

# MANAGEMENT OF OBSTETRIC HAEMORRHAGE

---

Celia Bygrave

Consultant Anaesthetist

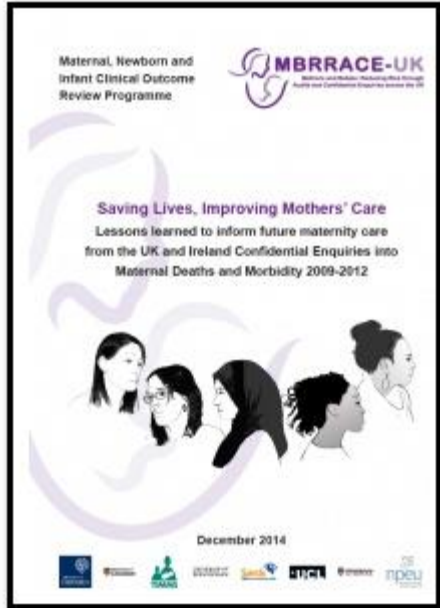
Worthing Hospital

Western Sussex NHS Foundation Trust

- The problem
- The challenges we face



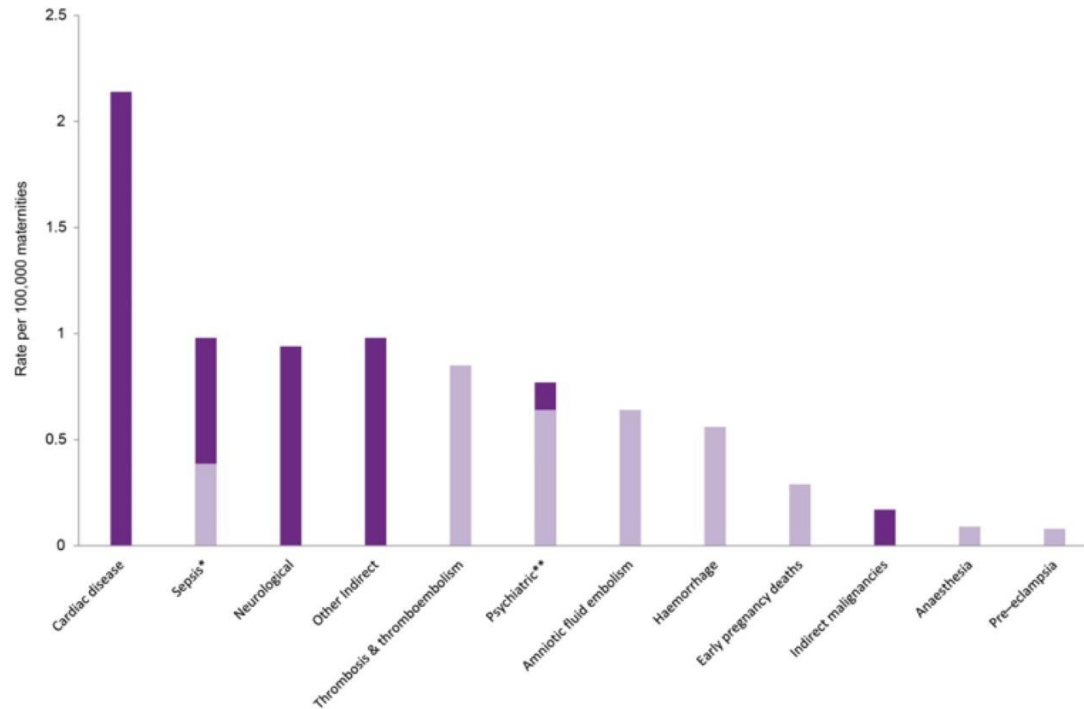
# The problem



- Haemorrhage is the leading cause of maternal death worldwide
- UK deaths from haemorrhage are now rare, but have remained static
- Mortality rate of 0.56 per 100000 births
- 13 direct deaths in the UK between 2012-2014
- Severe morbidity is 50x mortality rate

# Maternal death

## Causes of maternal death 2012-14



# Circulatory changes in pregnancy

- Circulating blood volume increases by 40-50% at term
- 100ml/kg – so 7 litres in a 70kg woman
- Cardiac Output increases by 50% at term
- Blood flow to the uterus at term is 850ml/min
- Theoretically - could bleed entire circulating blood volume **within 10 mins**

# Haemorrhage

- Post partum haemorrhage (PPH) – greater than 500ml
- Major Obstetric haemorrhage (MOH) – greater than 1500ml
- Massive Obstetric haemorrhage – greater than 2500ml
  
- PPH – 2222 call stating Obstetric emergency
- MOH – 2222 call stating Major Obstetric haemorrhage

# At Western Sussex

- Our haemorrhage rate has remained relatively static in last few years  
2.8 – 3.5% of all deliveries

Year	2015	2016
Number of births	5600	5017
>1500ml	213	141
>2500ml	29	30

# This should worry us all

## Overall assessment of care

Classification of care received for women who died and are included in the confidential enquiry chapters (n=183)

	(n=183) Number (%)
<b>Classification of care received</b>	
Good care	85 (46)
Improvements to care which would have made no difference to the outcome	22 (12)
Improvements to care which may have made a difference to the outcome	76 (42)



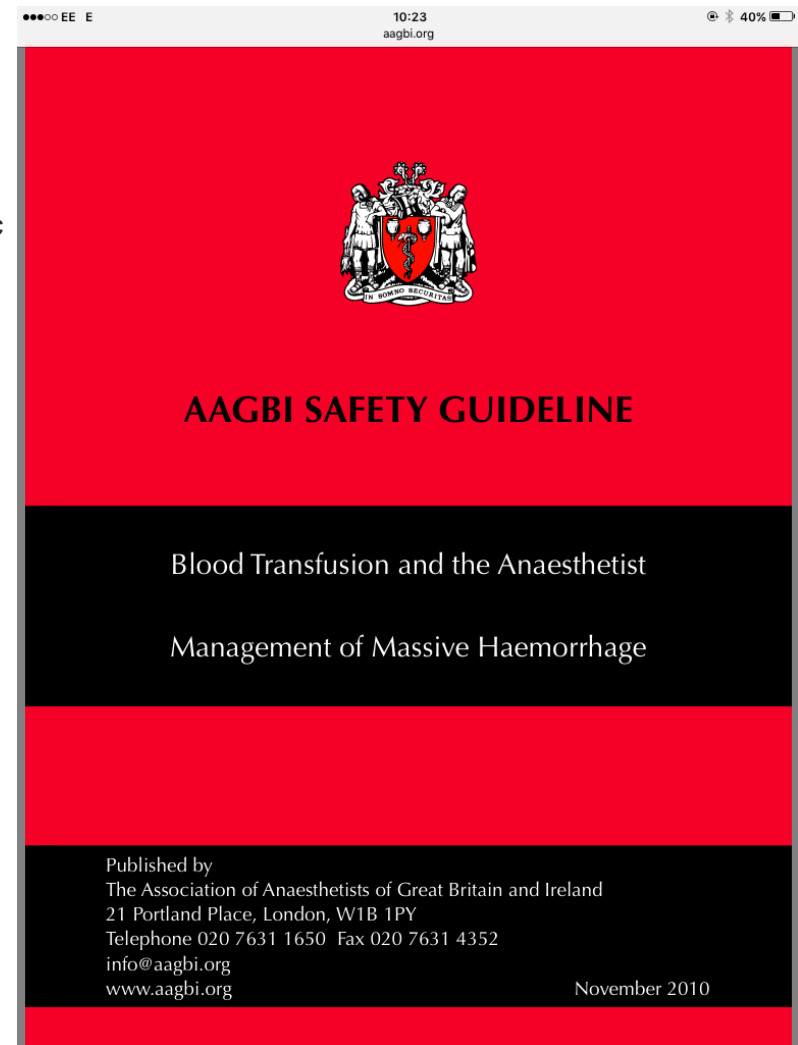
# The challenges

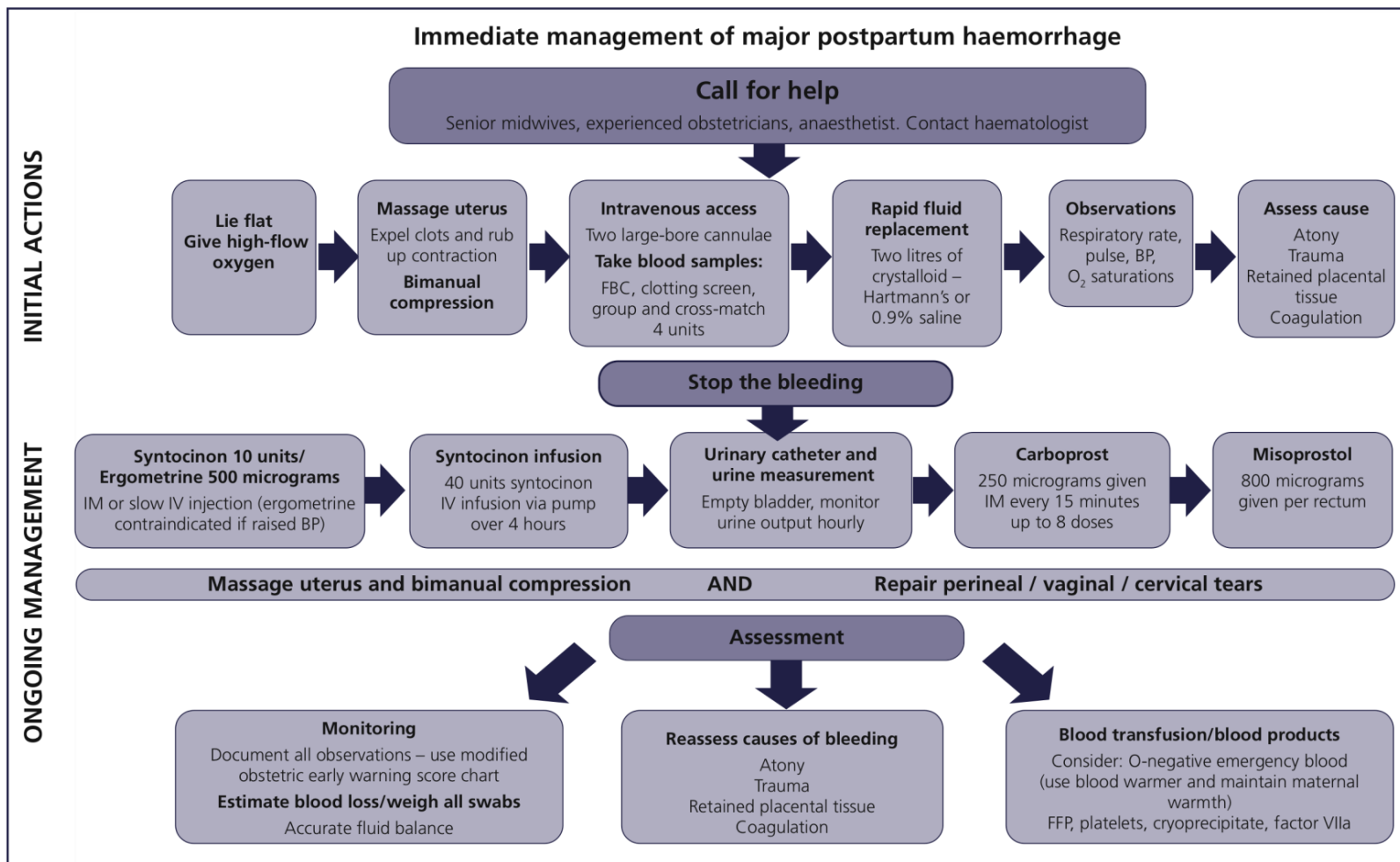
- Uncontrolled haemorrhage is incredibly scary
- Lack of personnel is not necessarily the issue
- Lack of leadership and decision making is
- The list of tasks is huge and can be time consuming



# The challenges

- Immediate actions in dealing with a patient with massive haemorrhage
  - **Control obvious bleeding** points (pressure, tourniquet, haemostatic dressings)
  - Administer **high FIO2**
  - **IV access** – largest bore possible including central access
  - If patient is conscious and talking and a peripheral pulse is present, the blood pressure is adequate.
  - **Baseline bloods** – full blood count (FBC), prothrombin time (PT), activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT), Clauss fibrinogen\* and cross-match.
  - If available, undertake near-patient testing e.g. thromboelastography (TEG) or thromboelastometry (ROTEM).
  - **Fluid resuscitation** – in the massive haemorrhage patient, this means warmed blood and blood components. In terms of time of availability, blood group O is the quickest, followed by group specific, then crossmatched blood.
  - **Actively warm** the patient and all transfused fluids.
  - Next steps: rapid access to imaging (ultrasound, radiography, CT), appropriate use of focused assessment with sonography for trauma scanning and/or early whole body CT if the patient is sufficiently stable, or surgery and further component therapy.
  - Alert theatre team about the need for **cell salvage** autotransfusion.
- \*A derived fibrinogen is likely to be misleading and should not be used.





# Case history

- 29 year old, 4<sup>th</sup> pregnancy
- Poor attender
- 2 previously uncomplicated vaginal births
- 3<sup>rd</sup> pregnancy presented late (36 weeks)
- Transverse lie – semi-elective LSCS under GA

# Noonan syndrome

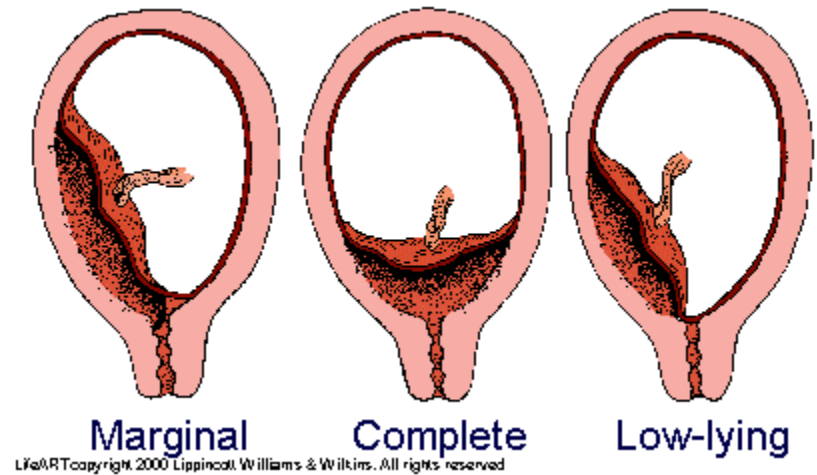
- Multiple malformation syndrome, similar to Turner's
- 1 in 2500 births
- Heart defects 80-90%
- Short stature, ptosis
- Learning difficulties
- Micrognathia, high arched palate

# So to recap

- 29 year old, 4<sup>th</sup> pregnancy, 30 weeks
- Poor attender
- 2 previously uncomplicated vaginal births
- 3<sup>rd</sup> pregnancy presented late (36 weeks) with transverse lie - semi-elective LSCS under GA
- Noonan syndrome, learning difficulties
- Von Willebrands

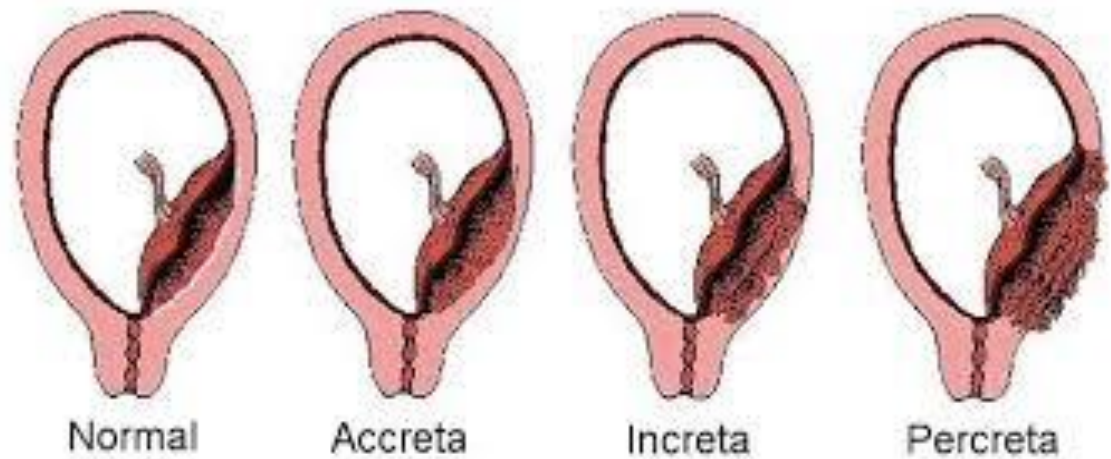
# And....

- Major placenta praevia



# Previous caesarean section.....

- Placenta accreta





# What are our options?

- Make sure she doesn't get booked for a Wednesday
- Detailed planning

# Outcome

- She bled.....
- .....a lot

# Proforma

<b><u>Time Help Summoned</u></b> Emergency Bell: 2222 Obstetric Emergency: 2222 Major Obstetric Haemorrhage: Massive Haemorrhage Event (>2500ml) liaison with Haematology Consultant:	<p>Postpartum Haemorrhage Proforma</p> <p><b>DATE:</b></p> <p><b>TIME COMMENCED:</b></p>	<p>Please complete or Affix Patient Label</p> <p>Unit No: .....</p> <p>NHS No: .....</p> <p>NAME: .....</p>
<b>Assessment, Actions &amp; Oxytocic Drugs</b>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Lie flat <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Keep warm <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Give O<sub>2</sub> (10-15 L/min) <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Catheter <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Urometer <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span>Cannula: x1 <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>x2 <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>already insitu &amp; patent <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Bloods: x-match <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>.....units FBC <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Clotting <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <hr/> <b>Tissue</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Deliver placenta <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Placenta already delivered <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <p>Placenta: complete / incomplete</p> <hr/> <b>Tone</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Rub-up contraction <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Syntometrine 1ml IM <input type="checkbox"/> or Syntocinon 10units IM <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Bimanual compression <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Ergometrine 0.5mgs IM <input type="checkbox"/> or slow IV inj <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span></span> <span>Syntocinon 5units- slow IV inj. <input type="checkbox"/> Time:</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span></span> <span>Syntocinon IV 1 40units in 500mls N/saline @ 125ml/hr commenced at:</span> </div> <hr/> <b>Other drugs:</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Misoprostol 800mcgs PR <input type="checkbox"/> Time:</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <span>Carboprost (Haemobate) IM 250mcgs every 15 mins (max 8 doses, total 2mgs) times:</span> </div> <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr); gap: 5px;"> <div>1-</div> <div>2-</div> <div>3-</div> <div>4-</div> <div>5-</div> <div>6-</div> <div>7-</div> <div>8-</div> </div> <hr/> <b>Trauma</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Perineal / cervical trauma check <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Suturing required: Y / N</span> </div> <hr/> <b>Thrombin</b> <input type="checkbox"/>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Known clotting disorder <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span>Discussed with Haematologist <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Latest results checked <input type="checkbox"/></span> </div>	<b>Running Blood Loss</b>  Blood loss with times should be measured at regular intervals:  <b>At 500mls</b> and continuing call Obstetric Emergency <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>  <b>At 1500mls</b> & ongoing bleeding call Major Obstetric Haemorrhage <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>  <b>At 2500mls</b> & ongoing consider Consultant Haematology involvement. If Consultant Haematologist not contacted, please state reason:	<b>IV Fluids given including blood products</b>  <b>Fluid Balance Chart commenced</b> <input type="checkbox"/> State fluids given and times:           <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Maternal Observations</b> (transfer to MEOWS Chart ASAP)</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>Time:</b></p> <p>BP:</p> <p>Pulse:</p> <p>Resps:</p> <p>O<sub>2</sub> sats:</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>Time:</b></p> <p>BP:</p> <p>Pulse:</p> <p>Resps:</p> <p>O<sub>2</sub> sats:</p> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> <p><b>TIME HAEMOSTASIS ACHIEVED:</b></p> <p><b>Final Total Blood Loss:</b>                  ml's</p> </div>

# Training



- Multidisciplinary simulation
- Emphasis on process, system and teamwork
- Local environment, equipment and procedure
- We run ours as fairly high fidelity simulations
- Debrief

# Cell salvage

- The guidelines all say...all units should have 'appropriate training' and use regularly
- How do we achieve this?
- Routine practice in Worthing since 2002
- We reinfuse about 1 in 9 patients with some returned blood
- Most infused back has been 3.5 litres
- Only using 'first stage' enables us to keep costs down



# In summary

- Haemorrhage remains a challenge, particularly in a DGH setting
- It is scary stuff
- It truly requires a multi-disciplinary approach
- Avoid doing tricky cases on a Wednesday