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# **PERIPARTUM HAEMORRHAGE**

# Definition



## **Bleeding in human childbirth**

Vaginal delivery:

< 500 ml

Caesarean section:



## **Examples of definitions of peripartum haemorrhage**

Organization	Definition of PPH
World Health Organization [1]	Blood loss ≥500 mL within 24 hours after birth.     Severe PPH: Blood loss ≥1000 mL within the same time frame.
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists <sup>[2]</sup>	Cumulative blood loss ≥1000 mL or blood loss accompanied by signs or symptoms of hypovolemia within 24 hours after the birth process (includes intrapartum loss) regardless of route of delivery.
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists <sup>[3]</sup>	Minor PPH (500 to 1000 mL) and major PPH (>1000 mL). Subdivisions of major PPH include moderate (1001 to 2000 mL) or severe (>2000 mL).
International expert panel <sup>[4]</sup>	Active bleeding >1000 mL within the 24 hours following birth that continues despite the use of initial measures, including first-line uterotonic agents and uterine massage.
Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada <sup>[5]</sup>	Any amount of bleeding that threatens the patient's hemodynamic stability.
	<ul> <li>Stage 0: Every woman in labor/giving birth.</li> <li>Stage 1: Blood loss &gt;500 mL after vaginal or &gt;1000 mL after cesarean delivery; or change in vital signs &gt;15% or heart rate ≥110 beats/minute, blood pressure ≤85/45 mmHg, O<sub>2</sub> saturation &lt;95%.</li> <li>Stage 2: Continued bleeding with total blood loss &lt;1500 mL.</li> <li>Stage 3: Total blood loss &gt;1500 mL or &gt;2 units packed red cells transfused; or unstable vital signs; or suspicion of disseminated intravascular coagulation.</li> </ul>

PPH: postpartum hemorrhage.

References:

1. World Health Organization. WHO recommendations for the prevention and treatment of postpartum haemorrhage. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2012.

2. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. ACOG Practice Bulletin Number 183, October 2017: Postportum hemorrhage. Obstet Gynecol 2017; 130:e168.

3. Prevention and management of postpartum haemorrhage: Green-top guideline No. 52. BJOG 2017; 124:e106.

4. Abdul-Kadir R, McLintock C, Ducloy AS, et al. Evaluation and management of postportum hemorrhage: Cnsensus from an international expert panel. Transfusion 2014; 54:1756.

5. Leduc D, Senikas V, Lalonde AB, et al. Active management of the third stage of labour: Pevention and treatment of postportum hemorrhage. J Obstet Gynaecol Can 2009; 31:980.

6. CMQCC. www.cmqcc.org/resources-tool-kits/toolkits/ob-hemorrhage-toolkit (Accessed on May 17, 2017).

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# There is strength in simplicity...

An acute, life-threatening condition



## **Peripartum haemorrhage – definition Czech Republic**

According to the amount of blood loss:

• minor blood loss

(500 – 1 000 ml)

- severe blood loss (> 1 000 ml)
- life-threatening peripartum hemorrhage (LTPPH) (> 1 500 ml)

(clinical and/or laboratory signs of tissue hypoperfusion)

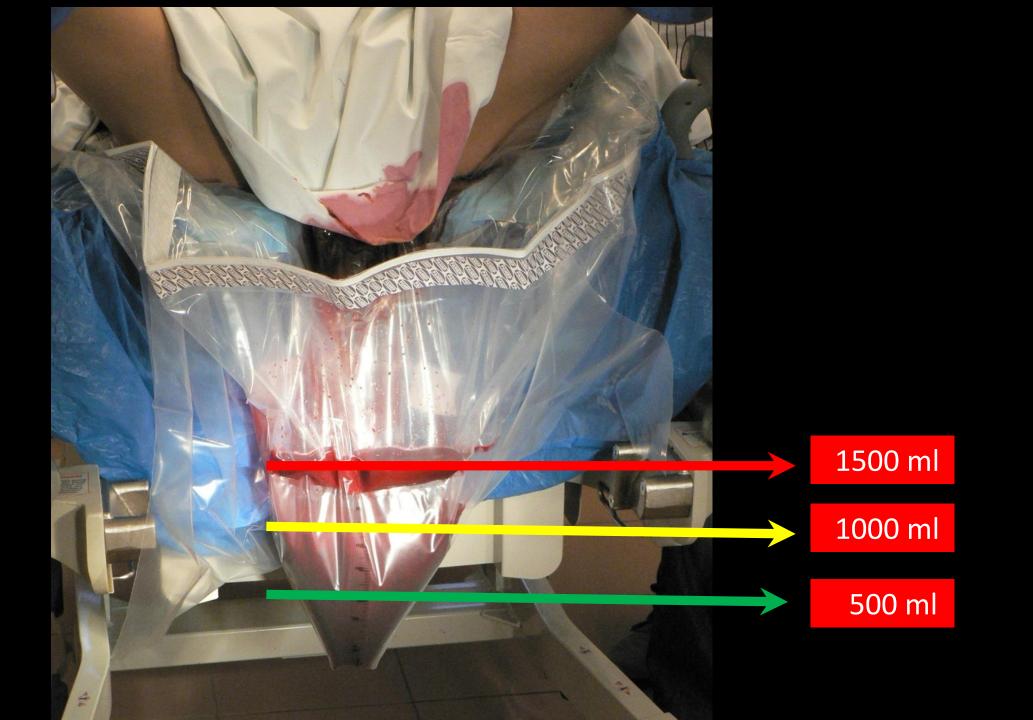
2018

DOPORUČENÉ POSTUPY ČGPS ČLS JEP

DIAGNOSTIKA A LÉČBA PERIPARTÁLNÍHO ŽIVOT OHROŽUJÍCÍHO KRVÁCENÍ

Česko-slovenský mezioborový konsenzus

Doporučený postup





# What Is New in Insights and Strategies in Postpartum Hemorrhage?

Best Articles From the Past Year

Dunsmoor-Su, Rebecca MD, MSCE **Author Information**  $\otimes$ 

Obstetrics & Gynecology: July 2018 - Volume 132 - Issue 1 - p 210-212 doi: 10.1097/AOG.000000000002713

#### **Shock index**

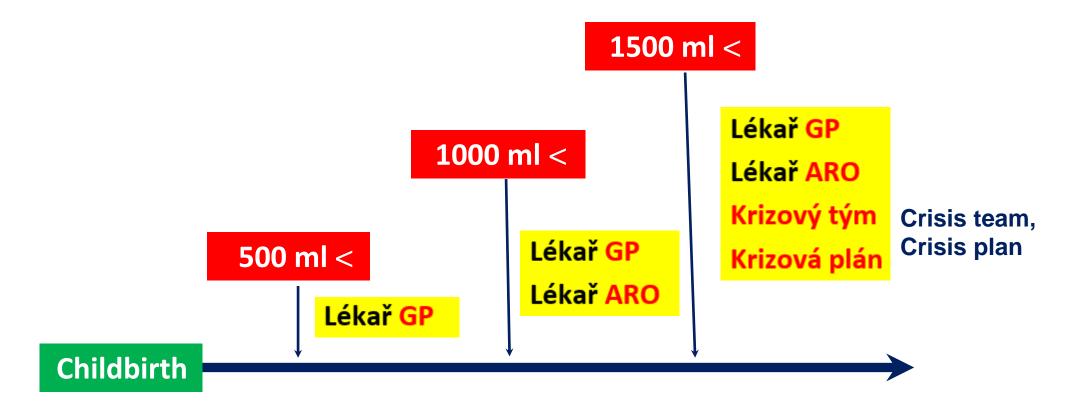
Ratio between systolic pressure and pulse rate

Normal condition:60 bpm : 120 BP/s, 0.5Developed shock:100 bpm : 100 BP/s, 1.0Severe shock:120 bpm : 60 BP/s, 2.0

### **Shock index**

- sensitive and useful parameter
- for the prediction of PPH intensive care





Doctor - gynaecologist/obstetrician Doctor - anaesthesiology-resuscitation Crisis team Crisis plan



# Incidence



# Incidence

The incidence of LTPPH/PPH varies greatly depending on the criteric used to divenose the pathology.

Estimate: 1 - 5% of births

Sheldon WR, Blum J, Vogel JP, et al. Postpartum haemorrhage in magemen prisks, and magernal outcomes: findings from the World Health Organization Multicountry Survey of Maternal and Newborn Health. BJOG 2014; 121 Suppl 1:5.

Reale SC, Easter SR, Xu X, et al. Trends in Postpartum Hemorrhage in the United States From 2010 to 2014. Anesth Analg 2020; 130:e119.

#### Prospective study: **10% of births**

Deneux-Tharaux C, Bonnet MP, Tort J. [Epidemiologie poporodního krvácení]. J Gynecol Obstet Biol Reprod (Paříž) 2014; 43: 936.



# (Patho)Physiology of postpartum haemostasis



### **PPH is a specific problem**

#### Woman

- pregnant woman
- 2nd half of pregnancy





### **Physiology of retraction-tourniquet myometrium**

- perfusion
- oxygenation
- energy reserves
- receptor readiness





### Haemostasis mechanism = combination of two factors

#### **Mechanical haemostasis**

• **retraction** of the myometrium → **compression = tourniquet** of the vascular system of the uterus

#### **Coagulation haemostasis**

- **decidual/**tissue factors
- plasminogen activator type 1 inhibitor
- systemic coagulation factors (circulating haemostasis factors, platelets, etc.)

Pathogenesis of most cases of PPH = **disruption of one or both mechanisms**. Pathogenesis of **other cases** of PPH is **loss of intact vasculature** (i.e. trauma).



### Haemostasis mechanism = combination of two factors

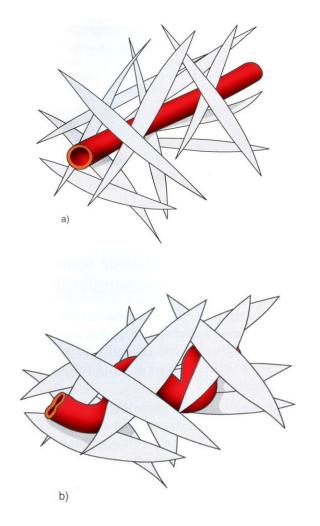
#### **Mechanical haemostasis**

- retraction of the myometrium  $\rightarrow$  compression = tourniquet of the vascular system of the uterus
- **Coagulation haemostasis**
- **decidual/**tissue factors
- plasminogen activator type 1 inhibi

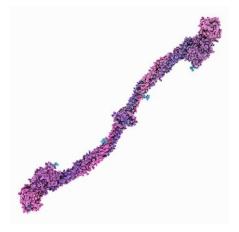
# Combination

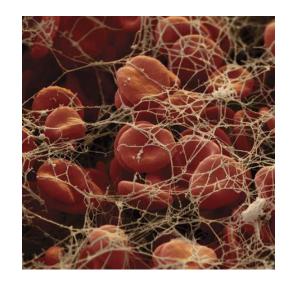
• systemic coagulation factors (circulating haemostasis factors, platelets, etc.)

Pathogenesis of most cases of PPH = **disruption of one or both mechanisms**. Pathogenesis of **other cases** of PPH is **loss of intact vasculature** (i.e. trauma). Mechanical haemostasis Retraction - tourniquet



### Coagulation factors Fibrinogen









#### Commonly described causes of DIC in obstetrics.

Amniotic fluid embolism

Intrauterine foetal demise HELLP syndrome Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia Placental abruption and placenta praevia Septic abortion and intrauterine infection Postpartum haemorrhage Acute fatty liver of pregnancy

International society on thrombosis and haemostasis diagnostic scoring system for overt DIC.

 Risk assessment: Does the patient have an underlying disorder known to be associated with overt DIC?

If yes: proceed

- If no: do not use this algorithm
- Order global coagulation tests (prothrombin time, platelet count, fibrinogen, fibrin related marker)

3. Score the test results

Platelet count (>100 = 0, <100 = 1, <50 = 2)

Elevated fibrin marker (e.g. D-dimer, fibrin-degradation products) (no

increase = 0, moderate increase = 2, strong increase = 3)

Prolonged prothrombin time (<3 s = 0, >3 but <6 s = 1, >6 s = 2)

Fibrinogen level (>1 g/L = 0, <1 g/L = 1)

4. Calculate score:

- $\geq$ 5 compatible with overt DIC: repeat score daily
- <5 suggestive for non-overt DIC: repeat next 1-2 days

# LTPPH 95%

**DIC** 5%



## **Causes of excessive blood loss**



## **Bleeding in human childbirth**

**Before delivery** 

**During delivery** 

After delivery



# **Bleeding in human childbirth**

#### **Before delivery**

- placental abruption -
- amnioticfluid embolism
- endo/myometritis -
- preeclampsia/HELLP

#### **During delivery**

- in III. stage of labour (delivery of the placenta)
- during the operation

#### **After delivery**

hysterotomy



# **Disorders of uterine Tonus**

• postpartum uterine hypo-/atony

# Birth **T**rauma

- laceration of the cervix, vagina, perineum
- pelvic haematomas
- uterine rupture, intraoperative complications
- inversion of the uterus



#### 10 - 15%

# Tissue pathology

• placenta adherens, placenta accreta

# **Coagulopathy** (Thrombin)

• DIC early (amniotic fluid embolism, abruption!!!)

1 - 5%

1 – 5%





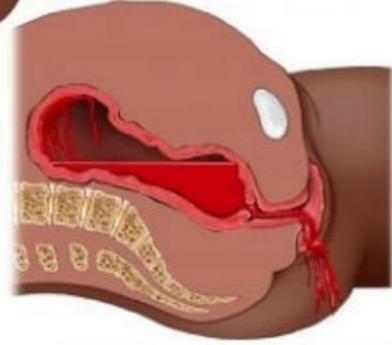
**Dominant cause of PPH** 

# **Uterine Tone**

# Uterine hypotonia/atony 80%

Reale SC, Easter SR, Xu X, et al. Trends in Postpartum Hemorrhage in the United States From 2010 to 2014. Anesth Analg 2020; 130:e119. Normal postpartum condition with contracted uterus preventing hemorrhage.

Uterine atony allows hemorrhage to flow into the uterus.





## **Recommended practices**

Life-threatening PPH treatment principle

Myometrial Perfusion Oxygenation Uterotonics Plasma factors





# Life-threatening PPH treatment principle

Myometrial Perfusion Oxygenation Uterotonics Plasma factors





# WHO recommendation on advance misoprostol distribution to pregnant women for prevention of postpartum haemorrhage



#### Citation

CExport

World Health Organization. (2020). WHO recommendation on advance misoprostol distribution to pregnant women for prevention of postpartum haemorrhage. World Health Organization.

https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/336310. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO

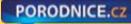
Description ix, 42 p.

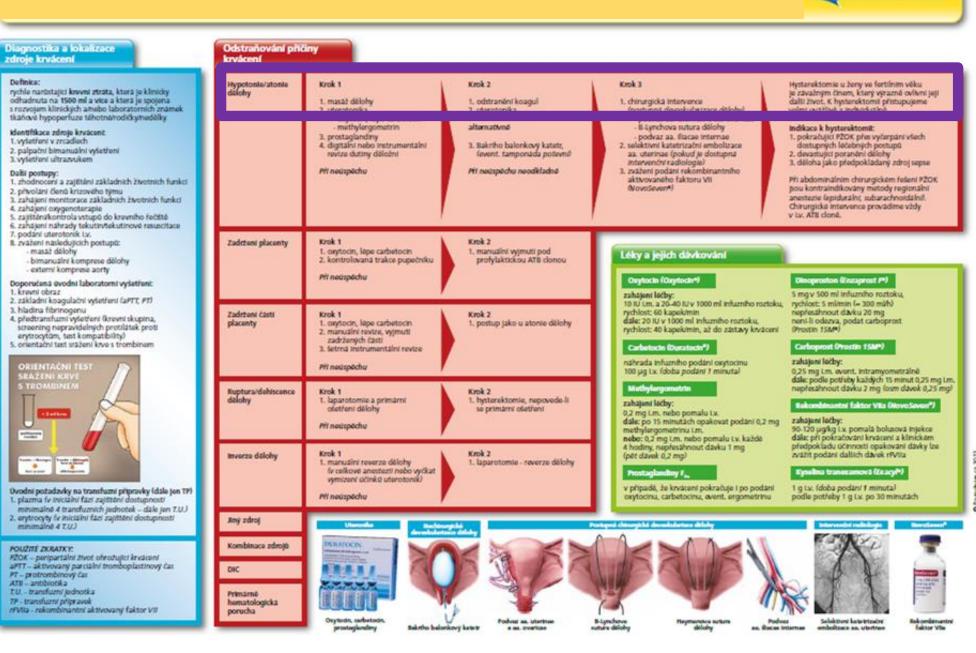


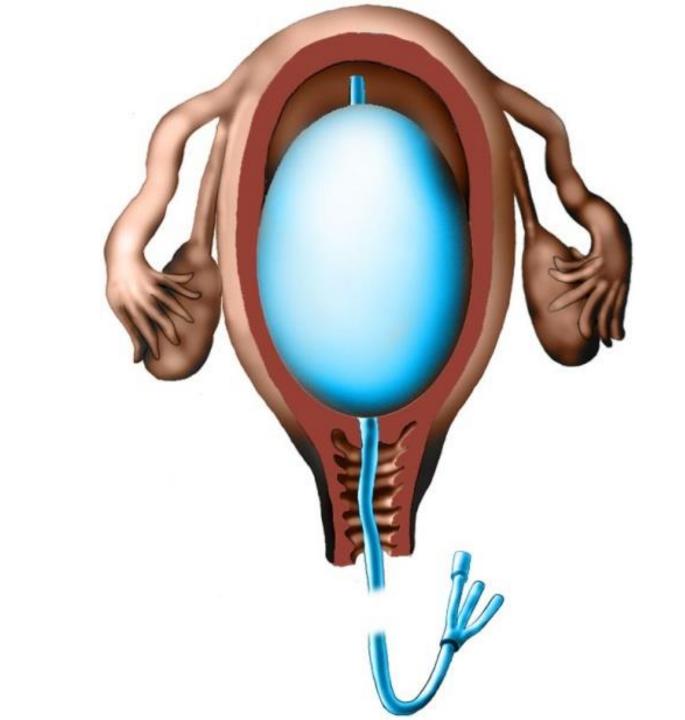


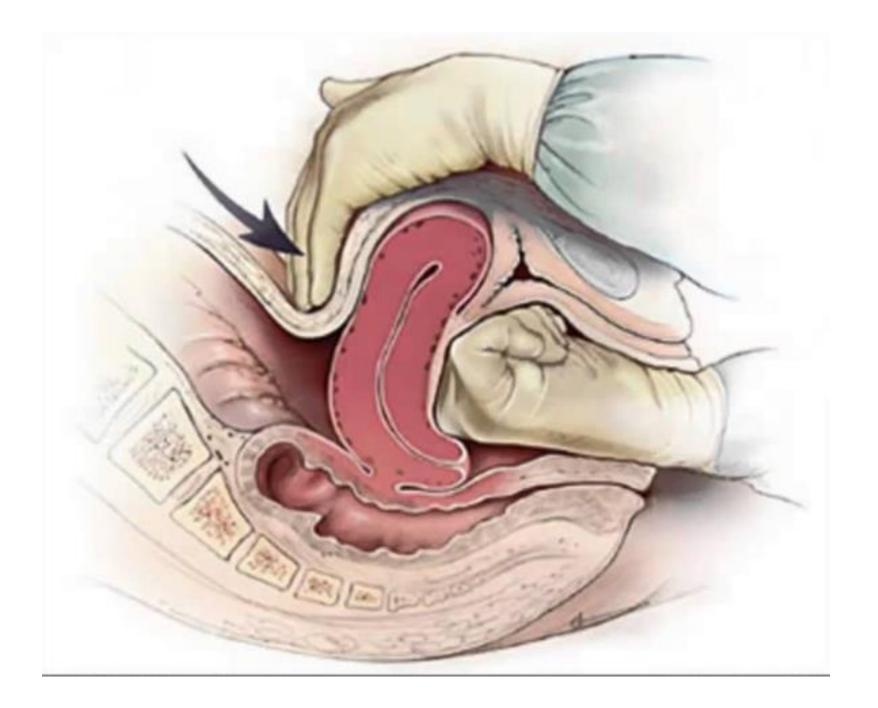
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#### **Peripartum life-threatening bleeding - obstetrician procedures**











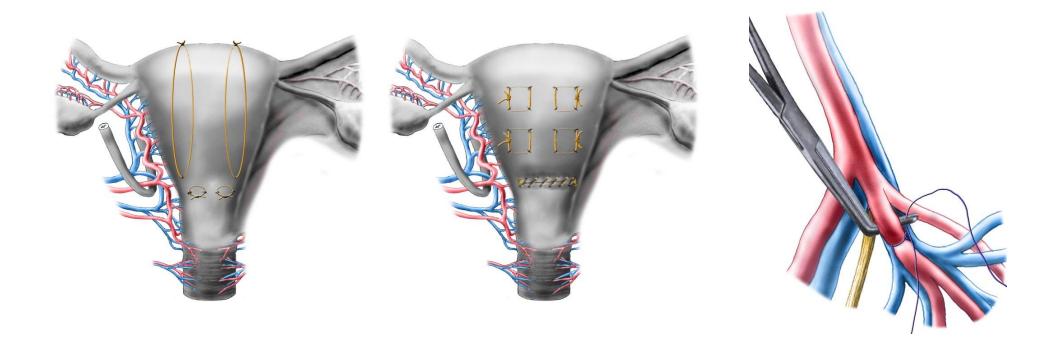
## **Coagulation support**

### **General principles**

Basic initial procedures to restore the effectiveness of the body's

hemostatic mechanisms and to support coagulation:

- maximum possible correction of hypothermia
- maximum possible correction of acidosis
- correction of hypocalcemia
- correction of other system homeostasis parameters
  - fibrinogen
  - tranexamic acid





Interventional radiology - an alternative/perspective



## The role of interventional radiology

In all cases of peripartum life-threatening bleeding due to hypotony or atony of the uterus, we recommend **using radiological interventional methods** (selective embolization of the uterine arteries), **if available**, when the usual standard surgical procedures fail (or are impossible to perform) in the workplace.



## Hysterectomy = last resort





## Midwife

statim mask for oxygen supply
 IV securing with a strong cannula
 permanent urinary catheter



## Doctor

### Medical history - informed by the midwife

- inquiry about the suspected cause of bleeding
- blood loss estimation query
- Monitoring of BP, P, saturation
- BP falls and heart rate rises
- Identifying the source of bleeding:
- 1. examination in spec.
- 2. palpation bimanual examination
- 3. ultrasound examination



## **Differential diagnostics**

- 1. uterine hypotonia/atony
- 2. retention of the placenta
- 3. retention of part of the placenta
- 4. uterine rupture/dehiscence
- 5. uterus inversion
- 6. birth canal injury
- 7. DIC (PLT, APTT, PT, fibrinogen, D-dimers, antithrombin)
- 8. primarily haematological disorder



### The doctor checks the previous procedures:

- 1. assessment and provision of basic life functions
- 2. initiation of monitoring of basic vital functions
- 3. initiation of oxygen therapy
- 4. ensuring/controlling entry into the bloodstream
- 5. initiation of fluid replacement/fluid resuscitation
- 6. IV administration of uterotonics

### He will recommend an initial laboratory examination:

- 1. blood count
- 2. basic coagulation examination (aPTT, PT)
- 3. fibrinogen level

4. pre-transfusion examination (blood group, screening for irregular antibodies against erythrocytes, compatibility test)

5. orientation test of blood clotting with thrombin

### Initial requirements for transfusion products:

- **plasma** (in the initial phase of ensuring the availability of at least 4 transfusion units)
- **erythrocytes** (in the initial phase of ensuring the availability of at least 4 transfusion units)

## **Uterine hypotonia/atony**

### Step 1

- 1. uterine massage
- 2. uterotonics
  - oxytocin, better carbetocin
  - methylergometrine
- 3. prostaglandins
- 4. digital or instrumental revision of the uterine cavity

### In case of failure - Step 2

- 1. removal of coagulum
- 2. uterotonics
- 3. Bakri balloon catheter, *(eventual vaginal tamponade)*

### In case of failure, immediately - Step 3

1. surgical intervention (gradual devascularization of the uterus)

- ligation aa. uterinae and aa. ovaricae
- B-Lynch uterine suture
- ligation aa. iliacae internae

2. selective catheter embolization aa. uterinae (*if interventional radiology is available*)

3. consideration of administration of recombinant activated factor VII (NovoSeven®)



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# **Ensuring/control of entry into circulation** (insertion of at least 2 peripheral catheters with the largest possible diameter is recommended)

### Initiate/continue fluid resuscitation (crystalloids and/or colloids)

- crystalloids, balanced solutions are preferred, the usual starting dose is approx. 2000 ml
- colloids, usual starting dose 500-1000 ml



## Medicines and their dosage

### Oxytocin (Oxytocin®)

Initiation of treatment: 10 IU i.m. and 20-40 IU in 1000 ml infusion solution, rate: 60 drops/min,

further: 20 IU in 1000 ml of infusion solution.

Rate: 40 drops/min, until bleeding stops.

Carbetocin (Duratocin®)

Replacement of oxytocin infusion 100 µg IV (administration time 1 minute)

Methylergometrine

Initiation of treatment: 0.2 mg i.m. or slowly i.v.

further: after 15 minutes, repeat administration of 0.2 mg methylergometrine i.m.

or: 0.2 mg i.m. or slowly i.v. every 4 hours, do not exceed a dose of 1 mg (five doses of 0.2 mg)



## **Medicines and their dosage**

- Tranexamic acid (Exacyl®)
- Initial dose 1 g in 10 minutes,
- further: continue infusion at a dose of 1 g during 8 hours.
- An alternative is a dosage of 20-25 mg/kg.

### Fibrinogen

The administration of fibrinogen is recommended for life-threatening PPH when its concentration drops below 2 g/l i.v.

```
Initial dose: for life-threatening PPH, 3 – 4 g i.v. is recommended.
```



## Medicines and their dosage

### Prostaglandins F2 $\alpha$

If bleeding continues even after administration of oxytocin, carbetocin, or ergometrine, prostaglandins are in order.

### **Dinoprost** (Enzaprost F<sup>®</sup>)

5 mg in 500 ml of infusion solution, rate: 5 ml/min (= 300 ml/h)

do not exceed a dose of 20 mg, if there is no response, give carboprost (*Prostin 15M®*).

**Carboprost** (Prostin 15M<sup>®</sup>)

Initiation of treatment: 0.25 mg i.m. alternatively intramyometrially,

further: as needed every 15 minutes 0.25 mg i.m., do not exceed a dose of 2 mg (eight doses of 0.25 mg).



### **Erythrocytes**

the target hemoglobin value is recommended to be at least 70 g/l

(significant anaemia reduces the effectiveness of haemostasis mechanisms)

• recommended ratio of the number of TU erythrocytes and plasma is 1:1 to 1.5:1

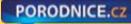
### Plasma

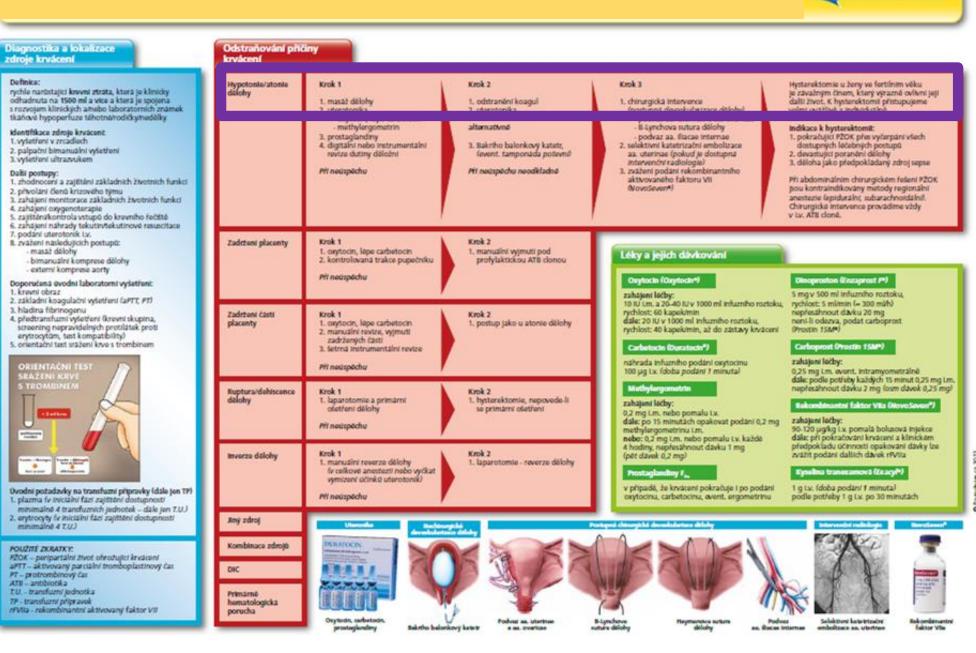
- administration of plasma is recommended for clinical signs of bleeding and prolongation of PT and/or aPTT to 1.5 times normal values or more
- the recommended minimum initial dose of plasma for life-threatening PPH is 15-20 ml/kg

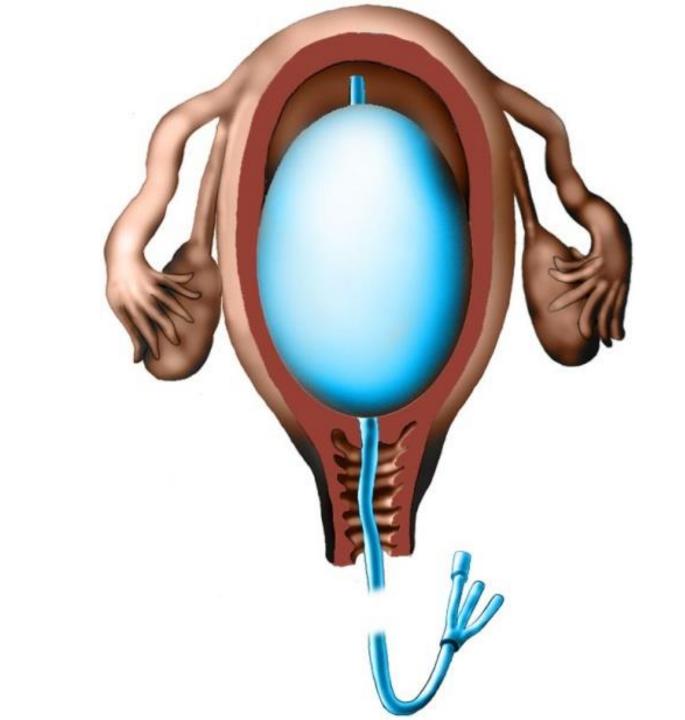
### Platelets

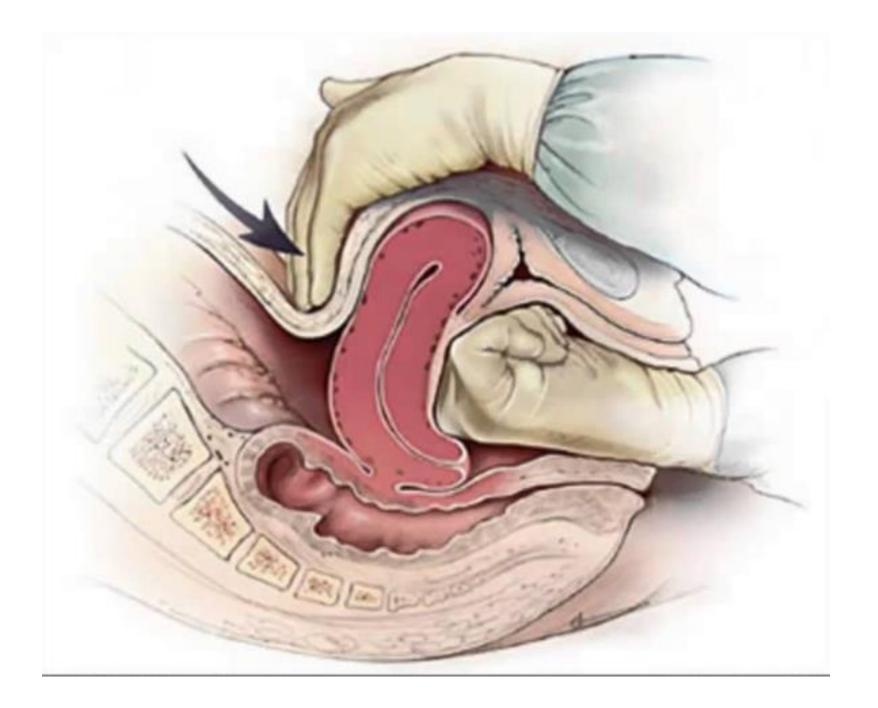
 administration of platelets is recommended for life-threatening PPH when the number of platelets drops below 70 x 10<sup>9</sup>/l

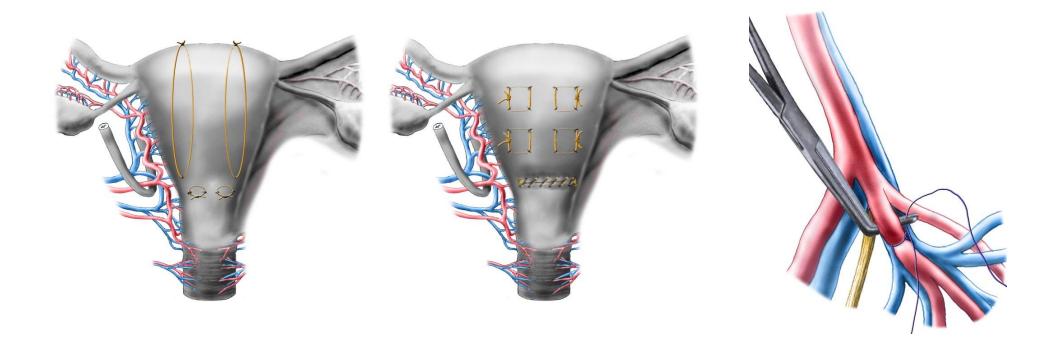
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## Non-pneumatic Anti-Shock Garment (NASG)











Nonpneumatic Antishock Garment Combined with Bakri Balloon as a Nonoperative "Uterine Sandwich" for Temporization of Massive Postpartum Hemorrhage from Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation

