

A Team Effort to Reduce Maternal Mortality: Implementing Patient Safety Bundles for Hypertension

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Disclosures

I have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

DISCLAIMER:

The following material is an example only, and not meant to be prescriptive. ACOG accepts no liability for the content or for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of the information provided.

Objectives

- Provide an overview of the Hypertension Patient Safety Bundle.
- Give suggestions for how to effectively implement and utilize the bundle within your organization.
- Identify resources to customize for use within your organization.

Maternal Mortality and Severe Morbidity

Approximate distributions, compiled from multiple studies

Cause	Mortality (1-2 per 10,000)	ICU Admit (1-2 per 1,000)	Severe Morbid (1-2 per 100)
VTE and AFE	15%	5%	2%
Infection	10%	5%	5%
Hemorrhage	15%	30%	45%
Preeclampsia	15%	30%	30%
Cardiac Disease	25%	20%	10%

Hypertension Perspective

- Hypertensive disorders in pregnancy are common complications that affect 5% to 10% of all pregnancies in the United States. ³
- Preeclampsia is the leading cause of maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality, with an estimated 50,000 – 60,000 preeclampsia-related deaths per year worldwide. ^{2,4}
- For every preeclampsia-related death that occurs in the United States, there are probably 50-100 other women who experience “near miss” significant maternal morbidity that stops short of death but still results in significant health risk and health care costs. ^{1,3}

1. Callaghan WM, Mackay AP, Berg CJ. [Identification of severe maternal morbidity during delivery hospitalizations, United States, 1991-2003](#). *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 2008; 199:133.e1-8.
2. Duley L. [Maternal mortality associated with hypertensive disorders of pregnancy in Africa, Asia, Latin American and the Caribbean](#). *Br J Obstet Gynaecol* 1992;99:547-53.
3. Kuklina EV, Ayala C, Callaghan WM. [Hypertensive disorders and severe obstetric morbidity in the United States](#). *Obstet Gynecol* 2009; 113:1299-306.
4. World Health Organization. The world health report: 2005: make every mother and child count. Geneva: WHO; 2005. Available at: http://www.who.int/whr/2005_en.pdf

Dominance of Provider QI Opportunities

- California Pregnancy Associated Mortality Reviews
 - Missed triggers/risk factors: abnormal vital signs, pain, altered mental status/lack of planning for at risk patients
 - Underutilization of key medications and treatments
 - Difficulties getting physician to the bedside
 - “Location of care” issues involving Postpartum, ED and PACU

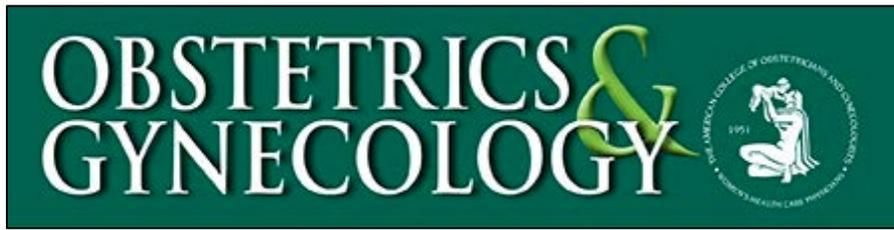
Present in >95% of cases

- University of Illinois Regional Perinatal Network
 - Failure to identify high-risk status
 - Incomplete or inappropriate management

Present in >90% of cases

National Partnership for Maternal Safety: Confluence of Multiple Efforts- May 2013 ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting

- CDC / ACOG Maternal Mortality Work Group
- SMFM--M back into MFM Work Group
- AWHONN: Safety Projects
- State Quality Collaboratives
- Merck for Mothers
- Maternal Child Health Branch—M back into MCH
- CDC: Maternal Mortality Reviews and Maternal Morbidity Projects



Current Commentary

The National Partnership for Maternal Safety

Mary E. D'Alton, MD, Elliott K. Main, MD, M. Kathryn Menard, MD, and Barbara S. Levy, MD

Recognition of the need to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in the United States has led to the creation of the National Partnership for Maternal Safety. This collaborative, broad-based initiative will begin with three priority bundles for the most common preventable causes of maternal death and severe morbidity: obstetric hemorrhage, severe hypertension in pregnancy, and peripartum venous thromboembolism. In addition, three unit-improvement bundles for obstetric services were identified: a structured approach for the recognition of early warning signs and symptoms, structured internal case reviews to identify systems improvement opportunities, and support tools for patients, families, and staff that experience an adverse outcome. This article details the formation of the National Partnership for Maternal Safety and introduces the initial priorities.

(Obstet Gynecol 2014;123:973–7)

DOI: 10.1097/AOG.0000000000000219

issued a Sentinel Alert entitled “Preventing Maternal Death”² and proposed various initiatives to decrease maternal mortality including case reporting and review, health care provider education, team training and drills, and thromboembolism prophylaxis.

During the past 2 years, several organizations—including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (the College), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses, and the American College of Nurse-Midwives—have collaborated to identify priorities for maternal safety. Universal recognition of the need for action to reduce U.S. maternal mortality and morbidity led to the creation of the National Partnership for Maternal Safety. This report outlines a national initiative for every birthing facility

Federal
**(MCH-B, CDC,
CMS/CMMI)**

Obstetricians
**(ACOG/SMFM/
ACOGG)**

Nurses
(AWHONN)

State
**(AMCHP, ASTHO,
MCH)**

Family Medicine
(AAFP)

Midwives
(ACNM)

OB Anesthesia
(SOAP)

Nurse Practitioners
(NPWH)

Blood Banks
(AABC)

Hospitals
(AHA, VHA)

Birthing Centers
(AABC)

Perinatal Quality
Collaboratives
(many)

Direct Providers

Safety,
Credentials
(TJC)

**Maternal
Safety**

Council on Patient Safety: July 2013

Endorsed the concept: 3 Maternal Safety Bundles

“What every birthing facility
in the US should have...”

*The bundles represent outlines of recommended protocols and materials important to safe care **BUT** the specific contents and protocols should be individualized to meet local capabilities.*



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Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy Patient Safety Bundle

Log in to access this valuable resource. Registration is free and can be used to access this and other patient safety tools!

[LOG IN TO DOWNLOAD BUNDLE >>](#)



PATIENT SAFETY
HEALTH CARE

woman

4 Domains of Patient Safety Bundles

- Readiness
- Recognition & Prevention
- Response
- Reporting & Systems Learning

PATIENT
SAFETY
BUNDLE

Hypertension

READINESS

Every Unit

- Standards for early warning signs, diagnostic criteria, monitoring and treatment of severe preeclampsia/eclampsia (include order sets and algorithms)
- Unit education on protocols, unit-based drills (with post-drill debriefs)
- Process for timely triage and evaluation of pregnant and postpartum women with hypertension including ED and outpatient areas
- Rapid access to medications used for severe hypertension/eclampsia: Medications should be stocked and immediately available on L&D and in other areas where patients may be treated. Include brief guide for administration and dosage.
- System plan for escalation, obtaining appropriate consultation, and maternal transport, as needed

[Click here for Readiness Resources](#)

- [Hypertensive Disorders During Pregnancy Checklist: Eclampsia \(ACOG District II\)](#)
- [Hypertensive Disorders During Pregnancy Checklist: Postpartum Preeclampsia in the ED \(ACOG District II\)](#)
- [Hypertensive Disorders During Pregnancy Checklist: Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy \(ACOG District II\)](#)
- [Hypertension in Pregnancy Task Force Report \(ACOG\) - Coming Soon](#)



[Click here for a downloadable PDF of the bundle.](#)



[Click here for a complete resource listing.](#)

Goals

- Improve **readiness** to severe hypertension in pregnancy by identifying standard protocols on every unit.
- Improve **recognition** of severe hypertension in pregnancy by prompt response to early maternal warning signs.
- Improve **response** to severe hypertension in pregnancy with facility wide standards for management and treatment of severe hypertension and eclampsia.
- Improve **reporting/systems learning** of severe hypertension in pregnancy by establishing a culture of huddles and debriefs.

Readiness - Every Unit

Standards for early warning signs, diagnostic criteria, monitoring and treatment of severe preeclampsia/eclampsia

- Adopt standard maternal early warning signs and diagnostic criteria
- Adopt protocols for evaluation, monitoring and treatment, including order sets and algorithms



The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

Hypertension in Pregnancy

*Report of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists'
Task Force on Hypertension in Pregnancy*



Readiness - Every Unit

Unit education on protocols, unit-based drills

- Familiarize all team members with safety bundle and protocols
- Team-based drills to improve knowledge and skills, identify areas for improvement
- Post-drill debriefing



Readiness - Every Unit

Process for a timely triage and evaluation of pregnant and postpartum women with hypertension

- Every unit includes any unit where a pregnant woman might present – ED, urgent care
- All women of reproductive age should be asked about current or recent pregnancy
- Protocol for prompt assessment of symptoms

Readiness - Every Unit

Rapid access to medications used for severe hypertension/eclampsia

- Medications should be stocked and immediately available on L&D and other areas where patients may present (ED)
- Medications with uniform concentration and standard orders for administration
- Magnesium Sulfate, labetalol and/or hydralazine, nifedipine

Readiness - Every Unit

System plan for escalation, obtaining appropriate consultation, and maternal transport, as needed

- Criteria and protocol for escalation
- Plan for rapid stabilization and transport



Recognition and Prevention - Every Patient

Standard protocol for measurement and assessment of BP and urine protein for all pregnant and postpartum women

- Protocol for accurate measurement of blood pressure – timing, patient position, equipment
- Standard for assessment of urine protein based on lab availability and timing

Recognition and Prevention - Every Patient

Standard response to maternal early warning signs

- Standardized risk assessment tool to enhance early recognition and treatment

Recognition and Prevention - Every Patient

Facility-wide standards for educating prenatal and postpartum women on signs and symptoms of hypertension and preeclampsia

- Inform women of the signs and symptoms of preeclampsia and when to notify their provider
 - Multiple opportunities – prenatal visits, childbirth class, hospital
 - Consider health literacy



RESPONSE

Every case of severe hypertension/preeclampsia

- Facility-wide standard protocols with checklists and escalation policies for management and treatment of:
 - Severe hypertension
 - Eclampsia, seizure prophylaxis, and magnesium over-dosage
 - Postpartum presentation of severe hypertension/preeclampsia
- Minimum requirements for protocol:
 - Notification of physician or primary care provider if systolic BP \geq 160 or diastolic BP \geq 110 for two measurements within 15 minutes
 - After the second elevated reading, treatment should be initiated ASAP (preferably within 60 minutes of verification)
 - Includes onset and duration of magnesium sulfate therapy
 - Includes escalation measures for those unresponsive to standard treatment
 - Describes manner and verification of follow-up within 7 to 14 days postpartum
 - Describe postpartum patient education for women with preeclampsia
- Support plan for patients, families, and staff for ICU admissions and serious complications of severe hypertension

REPORTING/SYSTEMS LEARNING

Every unit

- Establish a culture of huddles for high risk patients and post-event debriefs to identify successes and opportunities
- Multidisciplinary review of all severe hypertension/eclampsia cases admitted to ICU for systems issues
- Monitor outcomes and process metrics

Note: "Facility-wide" indicates all areas where pregnant or postpartum women receive care. (E.g. L&D, postpartum critical care, emergency department, and others depending on the facility).

PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

Hypertension



The American College of
Obstetrics and Gynecology
www.acog.org

COMMITTEE OPINION

Number 633 • February 2015

(Replaces Committee Opinion Number 514, December 2010)

Committee on Obstetric Practice

This document will change clinical and practice patterns of the day based on a subject change. The information should not be construed as advising on individual cases of treatment or practice to be followed.

Emergent Therapy for Acute-Onset, Severe Hypertension During Pregnancy and the Postpartum Period

ABSTRACT: Acute-onset, severe systolic hypertension; severe diastolic hypertension; or both can occur in pregnant women or women in the postpartum period. Intuitively standardized, evidence-based clinical guidelines for the management of patients with preeclampsia and eclampsia has been demonstrated to reduce the incidence of adverse maternal outcomes. Individuals and institutions should have mechanisms in place to initiate the prompt administration of medication when a patient presents with a hypertensive emergency. Once the hypertensive emergency is treated, a complete and detailed evaluation of maternal and fetal well-being is needed with consideration of, among many issues, the need for subsequent pharmacotherapy and the appropriate timing of delivery.

Risk reduction and successful, safe clinical outcomes for women with preeclampsia or eclampsia require appropriate and prompt recognition and management of severe systolic and/or diastolic hypertension (1). Implementing standardized order sets into everyday sub practice in the United States is a challenge. Increasing evidence indicates that standardization of care improves patient outcomes (2). Implementing standardized, evidence-based clinical guidelines for the management of patients with preeclampsia and eclampsia has been demonstrated to reduce the incidence of adverse maternal outcomes (3).

There are equal to 100 cases of severe hypertension or both in pregnant women or women in the postpartum period. This can occur in the second half of gestation or women and babies to have chronic hypertension who develop eclampsia, severe hypertension (2), with preeclampsia, gestational hypertension, or HELLP. Diuretics, alcohol, illicit substances, and low placental perfusion may also occur among patients with chronic hypertension who are developing superimposed preeclampsia with severely worsening difficult to control, severe hypertension. Acute-onset, severe hypertension that is accurately measured using standard techniques and is persistent for 15 minutes or more is considered a hypertensive emergency (4).

maternal mortality rates decreased from 16 percent and 10 percent of individuals and institutions should place to initiate the prompt treatment when a patient presents with a top (5). The use of decision trees at the process. This document series Number 633, Emergent Therapy for Hypertension With Precedence of the included algorithm as a clinical algorithm, severe hypertension in the postpartum period.

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ERRATA 5.13.14

A California Toolkit to Transform Maternity Care

Improving Health Care Response to Preeclampsia: A California Quality Improvement Toolkit

THIS COLLABORATIVE PROJECT WAS DEVELOPED BY:

THE PREECLAMPSIA TASK FORCE

CALIFORNIA MATERNAL QUALITY CARE COLLABORATIVE

MATERNAL, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH DIVISION, CENTER FOR FAMILY HEALTH

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CMQCC

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Response - Every Case of Severe Hypertension/Preeclampsia

Facility-wide standard protocols with checklists and escalation policies for management and treatment of:

- Severe hypertension***
- Eclampsia, seizure prophylaxis, and magnesium over-dosage***
- Postpartum presentation of severe hypertension/preeclampsia***

Response - Every Case of Severe Hypertension/Preeclampsia

Minimum requirements for protocols:

- Notification of physician or primary care provider if systolic BP \geq 160 or Diastolic BP \geq 110 for two measurements within 15 minutes.
- After the second elevated reading, treatment should be initiated ASAP (preferably within 60 minutes of verification)
- Includes onset and duration of magnesium sulfate therapy.
- Includes escalation measures for those unresponsive to standard treatment.
- Describes manner and verification of follow up within 7 to 14 days postpartum
- Describe postpartum patient education for women with preeclampsia.

Response - Every Case of Severe Hypertension/Preeclampsia

When patients have been admitted to the ICU or have had serious complications of severe hypertension facilities should have a support plan for:

- Patients***
- Families***
- Staff***



RESPONSE

Every case of severe hypertension/preeclampsia

- Facility-wide standard protocols with checklists and escalation policies for management and treatment of:
 - Severe hypertension
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- Support plan for patients, families, and staff for ICU admissions and serious complications of severe hypertension

REPORTING/SYSTEMS LEARNING

Every unit

- Establish a culture of huddles for high risk patients and post-event debriefs to identify successes and opportunities
- Multidisciplinary review of all severe hypertension/eclampsia cases admitted to ICU for systems issues
- Monitor outcomes and process metrics

Note: "Facility-wide" indicates all areas where pregnant or postpartum women receive care. (E.g. L&D, postpartum critical care, emergency department, and others depending on the facility).

PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

Hypertension

Hypertension Process Metrics Could Include:

- Adherence to protocols for acute management
- Appropriateness of response to early warning criteria
- Documentation of education of pregnant and postpartum women about symptoms of preeclampsia for women at risk
- Occurrence of post severe maternal morbidity (SMM) event debrief and outcomes
- Timeliness of medication administration
- Timeliness of triage and evaluation

Note: These metrics are provided as an example and are not meant to serve as a comprehensive listing. Metrics for Reporting and Systems Learning can be modified to meet the particular needs of an institution.

Current Commentary

Standardized Severe Maternal Morbidity Review Rationale and Process

Sarah J. Kilpatrick, MD, PhD, Cynthia Berg, MD, MPH, Peter Bernstein, MD, Debra Bingham, MD, RN, Ana Delgado, CNM, MSN, William M. Callaghan, MD, MPH, Karen Harris, MD, MPH, Susan Lavin, MD, Jeanne Mahoney, RN, MSN, Elliot Main, MD, Amy Nash, CNM, MSN, Michael Schollyffer, MD, Thomas Westover, MD, and Margaret Harper, MD

Severe maternal morbidity and mortality have been rising in the United States. To begin a national effort to reduce morbidity, a specific call to identify all pregnant and postpartum women experiencing admission to an intensive care unit or receipt of 4 or more units of blood for routine review has been made. While advocating for

review of these cases, no specific guidance for the review process was provided. Therefore, the aim of this expert opinion is to present guidelines for a standardized severe maternal morbidity interdisciplinary review process to identify systems, professional, and facility factors that can be ameliorated, with the overall goal of improving maternal obstetric safety and reducing severe morbidity and mortality among pregnant and recently pregnant women. This opinion was developed by a multidisciplinary working group that included general obstetricians-gynecologists, maternal-fetal medicine subspecialists, certified nurse-midwives, and registered nurses all with experience in maternal mortality reviews. A process for standardized review of severe maternal morbidity addressing committee organization, review process, medical record abstraction and assessment, review culture, data management, review timing, and review confidentiality is presented. Reference is made to a sample severe maternal morbidity abstraction and assessment form.

The authors thank Anne Sorenson, MD, RN, for her significant contributions to the severe maternal morbidity abstraction and assessment form.

Jeanne Mahoney, RN, MSN, is an employee of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG). All opinions expressed in this article are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect the policies and views of the College. Any information that the authors receive from the College is considered for the benefit of this work.

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This article is being published concurrently in the July/August 2014 issue (Vol 41, No 4) of *Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Neonatal Nursing*.

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Financial Disclosure
The authors did not report any potential conflicts of interest.

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To begin a national effort to reduce maternal morbidity, a specific call to identify all pregnant and postpartum women experiencing admission to an intensive care unit or receipt of 4 or more units of blood for routine review has been made.¹ The increasing rates of maternal mortality and severe morbidity in the United States have been well-documented in recent publications.²⁻⁴ It is therefore appropriate that efforts should be focused on reducing maternal severe morbidity and deaths.^{5,6} Review of maternal deaths in order to identify likely preventable deaths and interventions to reduce preventable deaths have been widespread for years.^{7,8} However, the call to similarly implement routine standardized identification and evaluation of severe

VOL. 124, NO. 2, PART 1, AUGUST 2014

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY 361



Reporting/Systems Learning - Every Unit

Establish a culture of huddles and debriefs to identify successes and opportunities for improvement

- ***Briefs, huddles and debriefs become part of the routine***
- ***Will improve role clarity, situational awareness and utilization of available resources***

Remember: Debriefing is meant to be a learning experience and a way to address both human factors and systems issues to improve the response for next time. There is to be no blaming/finger-pointing.

Type of event: _____ Date of event: _____
 Location of event: _____ Person completing form: _____

Members of team present: (circle all that apply)

Primary RN	Primary MD	Charge RN	Resident(s)	Other RNs
Anesthesia personnel	Neonatology personnel	MFM leader	Patient Safety Officer	
Nurse Manager	OB/Surgical tech	Unit Clerk	Antepartum team (RNs, PA, Fellow, Resident)	

Thinking about how the obstetric event was managed...

Identify what went well (Check if yes) <input type="checkbox"/> Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Role clarity (leader/supporting roles identified and assigned) <input type="checkbox"/> Teamwork <input type="checkbox"/> Situational awareness <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-making <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	Identify opportunities for improvement: "human factors" (Check if yes) <input type="checkbox"/> Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Role clarity <input type="checkbox"/> Teamwork <input type="checkbox"/> Situational awareness <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-making <input type="checkbox"/> Human error <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	Identify opportunities for improvement: "systems issue" (Check if yes) <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment/supplies/accessibility <input type="checkbox"/> Medication <input type="checkbox"/> Blood products availability <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate support (in unit or other areas of the hospital) <input type="checkbox"/> Delays in transporting the patient (within hospital or to another facility) <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
---	---	--

For identified issues, please fill in table below...

Issue	Actions to be Taken	Person Responsible

Do not place any patient identifiers on this form

Fig. 1. Sample debrief tool for maternal severe morbidity or death—Montefiore Medical Center. Figure courtesy of C. Lee and D. Goffman. Used with permission.

Kilpatrick. Severe Maternal Morbidity Review Process. *Obstet Gynecol* 2014.

Reporting/Systems Learning - Every Unit

Multidisciplinary review all severe hypertension/eclampsia cases admitted to ICU cases for systems issues

- Formal meetings to identify any systems issues or breakdowns that influenced the outcome of the event
- Multidisciplinary Perinatal Quality Committee
- Sanctioned and protected.

Reporting/Systems Learning in Every Unit

Monitor outcomes and process metrics in perinatal quality improvement committee

- Process measures used to document the frequency that a new approach is used
- Outcome measures used to determine project success
- Goal: To reduce the number of severe hypertensive events that result in severe maternal morbidity or mortality
- Follow internally number of women who require ICU care

How did ACOG District II do this?

http://www.acog.org/About-ACOG/ACOG-Districts/District-II

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Obstetric Hemorrhage **Severe Hypertension** **Venous Thromboembolism**

- Clinician Education & Resources
- Data Collection
- Implementation Visits & Grand Rounds
- Patient Support
- Public Relations & Media
- Quarterly Meetings & Monthly Calls

Thank you to all participating hospitals for supporting the Safe Motherhood Initiative:

TYPES OF HYPERTENSION

CHRONIC HYPERTENSION (OF ANY CAUSE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SBP ≥ 140 or DBP ≥ 90 ○ Pre-pregnancy or <20 weeks
GESTATIONAL HYPERTENSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SBP ≥ 140 or DBP ≥ 90 ○ > 20 weeks ○ Absence of proteinuria or systemic signs/symptoms
CHRONIC HYPERTENSION + SUPERIMPOSED PREECLAMPSIA	
PREECLAMPSIA - ECLAMPSIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SBP ≥ 140 or DBP ≥ 90 ○ Proteinuria with or without signs/symptoms ○ Presentation of signs/symptoms/lab abnormalities but no proteinuria <p><i>*Proteinuria not required for diagnosis eclampsia seizure in setting of preeclampsia</i></p>
PERSISTENT, SEVERE PREECLAMPSIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two severe BP values (SBP ≥ 160 or DBP ≥ 110) obtained 15-60 minutes apart ○ Persistent oliguria <500 ml/24 hours ○ Progressive renal insufficiency ○ Unremitting headache/visual disturbances ○ Pulmonary edema ○ Epigastric/RUQ pain ○ LFTs > 2x normal ○ Platelets < 100K ○ HELLP syndrome <p><i>*5 gr of proteinuria no longer criteria for severe preeclampsia</i></p>

DEFINITIONS

SEVERE HYPERTENSION:

- Systolic blood pressure \geq 160 mm Hg or
- Diastolic blood pressure \geq 110 mm Hg

HYPERTENSIVE EMERGENCY (PERSISTENT HYPERTENSION):

- Two severe BP values taken 15-60 minutes apart
- Severe values do not need to be consecutive
- *Can occur during antepartum, intrapartum, or postpartum periods*

WHEN TO TREAT

	DEFINITION	WHEN TO TREAT
SEVERE HYPERTENSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systolic blood pressure \geq 160 or • Diastolic blood pressure \geq 110 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat BP every 5 minutes for 15 minutes • Notify physician if SBP \geq 160 or DBP \geq 110
HYPERTENSIVE EMERGENCY (PERSISTENT HYPERTENSION)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two severe BP values taken 15-60 minutes apart • Severe values do not need to be consecutive • <i>Can occur during antepartum, intrapartum, or postpartum periods</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If severe BP elevations persist for 15 minutes or more, begin treatment ASAP. Preferably within 60 minutes of the second elevated value. • If two severe BPs are obtained within 15 minutes, treatment may be initiated if clinically indicated

FIRST LINE THERAPIES

- Intravenous labetalol
 - Intravenous hydralazine
 - Oral nifedipine
-

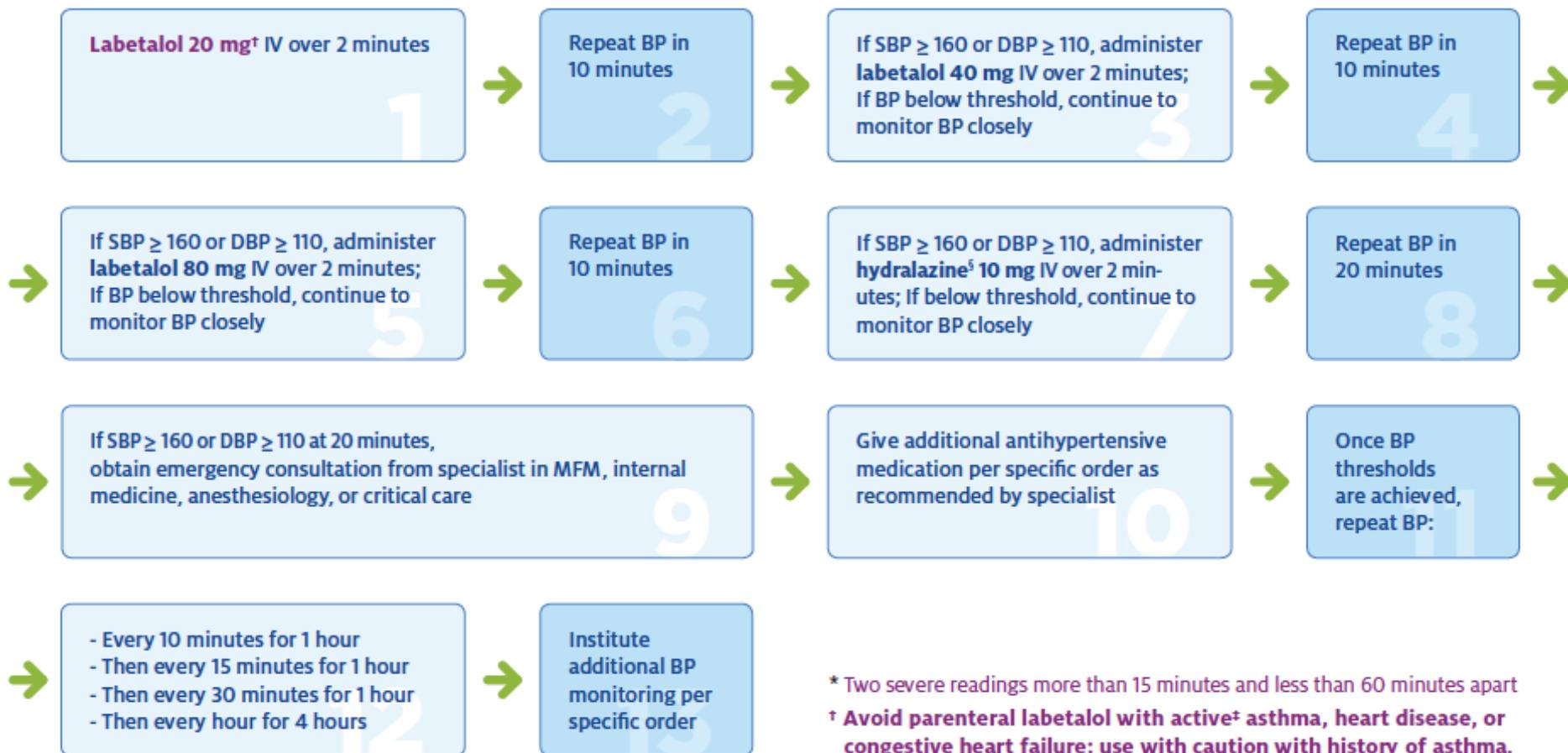
Note: MAGNESIUM SULFATE

- Not recommended as antihypertensive agent
- Remains drug of choice for:
 - Seizure prophylaxis
 - Controlling seizures in eclampsia
- Unless contraindicated, should be given when managing hypertensive crisis:
 - IV bolus of 4-6 grams in 100 ml over 20 minutes, followed by IV infusion of 1-2 grams per hour
 - Continue for 24 hours postpartum

Labetalol Algorithm

EXAMPLE

Trigger: If severe elevations (SBP ≥ 160 or DBP ≥ 110) persist* for 15 min or more **OR** If two severe elevations are obtained within 15 min and tx is clinically indicated



- Notify provider after one severe BP value is obtained
- Institute fetal surveillance if viable
- Hold IV labetalol for maternal pulse under 60
- Maximum cumulative IV-administered dose of labetalol should not exceed 220 mg in 24 hours
- There may be adverse effects and contraindications. Clinical judgement should prevail.

* Two severe readings more than 15 minutes and less than 60 minutes apart

† **Avoid parenteral labetalol with active[‡] asthma, heart disease, or congestive heart failure; use with caution with history of asthma. May cause neonatal bradycardia.**

‡ "Active asthma" is defined as:

- Ⓐ symptoms at least once a week, or
- Ⓑ use of an inhaler, corticosteroids for asthma during the pregnancy, or
- Ⓒ any history of intubation or hospitalization for asthma.

[§] Hydralazine may increase risk of maternal hypotension.

THERAPIES WHEN **NO** IV ACCESS AVAILABLE

- Initiate algorithm for oral nifedipine

or

- Oral labetalol, 200 mg

Repeat in 30 min if SBP remains ≥ 160 or DBP ≥ 110 and IV access still unavailable

SECOND LINE THERAPIES

If patient fails to respond to first line therapies, recommend emergency consult with:

- Maternal Fetal Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Anesthesiology
- Critical Care
- Emergency Medicine

May also consider:

- Labetalol or nicardipine via infusion pump
- Sodium nitroprusside for extreme emergencies (used for shortest amount of time due to cyanide/thiocyanate toxicity)

MONITORING BLOOD PRESSURE

MANAGEMENT

MATERNAL

- Measure BP every 10 minutes during administration of antihypertensive medications
- Once BP is controlled (<160/110), measure:
 - Every 10 minutes for 1 hour
 - Every 15 minutes for next hour
 - Every 30 minutes for next hour
 - Every hour for four hours
- Obtain baseline labs:
 - CBC
 - Platelets
 - LDH
 - Liver function tests
 - Electrolytes
 - BUN creatinine
 - Urine protein

FETAL

- Fetal monitoring surveillance as appropriate for gestational age

Hypertensive Emergency Checklist

HYPERTENSIVE EMERGENCY:

- Two severe BP values ($\geq 160/110$) taken 15-60 minutes apart. Values do not need to be consecutive.
- May treat within 15 minutes if clinically indicated

- Call for Assistance
- Designate:
 - Team leader
 - Checklist reader/recorder
 - Primary RN
- Ensure side rails up
- Ensure medications appropriate given patient history
- Administer seizure prophylaxis (magnesium sulfate first line agent, unless contraindicated)
- Antihypertensive therapy within 1 hour for persistent severe range BP
- Place IV; Draw preeclampsia labs
- Antenatal corticosteroids (if <34 weeks of gestation)
- Re-address VTE prophylaxis requirement
- Place indwelling urinary catheter
- Brain imaging if unremitting headache or neurological symptoms
- Debrief patient, family, and obstetric team

† "Active asthma" is defined as:

- (A) symptoms at least once a week, or
- (B) use of an inhaler, corticosteroids for asthma during the pregnancy, or
- (C) any history of intubation or hospitalization for asthma.

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Safe Motherhood Initiative



MAGNESIUM SULFATE

Contraindications: Myasthenia gravis; avoid with pulmonary edema, use caution with renal failure

IV access:

- Load 4-6 grams 10% magnesium sulfate in 100 mL solution over 20 min
- Label magnesium sulfate; Connect to labeled infusion pump
- Magnesium sulfate maintenance 1-2 grams/hour

No IV access:

- 10 grams of 50% solution IM (5 g in each buttock)

ANTIHYPERTENSIVE MEDICATIONS

For SBP ≥ 160 or DBP ≥ 110
 (See SMI algorithms for complete management when necessary to move to another agent after 2 doses.)

- Labetalol** (initial dose: 20mg); **Avoid parenteral labetalol with active asthma, heart disease, or congestive heart failure; use with caution with history of asthma**
- Hydralazine** (5-10 mg IV* over 2 min); **May increase risk of maternal hypotension**
- Oral Nifedipine** (10 mg capsules); Capsules should be administered orally, not punctured or otherwise administered sublingually

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

Note: if first line agents unsuccessful, emergency consult with specialist (MFM, internal medicine, OB anesthesiology, critical care) is recommended

ANTICONVULSANT MEDICATIONS

For recurrent seizures or when magnesium sulfate contraindicated

- Lorazepam (Ativan)**: 2-4 mg IV x 1, may repeat once after 10-15 min
- Diazepam (Valium)**: 5-10 mg IV q 5-10 min to maximum dose 30 mg

- ✓ Call for assistance
- ✓ Designate team leader, checklist reader, primary RN
- ✓ Ensure side rails are up
- ✓ Administer seizure prophylaxis
- ✓ Antihypertensive therapy within 1 hr for persistent severe range BP
- ✓ Place IV; Draw PEC labs
- ✓ Antenatal corticosteroids is <34 wks gestation
- ✓ Re-address VTE prophylaxis requirement
- ✓ Place indwelling urinary catheter
- ✓ Brain imaging if unremitting headache or neurological symptoms
- ✓ Debrief patient, family, OB team

Eclampsia Checklist

- Call for Assistance
- Designate
 - Team leader
 - Checklist reader/recorder
 - Primary RN
- Ensure side rails up
- Protect airway and improve oxygenation:
 - Maternal pulse oximetry
 - Supplemental oxygen (100% non-rebreather)
 - Lateral decubitus position
 - Bag-mask ventilation available
 - Suction available
- Continuous fetal monitoring
- Place IV; Draw preeclampsia labs
- Ensure medications appropriate given patient history
- Administer magnesium sulfate
- Administer antihypertensive therapy if appropriate
- Develop delivery plan, if appropriate
- Debrief patient, family, and obstetric team

MAGNESIUM SULFATE

Contraindications: Myasthenia gravis; avoid with pulmonary edema, use caution with renal failure

IV access:

- Load 4-6 grams 10% magnesium sulfate in 100 mL solution over 20 min
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- Magnesium sulfate maintenance 1-2 grams/hour

No IV access:

- 10 grams of 50% solution IM (5 g in each buttock)

ANTIHYPERTENSIVE MEDICATIONS

For SBP \geq 160 or DBP \geq 110
(See SMI algorithms for complete management when necessary to move to another agent after 2 doses.)

- Labetalol** (initial dose: 20mg); **Avoid parenteral labetalol with active asthma, heart disease, or congestive heart failure; use with caution with history of asthma**
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* Maximum cumulative IV-administered doses should not exceed 220 mg labetalol or 25 mg hydralazine in 24 hours

Note: If persistent seizures, consider anticonvulsant medications and additional workup

ANTICONVULSANT MEDICATIONS

For recurrent seizures or when magnesium sulfate contraindicated

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- Diazepam (Valium):** 5-10 mg IV q 5-10 min to maximum dose 30 mg

FOR PERSISTENT SEIZURES

- Neuromuscular block and intubate
- Obtain radiographic imaging
- ICU admission
- Consider anticonvulsant medications

- ✓ Call for assistance
- ✓ Designate team leader, checklist reader, primary RN
- ✓ Ensure side rails are up
- ✓ Protect airway + improve oxygenation
 - Maternal pulse oximetry
 - Supplemental oxygen (100% non-rebreather)
 - Lateral decubitus position
 - Bag-mask ventilation
 - Suction available
- ✓ Continuous fetal monitoring
- ✓ Place IV; Draw PEC labs
- ✓ Administer antihypertensive therapy if appropriate
- ✓ Develop delivery plan
- ✓ Debrief patient, family, OB team

† "Active asthma" is defined as:

- (A) symptoms at least once a week, or
- (B) use of an inhaler, corticosteroids for asthma during the pregnancy, or
- (C) any history of intubation or hospitalization for asthma.

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COMPLICATIONS & ESCALATION PROCESS

MATERNAL (PREGNANT OR POSTPARTUM)

- CNS (seizure, unremitting headache, visual disturbance)
- Pulmonary edema or cyanosis
- Epigastric or right upper quadrant pain
- Impaired liver function
- Thrombocytopenia
- Hemolysis
- Coagulopathy
- Oliguria **<30 ml/hr for 2 consecutive hours*

FETAL

- Abnormal fetal tracing
- IUGR

Prompt Evaluation and Communication

- If undelivered, plan for delivery

GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

ON ADMISSION

- ✓ **Complete history**
- ✓ **Complete physical exam + preeclampsia symptoms:**
 - Unremitting headaches
 - Visual changes
 - Epigastric pain
 - Fetal activity
 - Vaginal bleeding
- ✓ **Baseline BPs throughout pregnancy**
- ✓ **Meds/drugs taken throughout pregnancy (illicit & OTC)**
- ✓ **Current vital signs, inc. O2 saturation**
- ✓ **Current and past fetal assessment:**
 - FHR monitoring results
 - Est. fetal weight
 - BPP, as appropriate

GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

ASSESSMENT & PLAN

✓ Indicate diagnosis of preeclampsia

- If no dx, indicate steps taken to exclude preeclampsia

✓ Antihypertensives taken (if any)

- Specific medications
- Dose
- Route
- Frequency
- Current fetal status

Continue ongoing documentation of assessment every 30 min until patient stabilized at BPs below SBP 160 or DBP 110

✓ Magnesium sulfate (if initiated for seizure prophylaxis)

- Dose
- Route
- Duration of therapy

✓ Delivery assessment

- If indicated, note: timing, method, route
- If not indicated, describe circumstances to warrant delivery

✓ Antenatal corticosteroids if < 34 weeks of gestation

POSTPARTUM SURVEILLANCE

INPATIENT

- Necessary to prevent additional morbidity
- Preeclampsia and eclampsia can develop postpartum
- Measure BP every 4 hours after delivery until stable
- Do not use NSAIDs for women with elevated BP
- Do not discharge patient until BP is well controlled for at least 24 hours

ANTIHYPERTENSIVE THERAPY:

- Recommended for persistent postpartum HTN: **SBP \geq 150 or DBP \geq 100 on at least two occasions at least 4 hours apart**
- Persistent SBP \geq 160 or DBP \geq 110 should be treated within 1 hour

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Postpartum Preeclampsia Checklist

IF PATIENT < 6 WEEKS POSTPARTUM WITH:

- BP ≥ 160/110 or
- BP ≥ 140/90 with unremitting headache, visual disturbances, epigastric pain

- Call for Assistance
- Designate:
 - Team leader
 - Checklist reader/recorder
 - Primary RN
- Ensure side rails up
- Call obstetric consult; Document call
- Place IV; Draw preeclampsia labs
 - CBC
 - Chemistry Panel
 - PT
 - Uric Acid
 - PTT
 - Hepatic Function
 - Fibrinogen
 - Type and Screen
- Ensure medications appropriate given patient history
- Administer seizure prophylaxis
- Administer antihypertensive therapy
 - Contact MFM or Critical Care for refractory blood pressure
- Consider indwelling urinary catheter
 - Maintain strict I&O - patient at risk for pulmonary edema
- Brain imaging if unremitting headache or neurological symptoms

MAGNESIUM SULFATE

Contraindications: Myasthenia gravis; avoid with pulmonary edema, use caution with renal failure

IV access:

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Note: If first line agents unsuccessful, emergency consult with specialist (MFM, internal medicine, OB anesthesiology, critical care) is recommended

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- (C) any history of intubation or hospitalization for asthma.

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- ✓ Call for assistance
- ✓ Designate team leader, checklist reader, primary RN
- ✓ Ensure side rails up
- ✓ Call OB consult; Document call
- ✓ Place IV; Draw PEC labs
CBC, PT, PTT, Fibrinogen, Chemistry Panel, Uric Acid, Hepatic Function, Type and Screen
- ✓ Administer seizure prophylaxis
- ✓ Administer antihypertensive therapy
Contact MFM or Critical Care for refractory elevated BP
- ✓ Consider indwelling urinary catheter. Maintain strict I&O
- ✓ Brain imaging if unremitting headache or neurological symptoms



DISCHARGE PLANNING

All patients receive information on preeclampsia:

- ✓ Signs and symptoms
- ✓ Importance of reporting information to health care provider as soon as possible
- ✓ Patient-friendly language
- ✓ Culturally competent

All new nursing and physician staff receive information on hypertension in pregnancy and postpartum

FOR PATIENTS WITH PREECLAMPSIA

- ✓ BP monitoring recommended 72 hours after delivery
- ✓ Outpatient surveillance (visiting nurse evaluation) recommended within:
 - 3-5 days
 - Again in 7-10 days after delivery (earlier if persistent symptoms)

POST-DISCHARGE EVALUATION

ELEVATED BP AT HOME, OFFICE, TRIAGE

Postpartum triggers:

- SBP \geq 160 or DBP \geq 110 or
- SBP \geq 140-159 or DBP \geq 90-109 with unremitting headaches, visual disturbances, or epigastric/RUQ pain



- Emergency Department treatment (with OB /MICU consultation as needed)
- AntiHTN therapy suggested if persistent postpartum hypertension, SBP \geq 150 or DBP \geq 100, on at least two occasions at least 4 hours apart
- Persistent SBP \geq 160 or DBP \geq 110 should be treated within 1 hour



Good response to antiHTN treatment and asymptomatic



Admit for further observation and management (L&D, ICU, unit with telemetry)



Signs and symptoms of eclampsia, abnormal neurological evaluation, congestive heart failure, renal failure, coagulopathy, poor response to antihypertensive treatment



Recommend emergency consultation for further evaluation with a specialist (MFM, internal medicine, OB anesthesiology, critical care)



Safe Motherhood Initiative



ACOG
THE AMERICAN CONGRESS
OF OBSTETRICIANS
AND GYNECOLOGISTS

District II

Safe Motherhood Initiative Evaluation Phase 1

2016

Results-% with Timely Treatment of HTN

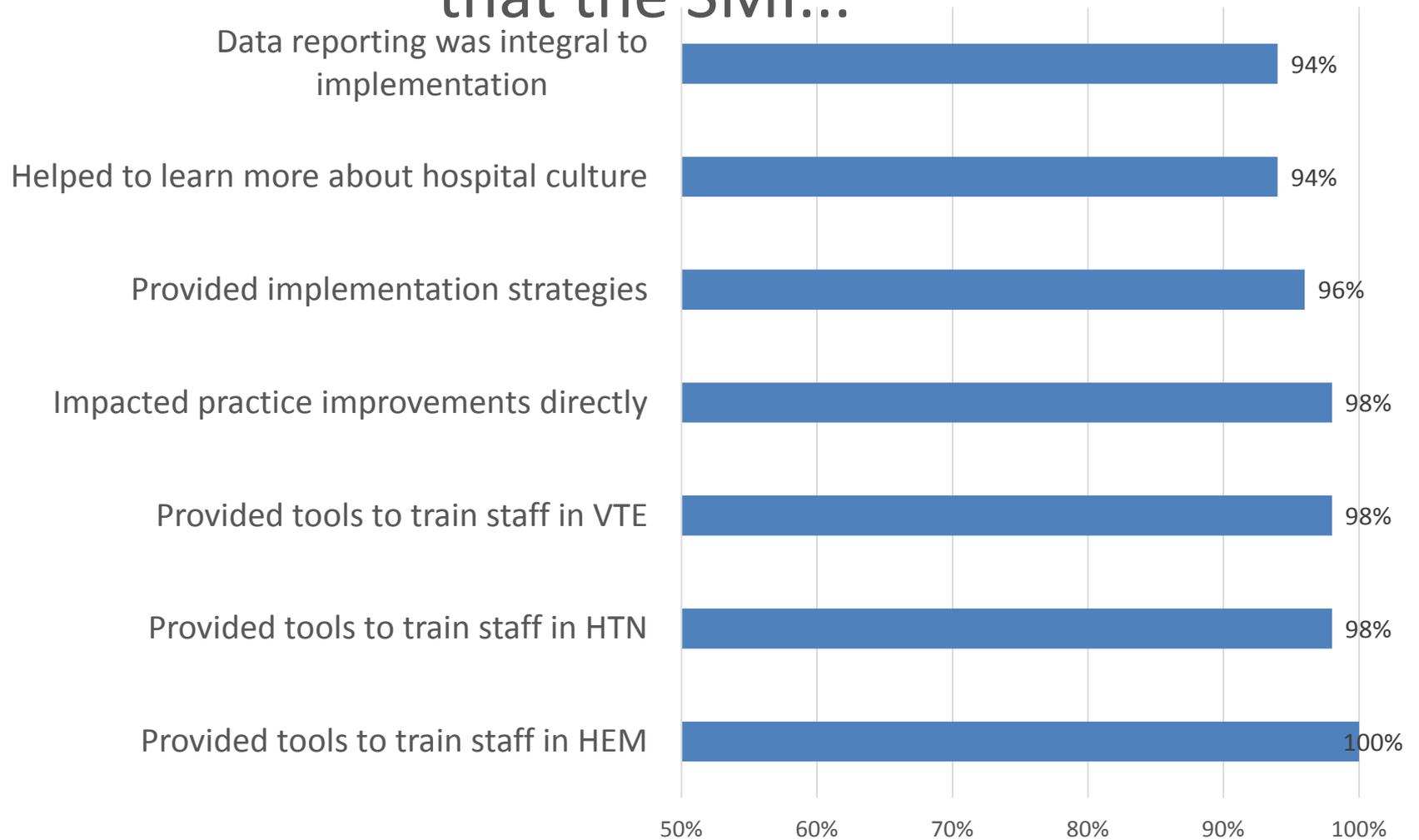
Of the pts with persistent htn, average % treated

Increase from 60.8% to 64.8%-P1 to P2 (NS)

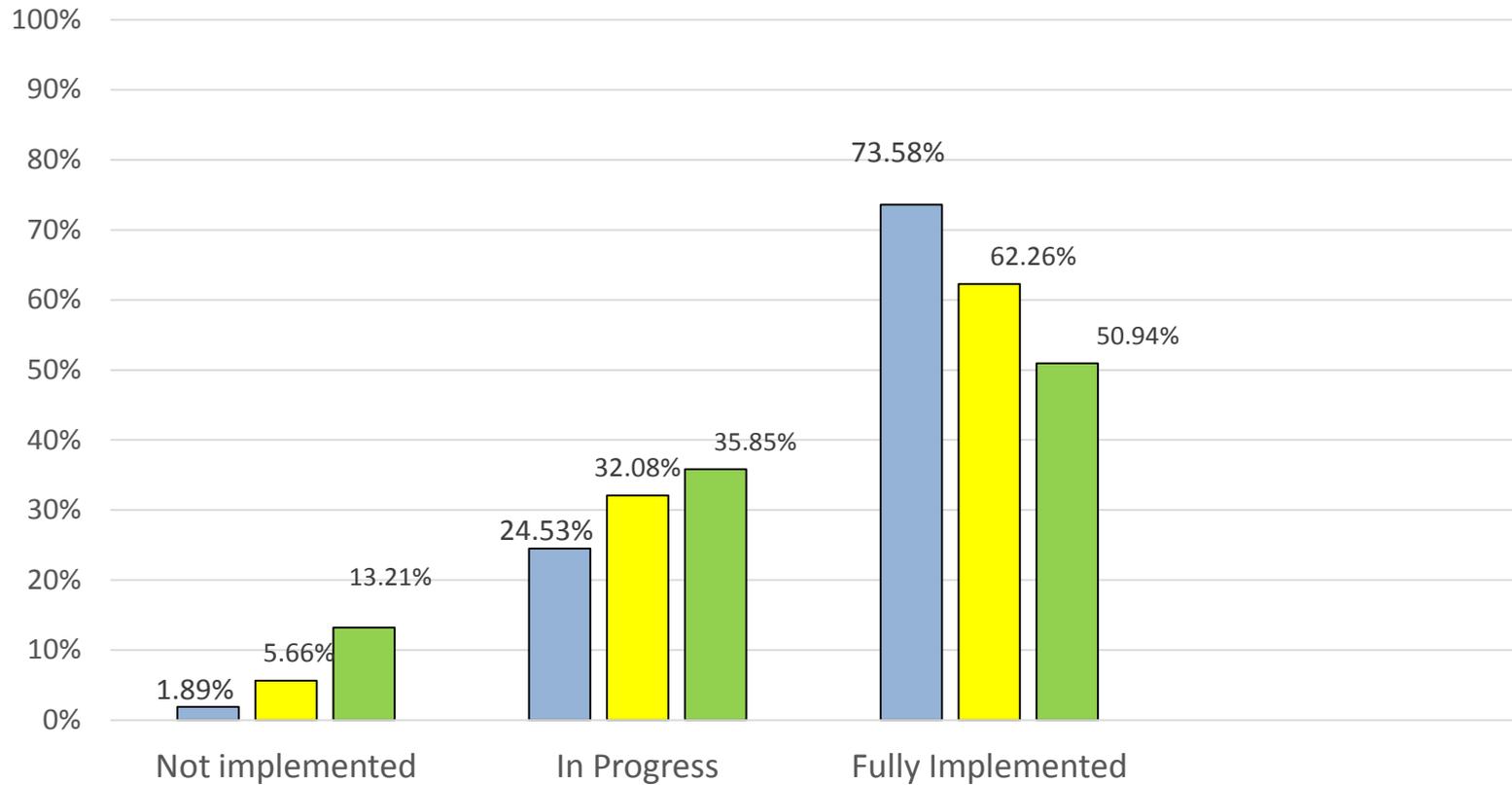
SMI Evaluation Survey Results

- 40% response rate with representative responses from each level of care
 - Level 1 (41%)
 - Level 2 (23%)
 - Level 3 (17%)
 - Level 4 (19%)

Respondents Agree that the SMI...

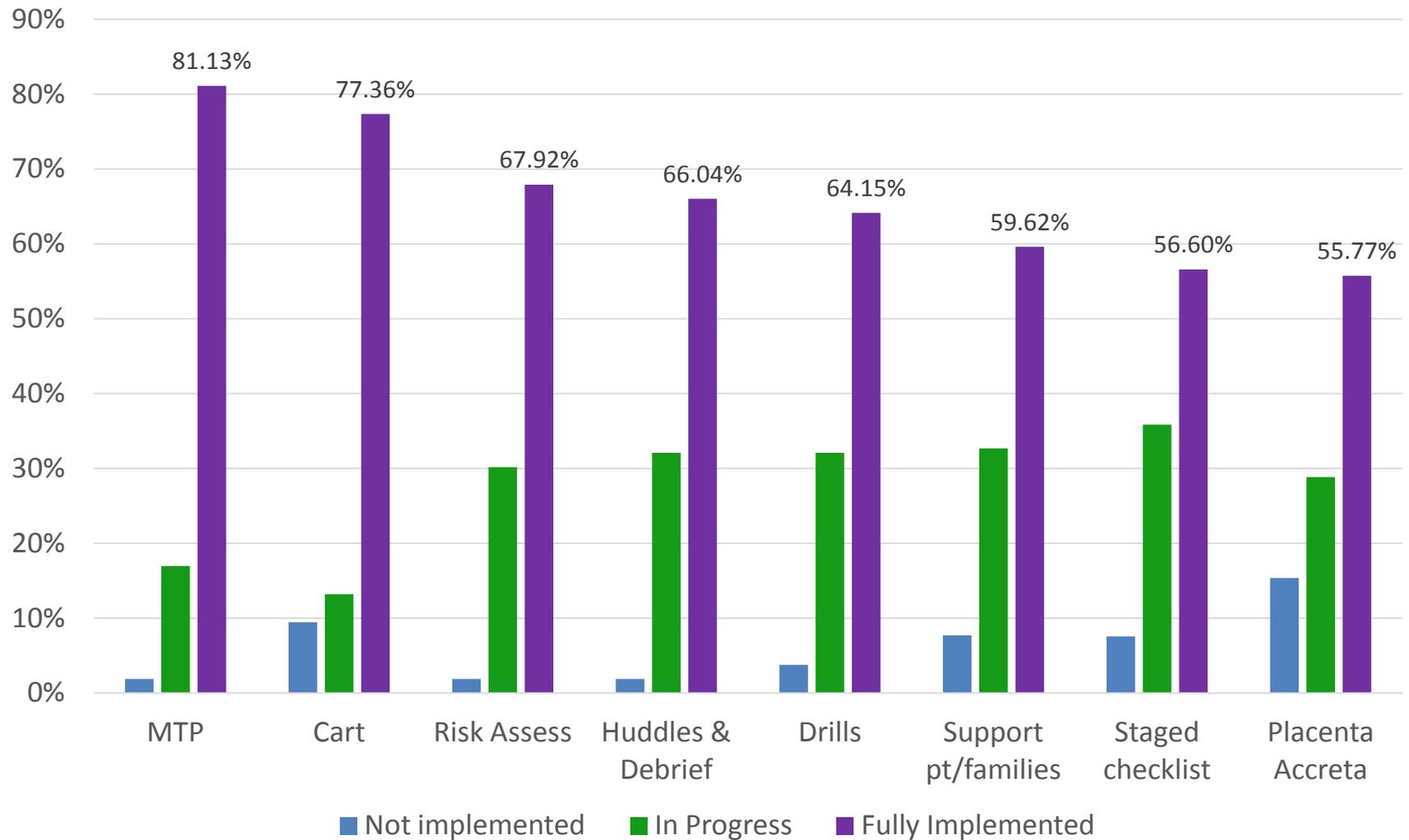


Bundle Implementation Progress

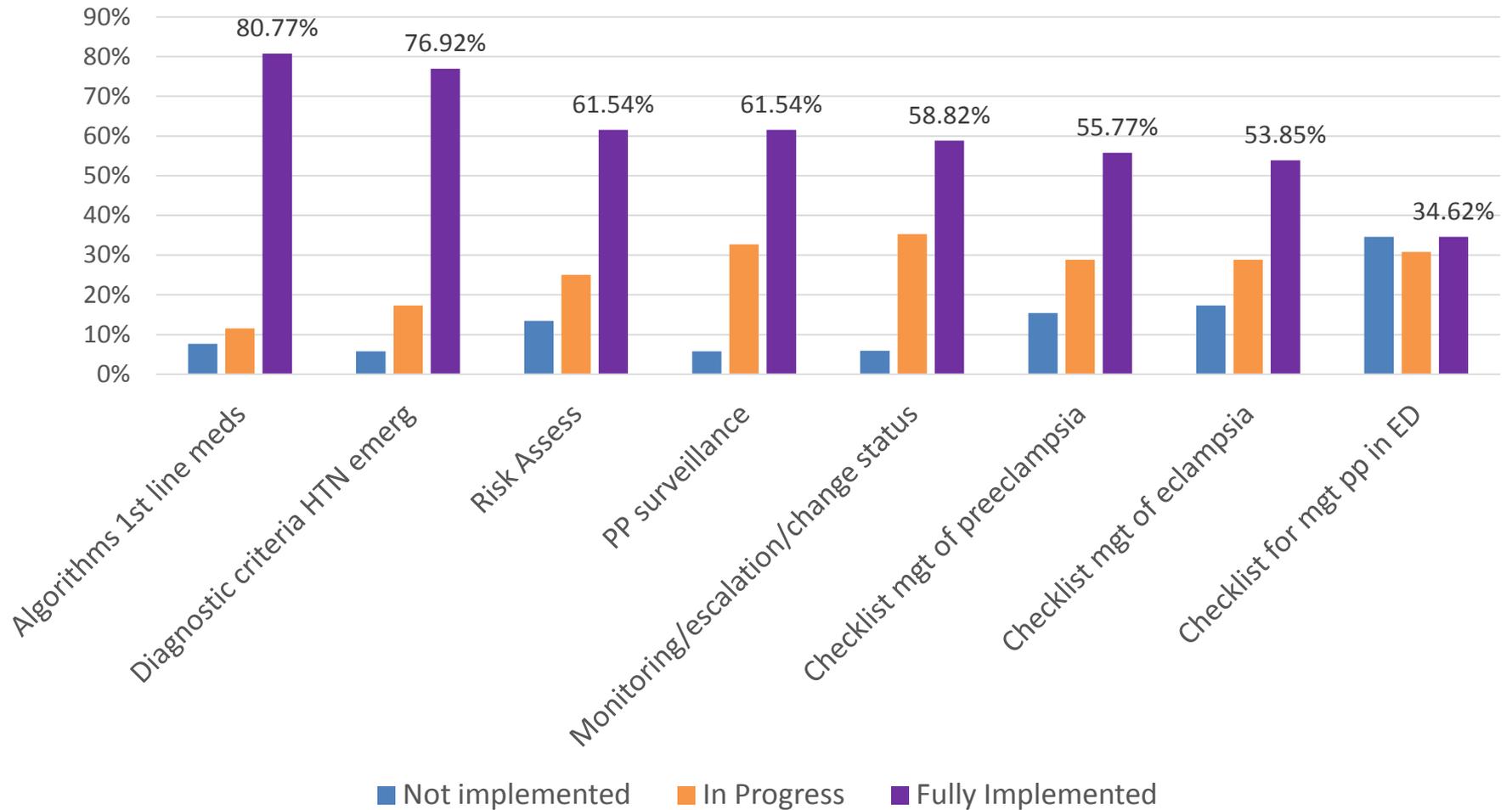


■ Hemorrhage ■ Severe Hypertension ■ VTE

Hemorrhage Bundle Implementation

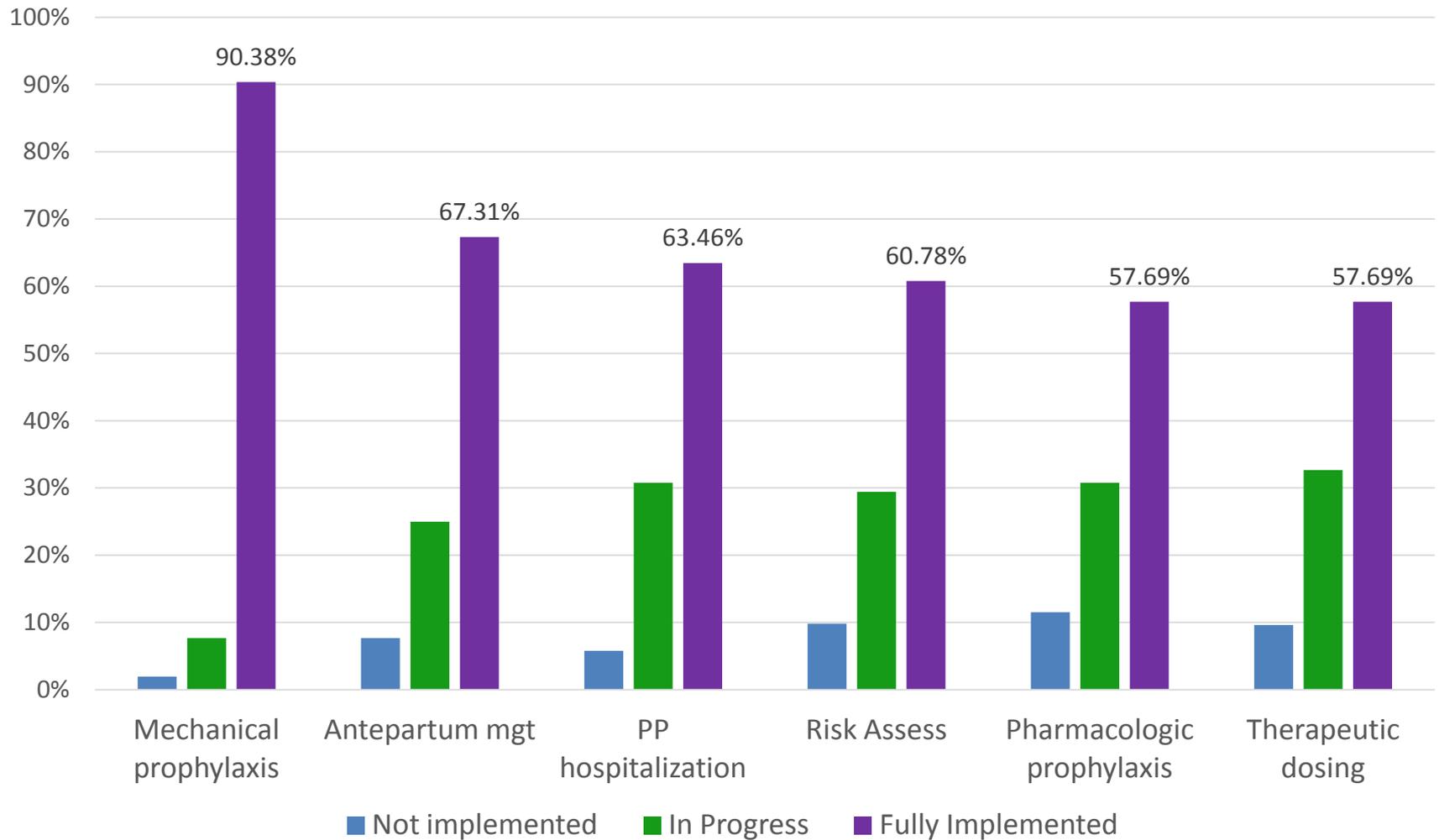


HTN Bundle Implementation



■ Not implemented ■ In Progress ■ Fully Implemented

VTE Bundle Implementation



What Improvements Are Needed? What Should Continue?

- “Better data” but data collection is important
- “Quarterly meetings were tremendously valuable”
- Continue education– “change takes a long time”
- “Choose one (bundle) at a time”
- “Would love to continue the networking”
- “Have more site visits”
- “Believe sharing lessons learned was invaluable”
- “I would continue until we are fully implemented and sustained”
- “Better integration of EMRs”
- “Revise checklists for ease of use”

How to implement change

The *New York Times* Bestseller

— REVISED and UPDATED SECOND EDITION —
NEW CASE STUDIES • APPLICATIONS • RESEARCH

Influencer



Joseph Grenny • Kerry Patterson
David Maxfield • Ron McMillan • Al Switzler

From the bestselling authors of
crucial conversations



Six Levels of Influence

Think about the Vital Behaviors that you want to change

	Motivation	Ability
Personal	Help them love what they hate	Help them do what they can't
Social	Provide encouragement	Provide assistance
Structural	Change their economy	Change their space

Things to Remember

- The development of a multidisciplinary taskforce with physician and nursing champions from OB, anesthesia, and critical care is crucial for success
- Don't reinvent the wheel—use available resources to help develop and implement your hospital's individualized response plan
- Simulation is a great way to educate, practice new behaviors and test your infrastructure—make time for it
- Debriefings are critical for continuous quality improvement and effective debriefing is a skill that needs to be taught and practiced.

Thank you