

Objective:

Obstetric hemorrhage is one of the leading cause of maternal morbidity and mortality all over the world. Blood transfusion which is crucial in management for massive obstetric hemorrhage comes at its own risks. Hence, it is vital to be aware of risk factors attributing to increase requirement for blood transfusion. This study aims to calculate the rate of blood transfusion in obstetric patients and also to identify its associated factors.

Method:

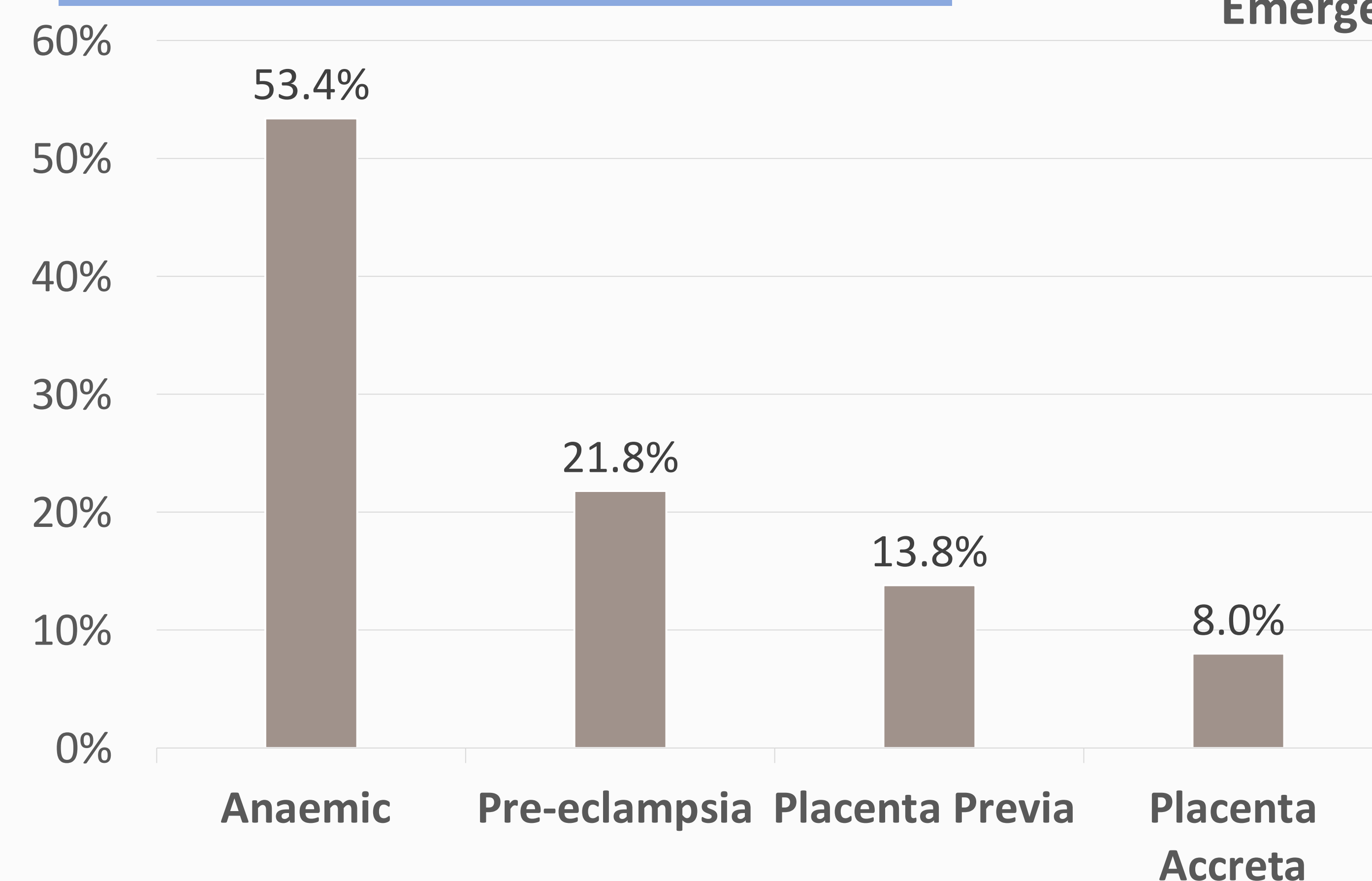
- A retrospective observational study was done at tertiary teaching hospital for all the obstetric patients who received blood transfusion over a period of two years from January 2019 to December 2020. The inclusion criterion was pregnancy above gestational age of 24 weeks up to 6 weeks postpartum.
- The data was collected from Hospital information system and women with incomplete data in the electronic medical records were excluded from the study.

- Ethical approval was obtained from the Institutional Review Board. Data entry and analysis was done using statistical software package (SPSS) version 26.0.

Results:

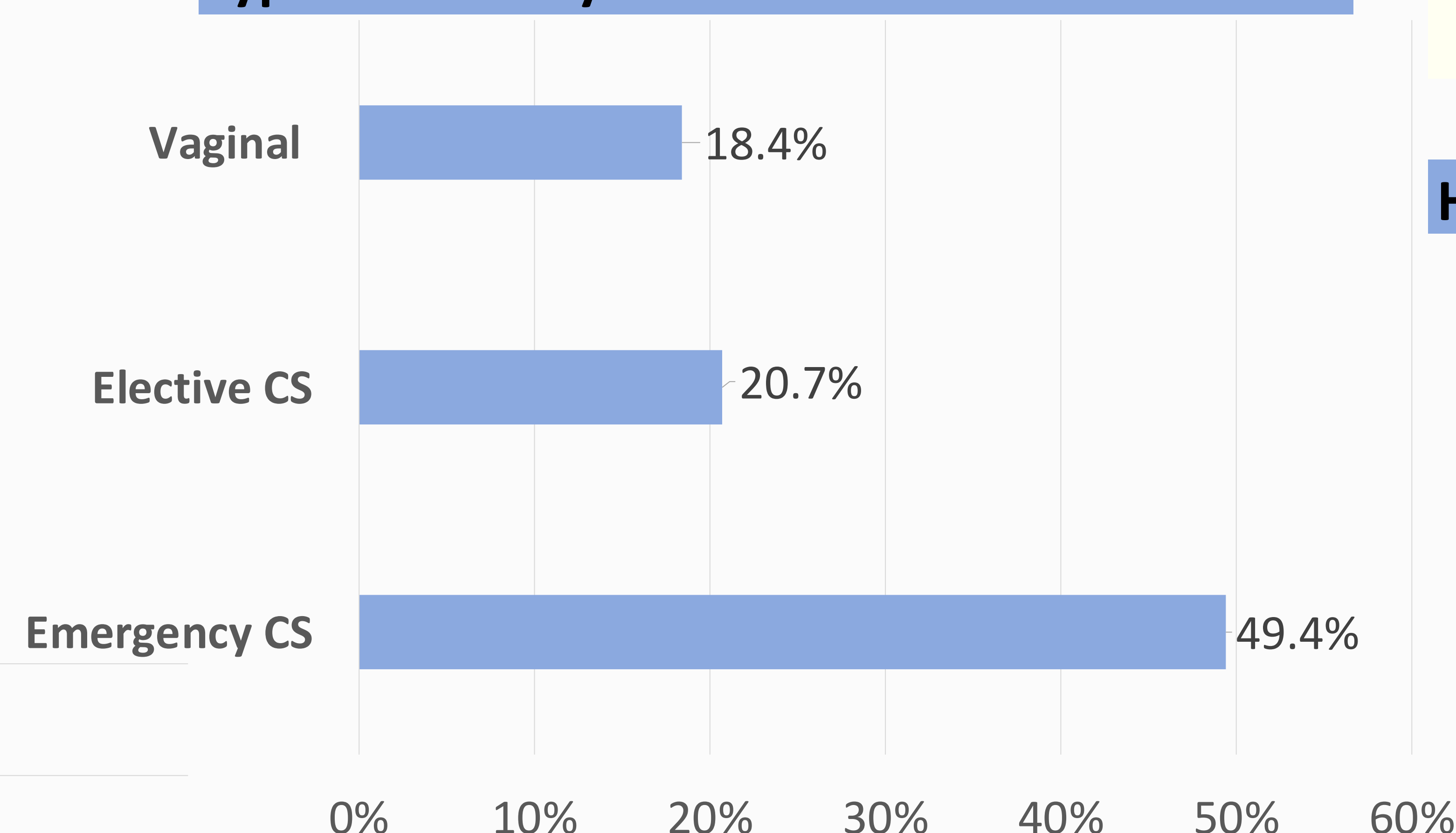
- Out of 5991 deliveries over this period, 129 women had blood transfusion which gives a rate of 2.1%. Age of these women ranged between 19 to 48 years and gestational age ranged between 27 to 41 weeks.

Indication for Blood Transfusion:



- Hemoglobin level in this cohort ranged between 4 and 12 g/dl with a mean of 7.44 g/dl and standard deviation of 1.23 g/dl.

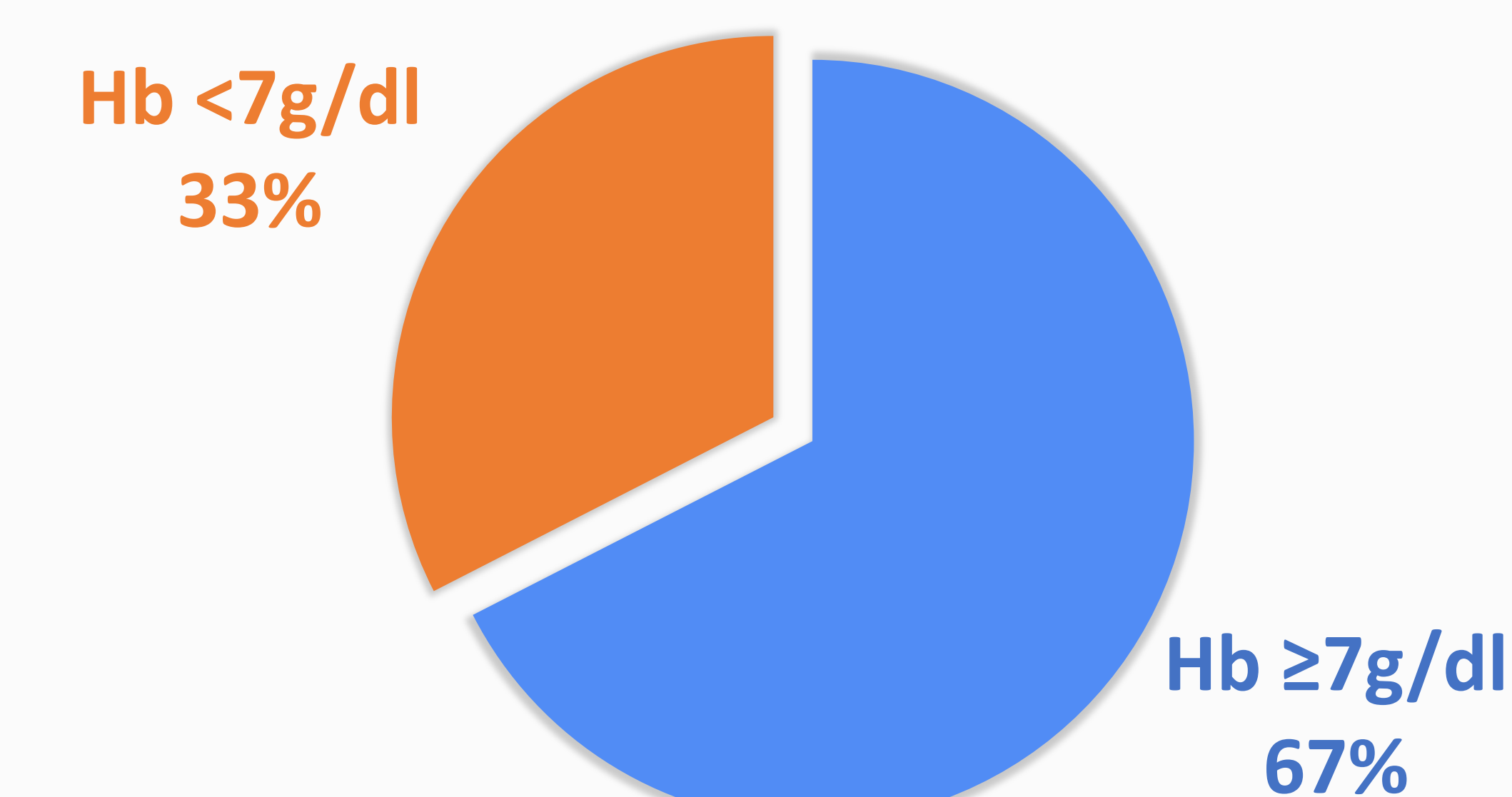
Type of Delivery in Blood Transfusion Patients:



- Majority of these women (94%) received blood transfusion after delivery while 11.6% received it during pregnancy.
- Almost half of women who needed blood transfusion (49.4%) delivered by emergency caesarean section, followed by elective caesarean section in 20.7% cases and 18.4% had vaginal delivery.

- However, 67.4% of women who received blood transfusion had hemoglobin ≥ 7 g/dl, with average hemoglobin 7.9 g /dl which could be potentially treated with IV iron infusion. Whilst 32.5% of these cases had hemoglobin < 7 g/dl with average hemoglobin of 6.3 g/dL.

Haemoglobin Level:



Conclusion:

Rate of blood transfusion at our centre was found to be commensurable with the worldwide figures. Altering modifiable factors like anemia in pregnancy and justifying its indication will further help to reduce blood transfusion rate and its complications.