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Point of care blood clotting test and its correlation with fibrinogen level: Potential in goal directed transfusion in postpartum hemorrhage

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Abstract

Objective: To study the correlation of point of care clotting test (POCCT) of whole blood with lab fibrinogen level in women having primary major postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) to generate evidence regarding its potential in rationalizing transfusion of blood components for supplementing fibrinogen.

Methods: Total 68 cases included 40 primary major PPH, 20 without PPH and 8 samples of FFP. POCCT was performed in PPH and non PPH group and at the same time a sample for lab fibrinogen was sent. The values were correlated using Pearson's correlation coefficient (r). Depending upon the lab fibrinogen values, POCCT in PPH group was divided into 3 subgroups of <7, 7-11 and >11 minutes as subgroup 1,2 and 3 respectively.

Results: women of PPH group (n=40) had a mean fibrinogen level of 346.15 ± 143.37 mg% with a significant negative correlation with POCCT ($r = -0.69$, $p < .00001$). Mean fibrinogen level of non PPH group and FFP samples was 602.1 ± 169.72 and 286.75 ± 103.42 mg% respectively. PPH subgroups 1,2 and 3 had mean fibrinogen of 452.2 ± 141.8 , 332.58 ± 138.51 and 158.71 ± 145 mg% respectively. These values may potentially guide FFP transfusions.

Conclusion: POCCT is easy, costs nothing and has potential role in rationalizing FFP transfusion in Low to middle income countries.

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