

The Little 'c' problem. An interesting case of Post-partum Haemorrhage.

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Introduction-

This case report narrates the unique problems posed by the presence of anti-c antibodies in a parturient's blood. The use of Factor seven in her management is also of interest.

The case report-

A 35-year-old ASA 1, gravida three and para two lady was found to have anti-c antibodies in her blood antenatally. She presented for emergency Caesarean section (Grade 1) under general anaesthesia, for ante-partum hemorrhage with foetal bradycardia.

The baby was delivered with good apgar scores, but the lady suffered severe post-partum hemorrhage from uterine atony.

In spite of the recognition of her antibody status, there was no blood cross-matched and O negative blood was contraindicated due to her antibody status. Her haemoglobin concentration fell to 2.5g/dl before blood transfusion was commenced.

With maximal pharmacotherapy failing, she had to undergo hysterectomy to stop the bleeding. When the blood loss continued despite the correction of clotting, factor seven was administered with good result. She made a full recovery eventually.

Conclusion-

This case report highlights the importance of recognizing the maternal significance of atypical antibody presence in pregnant women and of having a blood cross match policy in place. It also informs us of yet another instance when factor seven saved the day.