

# Post partum cardiorespiratory arrest.

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## **Abstract**

A 32 yr old lady, 37 weeks primigravida was admitted with HELLP syndrome. The blood tests showed raised liver enzymes and thrombocytopenia. Patient had an emergency caesarean section. She was making steady progress postoperatively and her BP was controlled with labetalol. On Day 4, she collapsed in the bath. CPR was commenced and she was transferred to ITU .

On further investigations the X –Ray showed possible aspiration pneumonia .CT-head and cardiac Echo were normal . The EEG showed spikes and waves consistent with hypoxic seizures. Subsequent management included Cardiorespiratory support and antiepileptics for refractory seizure prevention.

The Patient showed partial recovery .She is self ventilating with tracheostomy but making little neurological progress.

## **Discussion**

1. Patients with HELLP syndrome may develop life threatening complications due to various causes.

The possible causes for this were the occurrence of vasovagal syncope due to decreased beta response with labetalol or a late eclamptic seizure

2. An incident like this will leave a significant impact on the the patient, their family and the team involved.

3. The outcome depends on vigilance, immediate call for help and availability of trained personnel and ITU support.