Cardiac Emergencies in Pregnancy

Objectives

- Recognize the most common cardiac disorders encountered during pregnancy and discuss the impact that normal physiologic changes in pregnancy have on early diagnosis and clinical management of these conditions.
- Outline the recommended management of cardiac arrest during pregnancy and describe the purpose, timing, and process for performing a perimortem cesarean delivery.
- Summarize the recommendations for team composition, equipment and training to appropriately manage cardiac arrest occurring during pregnancy.
- Identify any Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) medication and/or process modifications recommended by the American Heart Association (AHA) for resuscitation during pregnancy.

Content Outline

1. Overview of Epidemiology, Etiology, Diagnosis & Management of Common Cardiac Disorders in Pregnancy
   1.1 Peripartum/postpartum cardiomyopathy
   1.2 Acute myocardial infarction
   1.3 Cardiac arrest

2. Approach to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) during Pregnancy
   2.1 Impact of pregnancy physiology on process
      2.1.1 Aortocaval compression
      2.1.2 Decompression maneuvers
   2.2 Resuscitation team, equipment & training
   2.3 AHA algorithm for CPR in pregnancy

3. Perimortem Cesarean Delivery (PMCD)
   3.1 Rational for performing
   3.2 Evaluation of need and recommended timing
   3.3 Procedure

Reading Material Resources

Module WB1835: Cardiac Emergencies in Pregnancy is based on the following resources:

