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MANAGING MASSIVE OBSTETRIC HEMORRHAGE WITH BAKRI BALLOON TAMPONADE UKM MEDICAL CENTRE EXPERIENCE

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Background:
Massive obstetric hemorrhage, defined by loss of >1500mls of blood include postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) and bleeding from early pregnancy complications. Various types of intervention such as usage of blood products, pharmacological agents and surgical intervention are readily known. The use of Bakri balloon tamponade has been shown to provide temporary reduction of postpartum uterine bleeding following unsuccessful management with uterotonic agents, repair of genital tract laceration or removal of retained product of conception, thus reducing the necessity for hysterectomy. The review aimed to determine the efficacy of Bakri balloon tamponade in management of obstetric hemorrhage with avoidance of hysterectomy and maternal death.

Materials & Methods:
This was a retrospective review of all massive postpartum hemorrhage in University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre (UKMMC) during the period of 27 months between 1 January 2009 to 31 April 2011. Data collection was obtained from the delivery record, high dependency and intensive care unit census and patients’ medical records.

Results:
Forty two cases of massive obstetric hemorrhage were identified. Twelve patients were managed with Bakri balloon and two cases were failed insertion of balloon. Mean age of patients was 33.9±4.8 years. There were eight cases of primary PPH, one case of secondary PPH and three cases following early pregnancy complications. Five patients had lower segment caesarean sections, three had spontaneous vaginal deliveries and one had vacuum assisted vaginal delivery. Seventy five percent of cases with primary PPH were caused by uterine atony. All cases were unsuccessfully managed with first line uterotonic agents. The estimated blood loss ranged from 1.5 to 5.5 litres. Six cases were complicated by DIVC and one required hysterectomy. There were no maternal deaths.

Conclusion:
The review has shown that Bakri Balloon tamponade is a reliable alternative in the management of massive obstetrics hemorrhage following failure of first line uterotonic agents, thus avoiding need of surgical intervention.

Keywords:
Bakri balloon, obstetric hemorrhage