

## **OB HEMORRHAGE: CARTS, KITS, TRAYS**

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### **BACKGROUND**

Postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) is a commonly encountered emergency on labor and delivery units throughout California. Although medical management is often successful in treating PPH, the obstetrician may have to resort to surgical measures to treat it. In such settings, the care provider may find it practical to have rapid access to surgical instruments and tools designed to treat PPH. Equipment compiled on an obstetrical hemorrhage “cart” is designed to treat vaginal/cervical lacerations and provide the instruments for uterine tamponade or uterine/ovarian artery ligation. In short, the cart would have all the instruments necessary to treat PPH before hysterectomy is performed, if needed. The reader is referred to other guidelines that depict the use of these techniques. For more in-depth details about the hemorrhage “cart” the reader is referred to articles by T.F. Basket (1, 2).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Labor and delivery units construct a sterile tray that provides rapid access to instruments used to surgically treat PPH.

### **EDUCATIONAL TOOLS, SUPPORT DOCUMENTS**

#### **OB Hemorrhage Cart: Recommended Instruments**

- Set of vaginal retractors (long right angle); long weighted speculum
- Sponge forceps (minimum: 2)
- Sutures (for cervical laceration repair and B-Lynch [WEB LINK])
- Vaginal Packs
- Uterine balloon [WEB-LINK]
- Banjo curettes, several sizes
- Long needle holder
- Uterine forceps
- Bright task light on wheels; behind ultrasound machine

Diagrams depicting various procedures (e.g. B-Lynch, uterine artery ligation, Balloon placement)

#### **OB Hemorrhage Medication Kit: Available in L&D and Postpartum Floor PYXIS/refrigerator**

- |                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| • Pitocin 20 units per liter NS | 1 bag    |
| • Hemabate 250 mcg/ml           | 1 ampule |
| • Cytotec 200mg tablets         | 5 tabs   |
| • Methergine 0.2 mg/ml          | 1 ampule |

**OB Hemorrhage Tray: Available on Postpartum Floor**

- IV start kit
- 18 gauge angiocath
- 1 liter bag lactated Ringers
- IV tubing
- Sterile Speculum
- Urinary catheter kit with urimeter
- Flash light
- Lubricating Jelly
- Assorted sizes sterile gloves

**Labor and Delivery Emergency Hysterectomy Tray:  
Available in L&D OR Suite**

- 4 Towel Clips, Backhaus (perforating) 5 1/4"
- 4 Mosquito, Curved, 5"
- 2 Clamp, Mixer 9"
- 2 Clamp, tonsil
- 2 Clamp, Allis, Extra long 10"
- 2 Clamp, Allis 6"
- 2 Clamp, Babcock 8"
- 2 Clamp, Babcock 6 1/4"
- 2 Clamp, Lahey 6"
- 2 Clamp, Heaney-Rezak, Straight, 8"
- 8 Kelly, Curved 5 3/4"
- 2 Kelly, Straight 5 3/4"
- 8 Pean Curved, 6 1/4"
- 2 Forceps, DeBakey, 9 1/2"
- 1 Forceps, Tissue with teeth 9 3/4"
- 1 Forceps, Russian 8"
- 1 Forceps, Smooth 8"
- 1 Forceps, Fedriss Smith
- 2 Forceps with Teeth, 6 "
- 1 Forceps, Russian 6"
- 2 Forceps, Adson with Teeth
- 1 Forceps, Tissue, Smooth, 7"
- 2 Kocher, Straight, 8"
- 6 Forceps, Heaney, Curved, 8 1/4"
- NH, Mayo Hegar, 8"
- 4 Sponge Stick, 9 1/2"
- 1 Scissor, Jorgensen, Curved, 9"
- 1 Scissors, bandage 7"
- 1 Scissors, curved dissecting, Metzenbaum
- 1 Scissors, Mayo, curved
- 1 Scissors, sharp/blunt, Straight, 5 1/2"
- 1 Scissors, Curved Metzenbaum 12"
- 1 Scissors, Mayo Straight 11"
- 1 Scissors, Mayo Curved 11"
- 1 Knife Handle #3
- 1 Knife Handle #4
- 1 Knife Handle #3, Long
- 1 Retractor, Kelly, large
- 1 Retractor, Deaver, Large, 3" x 12"
- 1 Retractor, Deaver, Medium
- 2 Retractor, Med/large Richardson
- 1 Retractor, Balfour Blades
- 2 Retractor, Goulet, 7 1/2"
- 1 Suction, Yankauer Tip
- 1 Suction, Pool Tip

## EVIDENCE GRADING

**Level of Evidence: III.** Opinions of respected authorities based on clinical experience, descriptive studies, or reports of expert committees.

**Level of Evidence: II-3.** Evidence obtained from multiple time series with or without intervention. Dramatic results in uncontrolled experiments also could be regarded as this type of evidence. Strong quality improvement data such as statistical process control, or other well-designed analysis.

## REFERENCES

1. Baskett TF. Equipment tray for postpartum hemorrhage in A Textbook of PostPartum Hemorrhage (ed C. B-Lynch et al.). Sapiens Publishing 2006 (III)
2. Baskett TF. Surgical management of severe obstetric hemorrhage: experience with an obstetric hemorrhage equipment tray. J Obstet Gynaecol Can 2004; 26: 805-8. (II-3)