**Supplemental information**

Transfusion characteristics and blood loss severity according to the cause of postpartum haemorrhage in women with early transfusiona after vaginal delivery (Table S1) and after caesarean delivery (Table S2)

**Table S1:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Vaginal delivery** | **Total (N=231)** | **Unidentified**  **(N=19, 8%)** | **Atony/ retained tissues**  **(N=132, 57%)** | **Trauma**  **(N=56, 24%)** | **Coagulation disorders**  **(N=14, 6%)** | **Abnormal placenta insertion**  **(N=10, 4%)** | ***p* valueb** |
| **RBC only** | 82 (36) | 7 (37) | 49 (37) | 25 (46) | 0 | 1 (10) | NA |
| **FFP** | 146(63) | 12 (63) | 82 (62) | 30 (54) | 14 (100) | 8 (80) | 0.01 |
| **Fibrinogen** | 43(19) | 3 (16) | 24 (18) | 6 (11) | 7 (50) | 3 (30) | 0.02 |
| **Platelets** | 31 (13) | 2 (11) | 17 (13) | 6 (11) | 6 (47) | 0 | NA |
| **RBC+FFP+Platelets+Fibrinogen** | 22 (10) | 2 (11) | 12 (9) | 3 (5) | 5 (36) | 0 | NA |
| **Median quantities (IQR)**  **RBC (units)**  **FFP (units)**  **Fibrinogen (g)**  **Platelets (units)** | 3 (2-6)  3 (2-6)  3 (1.5-4.5)  1 (1-2) | 3 (2-4)  2 (2-5)  4.5 (1.5-6)  1 (1-1) | 3 (2-6)  3 (2-5)  4.5 (1.5-6)  1 (1-2) | 3 (2-6)  3 (2-5)  3 (1.5-3)  1.5 (1-3) | 8 (5-12)  6 (4-8)  3 (2.5-8)  1 (1-3) | 5 (4-8)  4 (2-6)  1.5 (1.5-3)  0 | 0.002  0.06  0.20  NA |
| **≥10 RBC units** | 25 (11) | 0 | 13 (10) | 6 (11) | 5 (36) | 1 (10) | 0.039 |
| **FFP/RBC**  **Median (IQR)**  **FFP/RBC≥0.5** | 0.8 (0.5-1)  209 (91) | 0.8 (0.7-1)  17 (90) | 0.7 (0.5-1)  119 (90) | 0.7 (0.6-1)  53 (95) | 0.8 (0.5-1)  11 (79) | 0.7 (0.5-0.9)  9 (90) | 0.96  0.50 |
| **Median time from PPH diagnosis to RBC administration, hours (IQR)** | 2 h 20 min  (1h20 min-4h10min) | 3 h 05 min  (1h56min-4h17min) | 2 h 20 min  (1h20min-3h45min) | 3 h 00  (1h20min-5h15min) | 1 h 13 min  (42min-2h14min) | 3 h 04 min  (1h48min-4h36min) | 0.02 |
| **Use of pro-haemostatic agents** | 13 (6) | 1 (5) | 8 (6) | 1 (2) | 2 (14) | 1 (10) | NA |
| **Mean maximal drop in Hb level (g/dL) (SD)** | 4.9 (1.9) | 4.0 (1.5) | 4.7 (1.9) | 5.4 (2.0) | 5.7 (1.5) | 5.1 (1.1) | 0.03 |
| **Secondary DIC** | 61 (26) | 2 (11) | 32 (24) | 11 (20) | 12 (86) | 4 (40) | <0.001 |

**Table S2:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Caesarean delivery** | **Total**  **N=195** | **Unidentified**  **(N=22, 11.3%)** | **Atony/ retained tissues**  **(N=70, 35.9%)** | **Trauma**  **(N=45, 23.1%)** | **Coagulation disorders**  **(N=31, 15.9%)** | **Abnormal placenta insertion**  **(N=27, 13.9%)** | ***P value*b** |
| **RBC only** | 86 (44.1) | 18 (81.8) | 31 (44.3) | 19 (42.2) | 9 (29.0) | 9 (33.3) | 0.002 |
| **FFP** | 102 (52.3) | 4 (18.2) | 38 (54.3) | 23 (51.1) | 20 (64.5) | 17 (63.0) | 0.009 |
| **Fibrinogen** | 40 (20.5) | 2 (9.1) | 10 (14.3) | 9 (20.0) | 12 (38.7) | 7 (25.9) | NA |
| **Platelets** | 21 (10.8) | 0 (0) | 5 (7.1) | 1 (22.2) | 9 (29.0) | 6 (22.2) | NA |
| **RBC+FFP+Platelets+Fibrinogen** | 10 (5.1) | 0(0) | 1 (1.4) | 0 (0) | 6 (19.4) | 3 (11.1) | NA |
| **Median quantities (IQR)**  **RBC (units)**  **FFP (units)**  **Fibrinogen (g)**  **Platelets (units)** | 3 (2-6)  4 (2-6)  3 (3-4.5)  1 (1-2) | 3 (2-3)  2 (1-3.8)  3 (1.5-4.5)  0 | 4 (2-6)  3.5 (2-4.3)  3 (3-4.9)  1 (1-1.5) | 3 (2-5)  3 (2-5)  3 (1.5-4.9)  2 | 4 (2-8)  4 (2.3-8)  3 (3-3)  1 (1-3) | 5 (3-10)  5 (3-9)  3 (3-4.5)  1.5 (1-3) | 0.029  0.03  NA  NA |
| **≥10 RBC units** | 21 (10.8) | 0 | 3 (4.3) | 3 (6.7) | 7 (22.6) | 8 (29.6) | NA |
| **FFP/RBC**  **Median (IQR)**  **FFP/RBC ≥0.5** | 0.7 (0.5-1)  178 (91.3) | 0.7 (0.4-1)  21 (95.5) | 0.8 (0.5-1)  66 (94.3) | 0.7 (0.4-1)  38 (84.4) | 0.9 (0.5-1.4)  29 (93.6) | 0.6 (0.5-0.9)  24 (88.9) | 0.3  0.42 |
| **Median time from PPH diagnosis to RBC administration (IQR)** | 2 h 20 min  (1h20min-4h10min) | 2 h 28 min  (1h07min-3h59min) | 2 h 25 min  (1h22min-4h03min) | 2 h 08 min  (1h05min-3h58min) | 2 h 20 min  (55min-3h03min) | 44 min  (27min-1h43min) | 0.001 |
| **Use of pro-haemostatic agents** | 3 (1.5) | 0 (0) | 1 (1.4) | 0(0) | 2 (6.5) | 0 (0) | NA |
| **Mean maximal drop in Hb level (g/dL) (SD)** | 4.4 (1.9) | 3.9 (1.6) | 4.4 (1.7) | 5.1 (2.1) | 4.6 (1.3) | 3.6 (2.5) | 0.034 |
| **Secondary DIC** | 49 (25.1) | 3 (13.6) | 12 (17.1) | 16 (35.6) | 14 (45.2) | 4 (14.8) | 0.007 |

Data are number of women (%) unless otherwise specified.

a: Women with transfusion started within 12 first hours following the diagnosis of clinical postpartum haemorrhage

b: Test for comparison across the five groups

RBC: Red blood cells; FFP: Fresh frozen plasma; DIC: disseminated intravascular coagulation; Hb: haemoglobin; IQR: interquartile range; SD: standard deviation, NA: not applicab