



STAGE 1: OB Hemorrhage

Cumulative Blood Loss >500ml Vaginal Birth or >1000ml C/S with Continued Bleeding -OR- Vital Signs >15% Change or HR \geq 110, BP \approx 85/45, O2 Sat <95%
-OR- Increased Bleeding During Recovery or Postpartum

MOBILIZE

Primary Nurse, Physician or Midwife:

- Activate OB Hemorrhage Protocol and Checklist

Primary Nurse:

- Notify obstetrician or midwife (in-house and attending)
- Notify charge nurse
- Notify anesthesiologist

Charge Nurse:

- Assist primary nurse as needed or assign staff member(s) to help

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Initiate Patient and Family Support Checklist for OBH

ACT

Primary Nurse or Designee:

- Establish IV access if not present, at least 18 gauge
Increase IV Oxytocin rate, 500 mL/hour of 10-40 units/500-1000 mL solution;
Titrate infusion rate to uterine tone
- Apply vigorous fundal massage
- Administer Methergine 0.2 mg IM per protocol (if not hypertensive); give once, if no response, move to alternate agent; if good response, may give additional doses q 2 hr (If Misoprostol standard, misoprostol 800 mcg SL per protocol)
- Vital Signs, including O2 sat & level of consciousness (LOC) q 5 minutes
- Weigh materials, calculate and **record** cumulative blood loss q 5-15 minutes
- Administer oxygen to maintain O2 sats at >95%
- Empty bladder: straight cath or place Foley with urimeter
- Type and Crossmatch for 2 units Red Blood Cells STAT (if not already done)
- Keep patient warm

Physician or Midwife:

- Rule out retained Products of Conception, laceration, hematoma

Surgeon (if cesarean birth and still open)

- Inspect for uncontrolled bleeding at all levels, esp. broad ligament, posterior uterus, and retained placenta

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Introduce yourself and your role to the family
- Explain to the family what has happened; remain with the family during the event and describe what is happening
- If patient is stabilized, provide family your contact information in case they need further support

THINK

Consider Potential Etiology:

- Uterine Atony
- Trauma/Laceration
- Retained Placenta
- Amniotic Fluid Embolism
- Uterine Inversion
- Coagulopathy
- Placenta Accreta

Once Stabilized:

- Modified postpartum management with increased surveillance

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Be in touch with family at least every hour

If Continued Bleeding or Continued Vital Sign Instability and < 1500 mL Cumulative Blood Loss Proceed to STAGE 2



STAGE 2: OB Hemorrhage

Continued bleeding or Vital Sign instability, and < 1500 mL cumulative blood loss

MOBILIZE

Primary Nurse or Charge Nurse:

- Call obstetrician or midwife to bedside
- Call anesthesiologist
- Activate Response Team: PHONE #:

- Notify blood bank of hemorrhage; order products as directed

Charge Nurse:

- Notify perinatologist or 2nd OB
- Bring hemorrhage cart to the patient's location
- Initiate OB Hemorrhage Record
- If considering selective embolization, call-in Interventional Radiology Team and second anesthesiologist
- Notify nursing supervisor
- Assign single person to communicate with blood bank
- Assign second attending or clinical nurse specialist as family support person or call medical social work

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Continue to provide support as described in the Patient and Family Support Checklist for OBH

ACT

Team Leader (OB Physician or Midwife):

- Additional uterotonic medication: Hemabate 250 mcg IM [if not contraindicated] **OR** Misoprostol 800 mcg SL
 - Can repeat Hemabate up to 3 times q 20 min; note-75% respond to first dose
 - Continue IV oxytocin and provide additional IV crystalloid solution
- Do not delay other interventions (see right column) while waiting for response to medications**
- Bimanual uterine massage
 - Move to OR (if on postpartum unit, move to L&D or OR)
 - Order 2 units PRBCs and bring to the bedside
 - Order labs STAT (CBC/PLTS, Chem 12 panel, Coag Panel II, ABG)
 - Transfuse PRBCs based on clinical signs** and response, **do not wait for lab results; consider emergency O-negative transfusion**

Primary Nurse or Designee:

- Establish 2nd large bore IV, at least 18 gauge
- Assess and announce Vital Signs and cumulative blood loss q 5-10 minutes
- Set up blood administration set and blood warmer for transfusion
- Administer meds, blood products and draw labs, as ordered
- Keep patient warm

Second Nurse or Charge Nurse:

- Place Foley with urimeter (if not already done)
- Obtain portable light and OB procedure tray or hemorrhage cart
- Obtain blood products from the blood bank (or send designee)
- Assist with move to OR (if indicated)

Blood Bank:

- Determine availability of thawed plasma, fresh frozen plasma, and platelets initiate delivery of platelets if not present on-site
- Consider thawing 2-4 FFP (takes 30 min), use if transfusing > 2 units PRBCs
- Prepare for possibility of massive hemorrhage

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Remain with family during escalation of care; describe what is happening
- If patient is moved, explain why and offer to move family to new room away from where hemorrhage took place; explain that the purpose of maintaining soiled linens etc. is to enable accurate measurement of blood loss

THINK

Sequentially advance through procedures and other interventions based on etiology:

Vaginal Birth:

If **trauma (vaginal, cervical or uterine):**

- Visualize and repair

If **retained placenta:**

- D&C

If **uterine atony** or lower uterine segment bleeding:

- Intrauterine Balloon

If **above measures unproductive:**

- Selective embolization (Interventional Radiology if available & adequate experience)

C-Section:

- B-Lynch Suture
- Intrauterine Balloon

If **Uterine Inversion:**

- Anesthesia and uterine relaxation drugs for manual reduction

If **Amniotic Fluid Embolism:**

- Maximally aggressive respiratory, vasopressor and blood product support

If **vital signs are worse than estimated or measured blood loss:** possible uterine rupture or broad ligament tear with internal bleeding; **move to laparotomy**

Once stabilized: Modified Postpartum management with increased surveillance

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Confirm that the family still has your contact information
- Be in touch with family at least hourly

Re-Evaluate Bleeding and Vital Signs; If Cumulative Blood Loss > 1500ml, > 2 Units PRBCs Given, VS Unstable or Suspicion for DIC, Proceed to STAGE 3



STAGE 3: OB Hemorrhage

Cumulative blood loss > 1500ml, > 2 units PRBCs given, VS unstable or suspicion for DIC

MOBILIZE

Nurse or Physician:

- Activate Massive Hemorrhage Protocol

Charge Nurse or Designee:

- Notify advanced gyn surgeon (e.g. gyn oncologist)
- Notify adult intensivist
- Call-in second anesthesiologist
- Call-in OR staff
- Ensure hemorrhage cart available at the patient's location
- Reassign staff as needed
- Call-in supervisor, CNS, or manager
- Continue OB Hemorrhage Record (in OR, anesthesiologist will assess and document VS)
- If transfer considered, notify ICU

Blood Bank:

- Prepare to issue additional blood products as needed – stay ahead

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Continue to provide support as described in the Patient and Family Support Checklist for OBH

ACT

Establish team leadership and assign roles

Team Leader (OB Physician + OB Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiologist and/or Perinatologist and/or Intensivist):

- Order Massive Hemorrhage Pack** (RBCs + FFP + 1 apheresis pack PLTS—see note in right column)
- Move to OR** if not already there
- Repeat CBC/PLTS, Coag Panel II STAT and Chem 12 panel q 30- 60 min

Anesthesiologist (as indicated):

- Arterial blood gases
- Central hemodynamic monitoring
- CVP or PA line
- Arterial line
- Vasopressor support
- Intubation
- Calcium replacement
- Electrolyte monitoring

Primary Nurse:

- Announce VS and cumulative measured blood loss q 5-10 minutes
- Apply upper body warming blanket if feasible
- Use fluid warmer and/or rapid infuser for fluid & blood product administration
- Apply sequential compression stockings to lower extremities
- Circulate in OR

Second Nurse and/or Anesthesiologist:

- Continue to administer meds, blood products and draw labs, as ordered

Third Nurse or Charge Nurse:

- Recorder

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Remain with family during escalation of care, describe what is happening
- Provide updates to patient on how her baby is doing
- Offer emotional support by way of a social worker or chaplain

THINK

Selective Embolization (IR)

Interventions based on etiology not yet completed

Prevent hypothermia, acidemia

Conservative or Definitive Surgery:

- Uterine Artery Ligation
- Hysterectomy

For Resuscitation:

Aggressively Transfuse

Based on Vital Signs, Blood Loss

After the first 2 units of PRBCs use

Near equal FFP and RBC for massive hemorrhage:

4-6 PRBCs: 4 FFP: 1 apheresis Platelets

Unresponsive Coagulopathy:

- Role of rFactor VIIa is very controversial; after 8-10 units PRBCs and coagulation factor replacement with ongoing hemorrhage, may consider risk/benefit of rFactor VIIa in consultation with hematologist or trauma surgeon

Once Stabilized:

- Modified postpartum management with increased surveillance; consider ICU; ensure continued patient and family support as outlined in Patient and Family Support Checklist for OBH

Patient and Family Support Designee:

- Act as a liaison between the family and other units in order to provide timely updates