

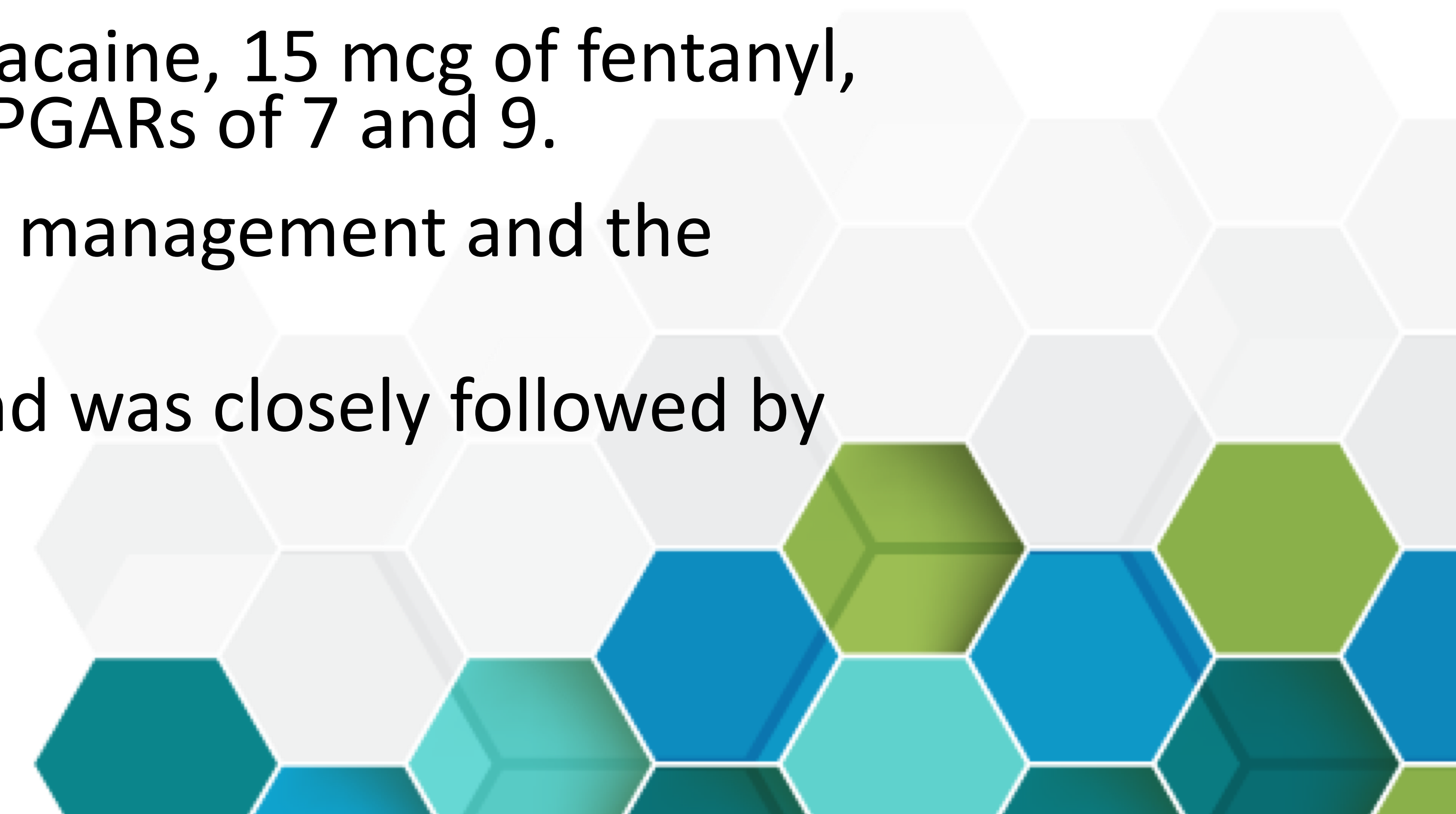
INTRODUCTION:

- Remarkable advances in artificial reproductive technologies and egg donation in the last two decades have enabled perimenopausal, and even postmenopausal women aged 50 years and above to conceive and deliver.
- Extreme advanced maternal age (age >45) has been shown to significantly increase rates of:
 - Gestational diabetes mellitus
 - Preeclampsia
 - Preterm birth
 - Postpartum hemorrhage
 - Placenta previa
 - Blood transfusion
 - Low birth weight & low Apgar scores and perinatal death



THE CASE:

- A 62 year old P1 at 35+4 weeks, presented to triage for elevated BP readings ranged from 150s-170s/80s-90s
- Patient denied fatigue, headache, vision changes, chest pain, dyspnea, cough, or nausea/vomiting.
- Pre-eclamptic labs were within normal limits.
- The pregnancy was facilitated by IVF with donor egg and had been otherwise uncomplicated.
- Patients first pregnancy was at age 58 and delivery was performed via C-section for arrest of dilation.
- Ultrasound revealed fetus in frank breech position.
- A multidisciplinary decision was made to proceed with urgent C-section because of severe range BPs and category 2 FHR tracing.
- Spinal anesthesia was performed with 1.6 ml of 0.75% hyperbaric bupivacaine, 15 mcg of fentanyl, and 0.1mg of duramorph. A female, 2265 gm fetus was delivered with APGARs of 7 and 9.
- A post-op TAP block with liposomal bupivacaine was performed for pain management and the patient was continued on magnesium infusion post operatively.
- The patient was discharged on post-op day 3 on PO antihypertensives and was closely followed by OB care providers.



DISCUSSION:

- While it has been established that pregnancy outcomes in women above 45 are generally poorer than those of women in their third or fourth decade of life, there is scarce data regarding the difference between pregnancy outcomes in the sixth and seventh decades of life.
- Current data on pregnancies in women above 50 is mainly restricted to relatively small cohorts and study designs that lack comparison groups.
- It is imperative to provide pre-conception counseling and closely monitor patients of extreme maternal age due to the significant risks to both mother and fetus.

