

BACKGROUND

Intra-operative nausea and vomiting (IONV) is a common problem during cesarian section. There are many anesthetic and surgical risk factors for IONV. Key concerns associated with IONV during cesarean section (c-section) include aspiration risk and maternal discomfort. However, we present a case where IONV presented challenges to the surgical team and may have contributed to adverse surgical events for the patient.

CASE DESCRIPTION

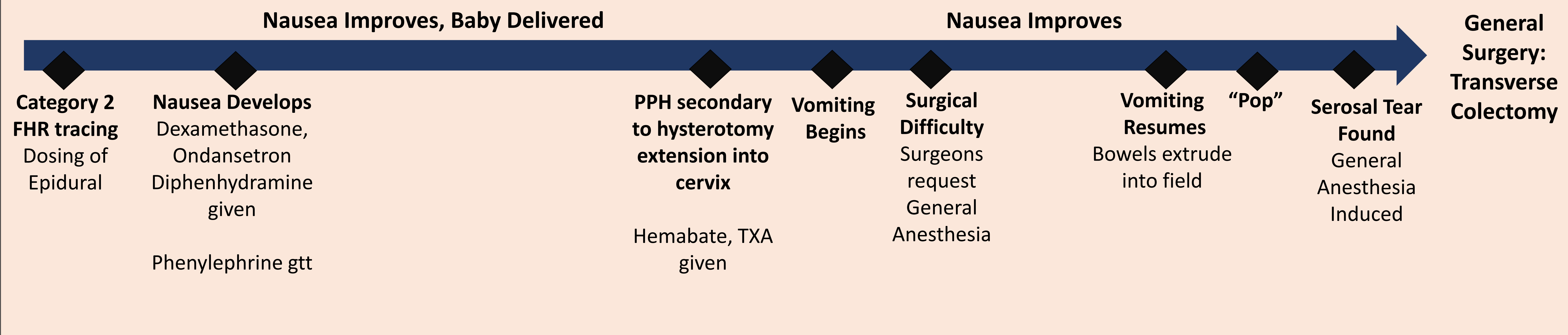
Patient: 23F G3P1 presenting for TOLAC
PMH: GDMA1, gestational HTN
PSH: Primary c-section
VS: BP 127/22, HR 81, SpO2 100% RA, 99kg BMI 34

The patient developed a category 2 fetal heart tracing requiring c-section. She had functional labor epidural in situ which was converted into surgical block with 2% lidocaine with NaHCO3 and 1:400K epinephrine. Adequate level of surgical block was achieved.

REFERENCES

1. Griffiths JD, Gyte GM, Paranjothy S, Brown HC, Broughton HK, Thomas J. Interventions for preventing nausea and vomiting in women undergoing regional anaesthesia for caesarean section. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev.* 2012;2012(9):CD007579. Published 2012 Sep 12. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD007579.pub2
2. Jelting Y, Klein C, Harlander T, Eberhart L, Roewer N, Kranke P. Preventing nausea and vomiting in women undergoing regional anesthesia for cesarean section: challenges and solutions. *Local Reg Anesth.* 2017;10:83-90. Published 2017 Aug 9. doi:10.2147/LRA.S111459
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TIME LINE OF EVENTS



RISK FACTORS FOR IONV

Anesthetic Factors

- Neuraxial
- Medications
- Patient Anxiety

Surgical Factors

- Abdominal organ manipulation
- Blood Loss

Nausea & Vomiting

DISCUSSION

- Despite receiving three different anti-emetics this patient’s IONV which was refractory to treatment.
- This patient had many risk factors for nausea including hypotension and unopposed vagal tone following neuraxial analgesia, surgical challenge and the use of additional medications such as hemabate and TXA which may have worsened her symptoms.
- This patient’s IONV may have contributed to her serosal tear.
- This case highlights the importance of communication between the surgical and anesthetic teams. A discussion regarding the movement of bowels into the surgical field may have made the anesthesia providers more inclined to put the patient to sleep.