Postpartum Preeclampsia Checklist

Triage patients less than 6 weeks postpartum as follows:

☐ Core evaluation and assessment
☐ If BP ≥ 160/110 or 140/90 with:
  • Unremitting headaches
  • Visual disturbance
  • Epigastric pain
☐ Begin stabilization
☐ Call for Obstetric consult immediately
☐ OBS contact documented
☐ Call MFM/MICU consult immediately for refractory blood pressure
☐ Labs should include:
  • CBC
  • PT
  • PTT
  • Fibrinogen
  • CMP
  • Uric Acid
  • Hepatic function panel
  • Type and Screen
☐ Initiate Intravenous Access
☐ Assess neurologic status
  • LOC/arousal/orientation/behavior
  • Deep tendon reflexes
  • Speech
☐ Assess vital signs including oxygen saturation
☐ Assess complaints and report; unremitting headaches, epigastric pain, visual disturbances, speech difficulties, lateralizing neuro signs
☐ Place Foley catheter
☐ Strict I&O report output less than 30 ml/hr for 2 hours
☐ Plan brain imaging studies if:
  • Unremitting headache
  • Focal signs and symptoms
  • Uncontrolled high blood pressure
  • Lethargy
  • Confusion
  • Seizures
  • Abnormal neurologic examination

Initial Medications

☐ Load 4-6 grams 10% magnesium sulfate in 100 ml solution IV over 20 minutes
☐ Magnesium sulfate on infusion pump
☐ Magnesium sulfate and pump labeled
☐ Magnesium sulfate 10 grams of 50% solution IM (5 grams in each buttock) if no IV access
☐ Magnesium sulfate maintenance 1-2 grams/hour continuous infusion

Contraindications: pulmonary edema, renal failure, myasthenia gravis

If magnesium sulfate is contraindicated:
Keppra 500 mg PO or IV every 12 hours

Antihypertensive Medications

• Labetalol (20, 40, 80, 80 mg IV* over 2 minutes, escalating doses, repeat every 10 minutes or 200 mg orally if no IV access); avoid in asthma or heart failure, can cause neonatal bradycardia
• Hydralazine (5-10 mg IV* over 2 minutes, repeat in 20 minutes until target blood pressure is reached)
• Repeat blood pressure every 10 minutes during administration

* Maximum cumulative IV administered doses should not exceed 25 mg hydralazine; 220 mg labetalol in 24 hours.