

## Timing and Risk Factors for Postpartum Stroke

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1. Describe the guidelines at your institution regarding the postpartum management of hypertensive diseases of pregnancy. How are these guidelines similar to or different from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' recommendations (see *Obstet Gynecol* 2013;122:1122–1131).
2. What is the primary objective of the study? Why do the authors think it is important to study the timing of stroke occurrence? Do you agree or disagree, and why?
3. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the data source (Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project's Nationwide Readmissions Database).
4. Describe how the primary outcome, stroke readmissions after a delivery hospitalization, was ascertained. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using this primary outcome to estimate the incidence of postpartum stroke.
5. Summarize the key study findings regarding the frequency and timing of stroke and association with hypertensive disorders. Do they confirm what you thought was true prior to reading this article? How do the findings vary from your experience?
6. Describe the methods used by the authors to address potential misclassification of stroke, and discuss their findings.
7. How does the strength of the association observed between hypertensive disorders of pregnancy and stroke influence your opinion about the existence of a true causal relationship?
8. Discuss whether or not you agree with the authors' conclusion: "The majority of readmissions for postpartum stroke occur within 10 days of discharge; optimal blood pressure management may be particularly important during this period."