and behavioral therapy are effective treatments for OUD.
- Provide education regarding neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) and newborn care.
  - Awareness of the signs and symptoms of NAS
  - Interventions to decrease NAS severity (e.g. breastfeeding, smoking cessation)
- Engage appropriate partners (i.e. social workers, case managers) to assist patients and families in the development of a "plan of safe care" for mom and baby.

### *Every clinical setting/health system*

- Provide staff-wide (clinical and non-clinical staff) education on SUDs.
  - Emphasize that SUDs are chronic medical conditions that can be treated.
  - Emphasize that stigma, bias and discrimination negatively impact pregnant women with OUD and their ability to receive high quality care.
  - Provide training regarding trauma-informed care.
- Establish specific prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum clinical pathways for women with OUD that incorporate care coordination among multiple providers.
- Develop pain control protocols that account for increased pain sensitivity and avoidance of mixed agonist-antagonist opioid analgesics.
- Know state reporting guidelines regarding the use of opioid pharmacotherapy and identification of illicit substance use during pregnancy.

## PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Obstetric Care for Women with Opioid Use Disorder





- Know federal (Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act - CAPTA), state and county reporting guidelines for substance-exposed infants.
  - Understand "Plan of Safe Care" requirements.
- Know state, legal and regulatory requirements for SUD care.
- Identify local SUD treatment facilities that provide women-centered care.
  - Ensure that OUD treatment programs meet patient and family resource needs (i.e. wrap-around services such as housing, child care, transportation and home visitation).
  - Ensure that drug and alcohol counseling and/or behavioral health services are provided.
- Investigate partnerships with other providers (i.e. social work, addiction treatment, behavioral health) and state public health agencies to assist in bundle implementation.

#### RECOGNITION & PREVENTION

##### *Every provider/clinical setting*

- Assess all pregnant women for SUDs.
  - Utilize validated screening tools to identify drug and alcohol use.
  - Incorporate a screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) approach in the maternity care setting.
  - Ensure screening for polysubstance use among women with OUD.
- Screen and evaluate all pregnant women with OUD for commonly occurring co-morbidities.
  - Ensure the ability to screen for infectious disease (e.g. HIV, Hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections (STIs)).
  - Ensure the ability to screen for psychiatric disorders, physical and sexual violence.
  - Provide resources and interventions for smoking cessation.
- Match treatment response to each woman's stage of recovery and/or readiness to change.

## PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Obstetric Care for Women with Opioid Use Disorder



## RESPONSE

*Every provider/clinical setting/health system*

- Ensure that all patients with OUD are enrolled in a woman-centered OUD treatment program.
  - Establish communication with OUD treatment providers and obtain consents for sharing patient information.
  - Assist in linking to local resources (e.g. peer navigator programs, narcotics anonymous (NA), support groups) that support recovery.
- Incorporate family planning, breastfeeding, pain management and infant care counseling, education and resources into prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum clinical pathways.
  - Provide breastfeeding and lactation support for all postpartum women on pharmacotherapy.
  - Provide immediate postpartum contraceptive options (e.g. long acting reversible contraception (LARC)) prior to hospital discharge.
- Ensure coordination among providers during pregnancy, postpartum and the inter-conception period.
  - Provide referrals to providers (e.g. social workers, psychiatry, and infectious disease) for identified co-morbid conditions.
  - Identify a lead provider responsible for care coordination, specify the duration of coordination and assure a "warm handoff" with any change in the lead provider.
  - Develop a communication strategy to facilitate coordination among the obstetric provider, OUD treatment provider, health system clinical staff (i.e. inpatient maternity staff, social services) and child welfare services.
- Engage child welfare services in developing safe care protocols tailored to the patient and family's OUD treatment and resource needs.
  - Ensure priority access to quality home visiting services for families affected by SUDs.

## PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

# Obstetric Care for Women with Opioid Use Disorder







COUNCIL ON PATIENT SAFETY  
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE

safe health care for every woman

## REPORTING & SYSTEMS LEARNING

*Every clinical setting/health system*

- Develop mechanisms to collect data and monitor process and outcome metrics to ensure high quality healthcare delivery for women with SUDs.
  - Develop a data dashboard to monitor process and outcome measures (i.e. number of pregnant women in OUD treatment at specified intervals).
- Create multidisciplinary case review teams to evaluate patient, provider and system-level issues.
- Develop continuing education and learning opportunities for providers and staff regarding SUDs.
- Identify ways to connect non-medical local and community stakeholders with clinical providers and health systems to share outcomes and identify ways to improve systems of care.
  - Engage child welfare services, public health agencies, court systems and law enforcement to assist with data collection, identify existing problems and help drive initiatives.

PATIENT  
SAFETY  
BUNDLE

Obstetric Care for Women  
with Opioid Use Disorder

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For more information visit the Council's website at [www.safehealthcareforeverywoman.org](http://www.safehealthcareforeverywoman.org)

# SIRS Criteria Comparison

## Adult Screening Criteria

- Temp > 38°C (100.4°F) or < 36°C (96.8°F)
- *HR > 90 bpm*
- *Resp Rate > 20 breaths/minute*
- WBC >12,000, < 4,000 or >10% *immature neutrophils*
- Blood glucose > 140 mg/dl in the absence of diabetes
- *New mental status change*

## Perinatal Screening Criteria

- Temp > 38°C (100.4°F) or < 36°C (96.8°F)
- *HR > 110 bpm*
- *Resp Rate > 24 breaths/minute*
- *WBC > 15,000 or < 4,000 or > 10 % immature neutrophils*
- Blood glucose > 140 mg/dl in absence of diabetes
- *Mental status change*

# Summary

- There are various ways direct care nurses can get involved and improve care for pregnant women and newborns
- Nurses and are the front line providers of patient care and have an essential role in quality improvement
- Utilizing a patient safety bundle can be an effective way to improve care and patient outcomes
- Standardization is encouraged however it's up to YOU and your colleagues to meet the needs and goals of your organization

*Nurses are a valuable  
source of information  
and support for women  
and their families*



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals

*Thank You!*

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