

Obstetric Anesthesia Considerations in Patients on Antithrombotic Therapy

Katherine W. Arendt, M.D.
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology
Medical Director, Obstetric Anesthesiology
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

Cardiac Problems in Pregnancy
Monday, February 29, 2016, 11:15-11:30am

Coagulation and Obstetrics

- Pregnancy results in

- ↑ Platelet turnover
- ↑ Clotting
- ↑ Fibrinolysis

- Labor

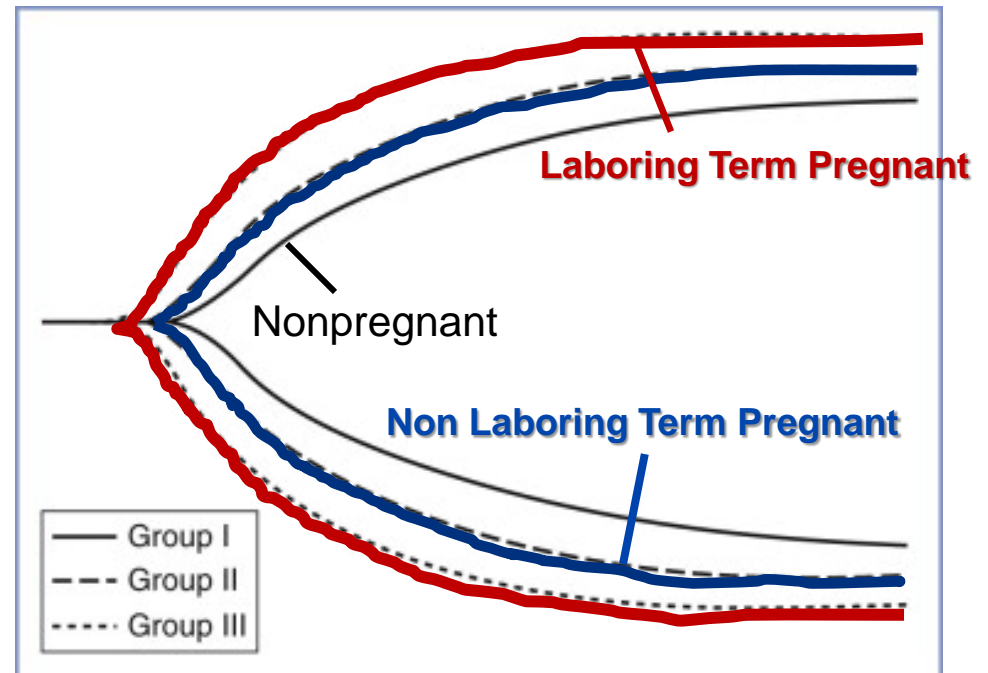
- More hypercoaguable
- Bleeding/clotting risk

- Postpartum

- Hypercoagulable state

- Return to normal

- 2 weeks postpartum



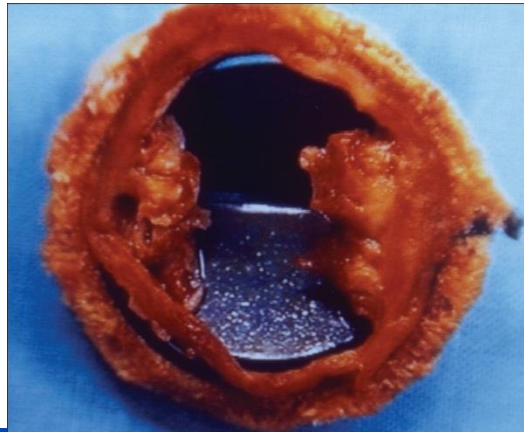
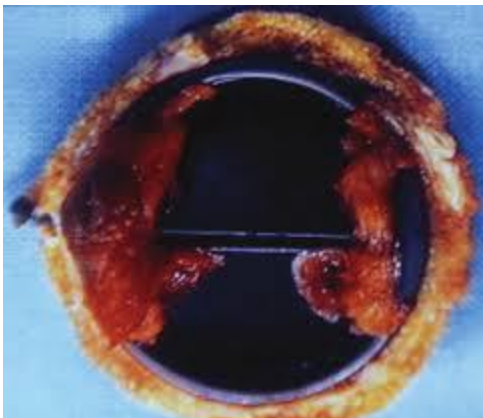
Coagulation and Obstetrics

Healthy women

- DVT/ PE leading cause of maternal mortality

Cardiac patients

- Clots = catastrophe
- Fontan, pulmonary hypertension, mechanical valves



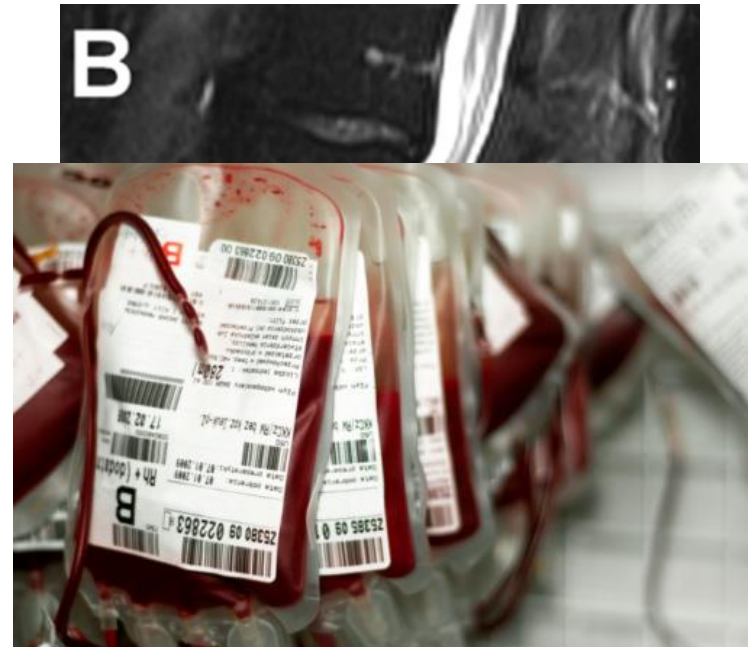
Antithrombotic Therapy in Peripartum

Obstetric Consideration

- Hemorrhage leading cause of worldwide maternal mortality
 - Hemorrhage with CS
 - Normal loss: 1000cc
 - Hemorrhage & labor
 - Normal loss: 600cc

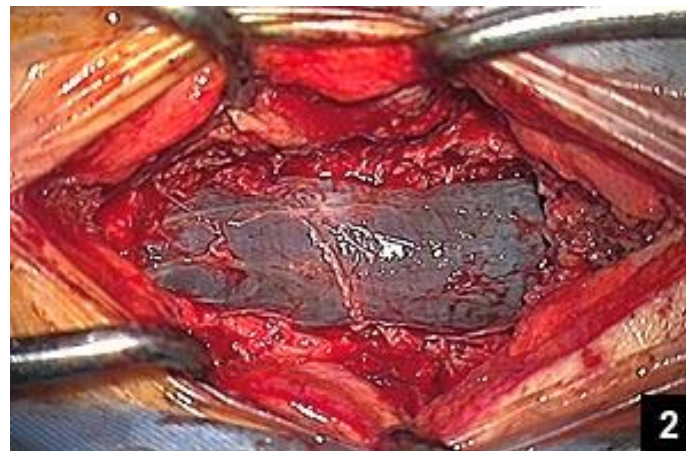
Neuraxial Considerations

- Neuraxial hematoma risk



Neuraxial Hematoma

- Rare: 1:168,000 epidurals; 1:>200,000 spinals
- Difficult to detect
 - Ongoing neuraxial anesthetic
- Devastating:
 - Paralysis
 - Surgical decompression within 7 hours



Anticoagulation & Neuraxial Anesthesia Guidelines

- American Society of Regional Anesthesia (ASRA)
- American College of Chest Physicians (ACC)
- European Society of Anaesthesiology
- Scandinavian Society of Regional Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Belgium Association for Regional Anesthesia
- Brazilian Society of Anesthesiology



Why Guidelines Matter to YOU

Spontaneous Labor + Anticoagulation = NO epidural



Can this woman's cardiovascular system tolerate labor without epidural analgesia?

ASRA Guidelines*



There's an app for that!

ASRA Guidelines*

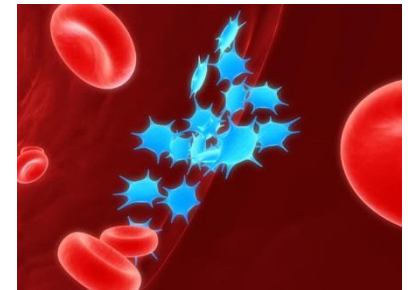


Antiplatelet agents



- **NSAIDS & Aspirin**
 - **No contraindications** to regional anesthesia

- **Clopidogrel**
 - No neuraxial for **7 days** since last dose



ASRA Guidelines*



- **Warfarin**

- **Normal INR** prior to neuraxial technique
- Catheter *removal* with $INR \leq 1.5$



- **Thrombolytic therapy**

- **Absolute contraindication**



ASRA Guidelines



Unfractionated heparin

- **Subcutaneous**

- Check platelets to r/o HIT (>4 days since initiation)
- No contraindication in b.i.d. dosing if total $\leq 10,000\text{U}$,*
check APTT for greater doses.
- Time catheter placement: 4-6 hrs from last dose
- Time catheter removal: 4-6 hrs from last dose

ASRA Guidelines*



Unfractionated heparin

- **Intravenous**

- Check platelets to r/o HIT (>4 days since initiation)
- For placement: **Check APTT** & await normalization
- After catheter is in: Restart heparin infusion 1 hr after neuraxial technique
- For removal: wait 2-4 hrs after last heparin dose



ASRA Guidelines

Fractionated heparin

- “Prophylactic” dosing
 - Enoxaparin 40mg per day or Dalteparin 5000u per day
 - Neuraxial placement: Wait **12 hours**

- “Therapeutic” dosing
 - Essentially anything greater than above doses falls into this category.
 - Neuraxial placement: Wait **24 hours**



ASRA Guidelines

- New Anticoagulants
 - Platelet aggregation inhibitors
 - Ticagrelor **7 days**
 - Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa antagonist
 - Abciximab **2 days**
 - Factor Xa Inhibitors
 - Apixiban **3 days**
 - Rivaroxaban **3 days**
 - Fondaparinux (No recommendation possible)
 - Direct or competitive thrombin inhibitor
 - Dabigatran **5 days**

ASRA Recommendations

- 36 wks gestation
 - Change oral anticoagulants to LMWH or UFH
- In high risk patients
 - Consider scheduling IOL or CS to manage anticoagulation & allow for neuraxial techniques
- 36 hrs prior to IOL or CS
 - Change LMWH → IV or SQ UFH
- If labor suspected, withhold SQ LMWH or UFH
- Hold prophylactic anticoagulation for 24 hours after CS
- Hold therapeutic for 24 hours after CS or vaginal delivery

Anticoagulation & Anesthesia for CS

- Can avoid neuraxial with General Anesthesia
- Still need coagulation for surgery
 - ***Extreme caution when reversing for CS***
 - Heparin reverses with protamine
 - *Protamine → pulmonary hypertension*
 - Coumadin reverses with FFP
 - Other reversal options for other agents:
 - Hemodialysis
 - Prothrombin complex concentrates
 - Recombinant factor VIIa
 - Emerging: specific antidotes to rivaroxaban, dabigatran, apixaban



Thank you!

Arendt.katherine@mayo.edu