

Flatline ROTEM: Machine Error or Amniotic Fluid Embolism?

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Introduction

- Amniotic fluid embolism (AFE) lacks clear and concise criteria for diagnosis
- Typical AFE presentation includes:
 - hypoxia ▪ hypotension ▪ disseminated intravascular coagulopathy (DIC)
- DIC in the setting of postpartum hemorrhage may be masked by healthy patient characteristics
- While supportive therapy is mainstay, point of care (POC) viscoelastic testing can more rapidly identify and treat coagulopathy
- ROTEM expedites critical trends that can lead to rapid identification and treatment of coagulopathy
- Goal-directed resuscitation can prevent maternal morbidity and mortality

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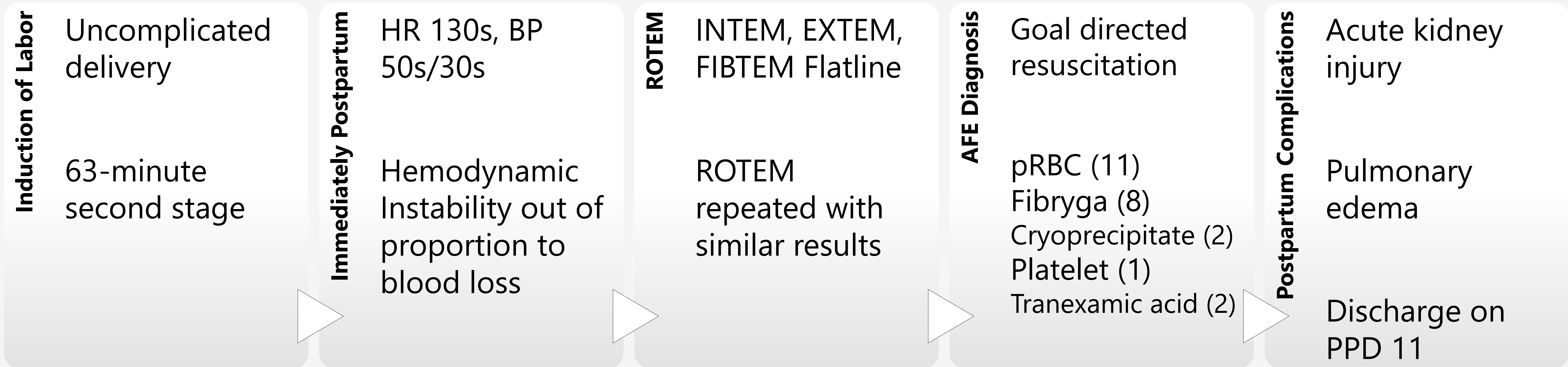
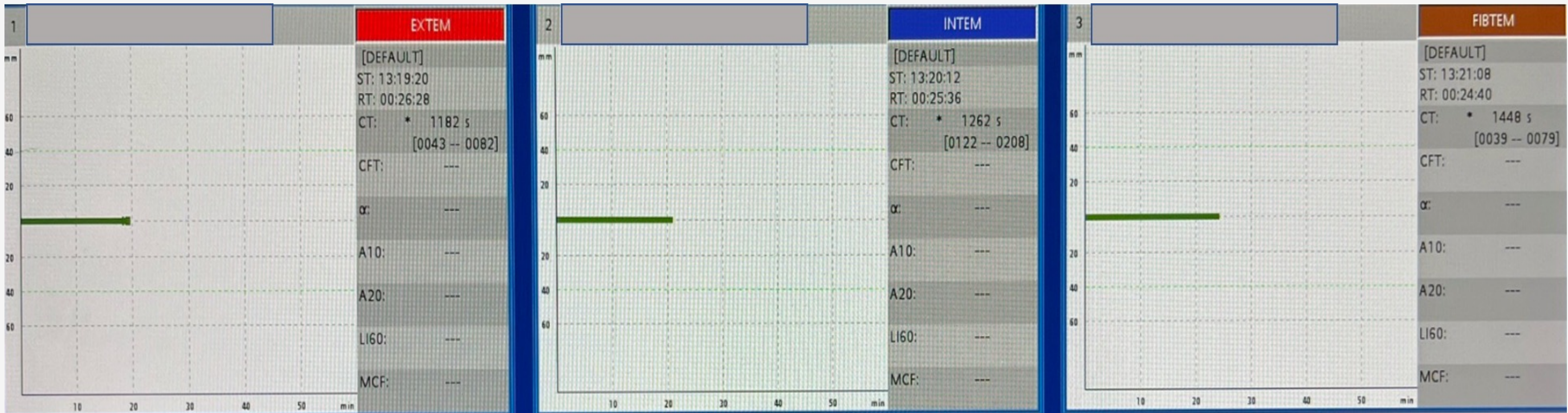


Figure 1. Case Patient ROTEM

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Discussion

- PPH continues as the leading obstetric cause of maternal death worldwide
- AFE can cause massive and rapid hemorrhage in the setting of DIC
- POC viscoelastic testing (ROTEM and TEG) can guide management of coagulopathy and assist in goal-directed resuscitation to reduce bleeding, transfusion requirements, and complication rates

References:

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Questions/Comments:

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