

OB Hemorrhage

Toolkit Pocket Card

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Identify Risk on Admission

OB Hemorrhage—No Denial—No Delay	
Low Risk:	Hold Specimen
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No previous uterine incision Singleton Pregnancy ≤ 4 previous vaginal births No known bleeding disorder No history of PPH 	
Medium Risk:	Type and Screen
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior c/s or uterine surgery Multiple gestation > 4 previous vaginal births Chorioamnionitis History of previous PPH Large uterine fibroids 	
High Risk:	Type and Cross
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placenta Previa, or low lying Suspected accreta or percreta HCT < 30 AND other risk factors Platelets < 100,000 Active bleeding on admit Known coagulopathy 	

Stage 0

Stage 0

- Active management with oxytocin infusion of 10-40 units/500-1000 mL titrated; or 10 units IM

Action

- Quantitative evaluation of cumulative blood loss: use of graduated containers, visual comparisons, and weighing blood soaked materials after delivery of placenta. 1gm = 1mL
- Ongoing evaluation of vital signs per hospital protocol; more if needed per patient condition.



Proceed to STAGE 1 if:

- cumulative blood loss > 500 mL for vaginal or > 1000 mL for C/S OR
- VS > 15% change (HR ≥ 110, BP ≤ 85/45, O₂ sat < 95%) OR
- ↑ bleeding during recovery or postpartum

Stage 1

Stage 1

Continued bleeding and Blood loss: > 500 mL vaginal or > 1000 mL C/S, **OR** VS changes (by > 15% or HR ≥ 110, BP ≤ 85/45) sat < 95% **OR** increased bleeding during recovery period.

Mobilize

- Notify OB/CNM
- Notify Charge RN
- Notify Anesthesia provider

Actions

- Establish 16g IV
- Infuse oxytocin 500mL/hr (10-40 units/500-1000 mL)
- Vigorous fundal massage
- Administer 2nd uterotonic
- Vital signs including O₂ sat q 5 minutes
- Weigh and calculate blood loss
- Administer O₂ to keep sats >95%
- Empty bladder – foley with urimeter
- Type and Cross for 2 units PRBCs
- Keep patient warm



Consider potential etiologies: atony, trauma, laceration, retained placenta, AFE, inversion, coagulopathy, accreta

Proceed to STAGE 2 if:

- Continued bleeding or continued VS instability, & < 1500 mL cumulative blood loss

Stage 2

Stage 2
Continued bleeding or Vital Sign instability, and < 1500 mL cumulative blood loss
Mobilize
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OB/CNM at bedside; 2nd OB or perinatologist & anesthesiologist called to assist; Charge nurse: assign recorder and runner, notify nursing supervisor, call radiology to prepare for IR if available, and call for second anesthesiologist Notify Rapid Response Team Assign a 2nd RN to communicate with blood bank and offer family support 
Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer hemabate or misoprostol Move to OR Transfuse 2 U PRBC (do not wait for lab results); blood warmer; request for blood bank to thaw FFP Order STAT CBC/plts, Chem 12, Coag panel, and ABCG Start 2nd IV Weigh & calculate cumulative blood loss Announce vital signs Ready essential equipment.  <p>THINK: Prepare for procedures/interventions based on etiology for: balloon, selective embolization with IR (atony), repair (trauma), B-lynch suture for (C/S), etc.</p> <p>Proceed to STAGE 3 if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> still bleeding, cumulative blood loss > 1500 mL, > 2 units PRBCs given, VS unstable or suspicion for DIC

Stage 3

Stage 3
Cumulative blood loss > 1500 mL, > 2 U PRBCs given, VS unstable or suspect DIC
Mobilize
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activate Massive Transfusion Protocol Notify GYN/Onc Surgeon Call in OR staff (anesthesia assist) Call in supervisor, CNS, Manager Blood bank to stay ahead of blood products 
Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce VS and cumulative blood loss Assist anesthesiologist with art line, PA or CVP line, or intubation. Use fluid warmer and/or rapid infuser Keep patient warm. Apply sequential compression stockings to lower extremities. Repeat labs q 30-60 minutes.   <p>THINK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selective Embolization (IR) Interventions based on etiology from previous stage not yet completed; prevent hypothermia, acidemia, and hypocalcemia Surgeries: uterine artery ligation or hysterectomy For resuscitation: aggressively transfuse based on VS, and blood loss. <p>After first 2 units PRBC, near equal FFP and PRBC for massive hemorrhage</p> <p>4-6 PRBC:4FFP:1 apheresis platelets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once stable: modify postpartum management consider ICU

Blood Products

Packed Red Blood Cells (PRBCs)

- Best first line product
- 1 unit = 200 ml volume
- If antibody positive, may take 1-24 hrs for crossmatch

Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP)

- Approximately 35-45 min to thaw
- Highly desired if > 2 units PRBCs given, or for prolonged PT, PTT
- 1 unit = 18 ml volume

Platelets (PLTs)

- Priority for women with platelets < 50,000
- Single-donor apheresis unit (= 6 units of platelet concentrates) provides 40-50 K transient increase in platelets

Cryoprecipitate (CRYO)

- Approximately 35-45 min to thaw
- Priority for women with Fibrinogen levels < 80
- 10 unit pack raises Fibrinogen 80-100 mg/dl
- Best for DIC with low Fibrinogen and don't need volume replacement
- Caution: 10 units come from 10 different donors, so infection risk is proportionate
- Warm upper body with blankets or warming device
- Sequential compression stockings

Drug/Dose	Route/Frequency	Side Effects	Contraindications
Pitocin (Oxytocin) 10 units/ml	Continuous IV infusion	Usually none; nausea/vomiting, hypotension, hypotension, "water intoxication") with prolonged IV; ↓ BP and ↑ HR with high doses, esp IV push	Hypersensitivity to drug HTN, Preeclampsia, heart disease; hypersensitivity Caution: if multiple doses of ephedrine have been used, may exacerbate hypertensive response w/ possible cerebral hemorrhage
Methergine (Methylergonovine) 0.2 mg/ml	IM only/every 2-4 hours	Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, fever (transient), headache, chills, shivering, HTN, bronchospasm	Caution in women with hepatic disease, asthma, HTN, active cardiac or pulmonary disease; hypersensitivity to drug
Hemabate (15-methyl PG F2a) 250 mcg/ml	IM only or intra-myometrial only/every 15-90 min, NTE 8 doses in 24 hours	Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, fever (transient), headache, chills, shivering, HTN, bronchospasm	Rare; known allergy to prostaglandin; hypersensitivity to drug
Cytotec 100 or 200 mcg tablets	Sublingual (SL) or Orally (PO)/ One time	Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, shivering; fever (transient); headache	