

# Structured trauma assessment

## Primary survey

- C Catastrophic haemorrhage**  
Find and control massive external haemorrhage  
**Life threats:**  
Exsanguinating external haemorrhage
- A Airway/C-spine**  
Maintain or secure airway and C-spine  
**Life threats:**  
Airway obstruction, blunt/penetrating neck injury
- B Breathing/ventilation**  
Support adequate ventilation/oxygenation  
**Life threats:**  
Tension pneumothorax, massive haemothorax, open pneumothorax, flail chest, ruptured diaphragm
- C Circulation with haemorrhage control**  
Assess and control bleeding. Support haemodynamics  
**Life threats:**  
Cardiac tamponade, penetrating cardiac injury, intra-abdominal and pelvic trauma
- D Disability**  
Rapidly assess and protect neurological status  
**Life threats:**  
Catastrophic cerebral haemorrhage
- E Exposure**  
Assess for further injuries then maintain normothermia  
**Life threats:** Hypothermia

# Pre-simulation briefing

Establishing a safe container for learning in simulation



1

## Clarify objectives, roles and expectations

- Introductions
- Learning objectives
- Assessment (formative vs summative)
- Facilitators and learners' roles
- Active participants vs observers

2

## Maintain confidentiality and respect

- Transparency on who will observe
- Individual performances
- Maintain curiosity



3

## Establish a fiction contract

Seek a voluntary commitment between the learner and facilitator:

- Ask for buy-in
- Acknowledge limitations

4

## Conduct a familiarisation

- Manikin/simulated patient
- Simulated environment
- Calling for help

5

## Address simulation safety

Identify risks:

- Medications and equipment
- Electrical or physical hazards
- Simulated and real patients

Note: Adjust the pre-simulation briefing to match the demands of the simulation event, contexts or the changing of participant composition.

# Major haemorrhage protocol (MHP)

## Continue resuscitation

- Give tranexamic acid 1 g IV over 10 minutes (if not already given)
- Maintain accurate fluid balance
- Refer to flowchart: Initial response to PPH

## Optimise

- Oxygenation
- Tissue perfusion
- Cardiac output
- Temperature
- Metabolic state

## Targets

- Temperature > 35° C
- pH > 7.2
- Base excess > minus 6 mmol/L
- Lactate < 4 mmol/L
- Ionised calcium > 1 mmol/L
- Platelets > 50 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L
- PT/aPTT < 1.5 x normal
- INR ≤ 1.5
- Fibrinogen > 2.5 g/L

## Monitor (30–60 minutely)

- FBC
- Fibrinogen levels (Clausser more accurate than PT derived assays)
- Coagulation screen
- Ionised calcium
- Arterial blood gases

## If ROTEM®/TEG®

- 10 minutes post blood components

## Communication

- Notify lab of products required
- Specialist involvement ASAP
- Check special situations (e.g. warfarin)
- Notify lab when MHP ceased
- Inform partner/family

### MHP activation criteria Actively bleeding

#### and any of the following:

- Major haemorrhage, estimated blood loss of > 2.5 L
- Actual or anticipated need for ≥ 5 units RBC in 4 hours
- Haemodynamic instability
- Clinical or laboratory signs of coagulopathy

OR in lower resource settings as per local protocol

### Lead clinician activates MHP

- Notify usual/nearest laboratory/blood bank
- Request additional staff support relevant to local setting e.g. anaesthetist, haematologist, surgeon, interventional radiologist
- Identify time frame for blood product delivery
- Inform lab if using ROTEM® or TEG®
- Contact RSQ 1300 799 127 early (as relevant to service)

ROTEM® or TEG®?

Yes

No

Blood components as per local ROTEM®/TEG® algorithm

MHP resources limited?

No

Follow local protocols  
• PoC pathology if available (e.g. i-STAT, Hemocue®)

#### Give as available

- IV fluid replacement up to 3.5 L total
  - Crystalloid up to 2 L
  - If additional indicated, crystalloid/colloid up to 1.5 L
- RBC 2 units (Group specific or O Negative)
- FFP 2 units
- PLT 1 adult dose

#### Blood products per locally agreed configuration\*

**MHP PACK 1**

- RBC 4 units
- FFP 2 units

**MHP PACK 2**

- RBC 4 units
- FFP 2 units
- PLT 1 unit every 8 units of RBC

#### As indicated:

- **Early fibrinogen replacement:** fibrinogen concentrate 3–4 g or whole blood cryoprecipitate 10 units or apheresis 4 units
- **Calcium supplementation:** if ionised calcium < 1 mmol/L or at least every 4 units RBC give 10% calcium gluconate 10 mL IV

Bleeding controlled?

Yes

No

Lead clinician deactivates MHP

Haematologist advice  
Repeat blood products in response to results

Consider coagulation profile CONCURRENTLY during management

State of Queensland (Queensland Health) 2024  
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/deed.au> Queensland Clinical Guidelines, [Guidelines@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Guidelines@health.qld.gov.au)



APPT: activated partial thromboplastin time, ASAP: as soon as possible, FBC: full blood count, FFP: fresh frozen plasma, INR: international normalised ratio, IV: intravenous, MHP: major haemorrhage protocol, PLT: platelets, PoC: point of care, PPH: postpartum haemorrhage PT: prothrombin time, RBC: red blood cells, ROTEM®/TEG®: types of blood clotting analysers, RSQ: retrieval services Queensland, <: less than, >: greater than, ≥ greater than or equal to

\*Aim for transfusion ratio RBC:FFP:PLT no lower than 2:1:1

Queensland Clinical Guideline. Primary postpartum haemorrhage. Flowchart: F24.1-2-V5-R29





23.4 cm

**SonoSite**  
C60xp/5-2 Abdomen  
MI: 0.6 TIS: 0.2

**2D:** G: 50  
Gen DR: 0  
MB  
THI



21.0 cm

**SonoSite**  
P21xp/5-1 Cardiac  
M: 0.0 TIC: 0.0

**2D:** G: 50  
Gen DR: 0







## ROTEM Sigma POCT

FIBTEM	A5	5	mm	(5 - 20)
	A10	6	mm	(6 - 21)
EXTEM	CT	60	sec	(50 - 80)
	A10	41 L	mm	(43 - 63)
	ML	7	%	(< 15)
INTEM	CT	143 L	sec	(161 - 204)
	A10	41 L	mm	(43 - 62)
	ML	8	%	(< 15)
HEPTEM	CT	141 L	sec	(160 - 211)
	A10	41 L	mm	(45 - 63)
APTEM	A10		mm	(39 - 61)
	ML		%	(< 15)