

Practice Recommendation: Enhancing Obstetric Hemorrhage Management Through Protocolized Care

Obstetric hemorrhage remains a leading cause of maternal mortality globally, with significant disparities affecting marginalized populations. To improve outcomes, it is essential to adopt and implement evidence-based practices that address both the clinical management of hemorrhage and the inequities in care. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) play a critical role in managing obstetric hemorrhage. CRNAs should be trained and empowered to act swiftly in activating MTPs, communicating effectively with the surgical team, and coordinating care to stabilize the patient. Teamwork and clear communication are essential to the success of these protocols.

CRNA leaders in obstetrics should establish and routinely use Massive Transfusion Protocols (MTPs) tailored to obstetric patients. These protocols should include clearly defined steps for blood product administration, with a focus on maintaining adequate fibrinogen levels and managing the lethal triad of hypothermia, acidosis, and coagulopathy. MTPs should be adapted to both well-resourced and resource-limited settings, ensuring that all patients receive timely and effective care and effectively address disparities in care.