

Factor VII deficiency and Remifentanyl use

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Condition Overview

Rare autosomal recessive disorder characterized by Factor VII deficiency.

Presentation: Mild mucocutaneous bleeding to severe hemorrhage.

INCIDENCE

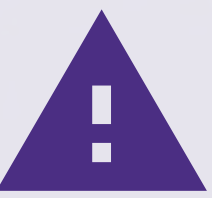
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Rare genetic prevalence

Anesthetic Management Challenges



Altered Coagulation Physiology: Requires precise monitoring of factor levels and clotting times.

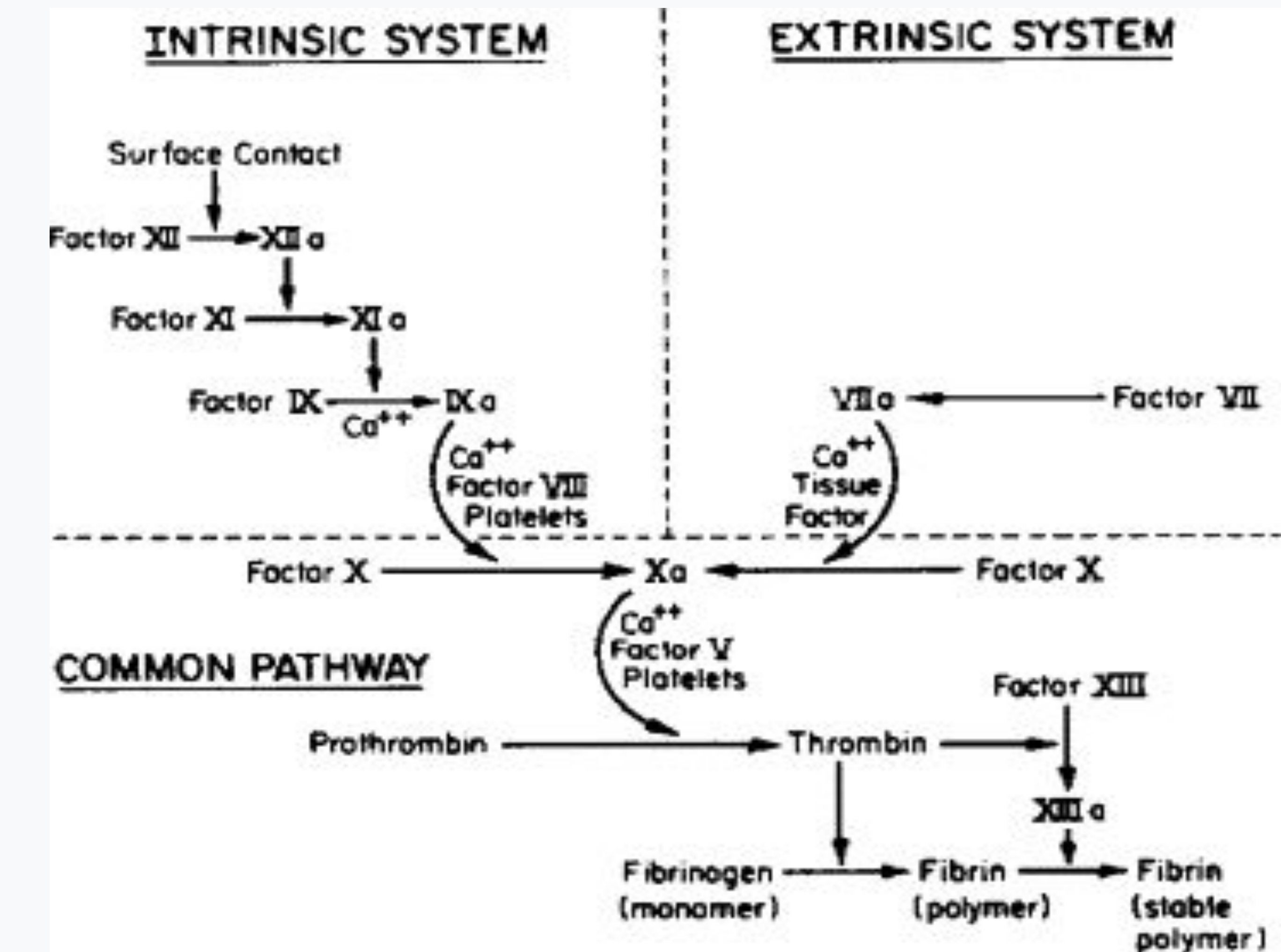


Hemorrhage Risk: High potential for peripartum bleeding requiring factor replacement but may not always correlate with activity levels with < 10% being the highest risk.



Neuraxial Contraindication: Coagulopathy may preclude standard epidural/spinal options.

Coagulation Cascade



Factor VII is key to the **Extrinsic Pathway**, initiating thrombin generation upon tissue injury.

Case Report: Management Summary



Patient Profile

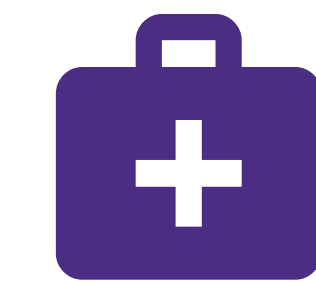
- 26yo G4P2 @ 38w5d
- PMHx: Factor VII Deficiency, gHTN, asthma

FVII Activity

30%

LSU Health
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School of Medicine



Analgesic Strategy

Remifentanil PCA (40 mcg q2m)

- Monitoring: Pulse Ox, ETCO2, 1:1 Nursing
- Setup: Dedicated IV, Patient Education
- Planning: Multidisciplinary pre-delivery meeting



Labor & Delivery Outcomes

Interventions

- IOL
- rFVIIa & TXA administered

Results

- Vaginal Delivery (EBL 605 mL; no pRBC requirement)
- Apgar: 8 & 9
- Home on POD3

Discussion: Remifentanil PCA for High-Risk Labor

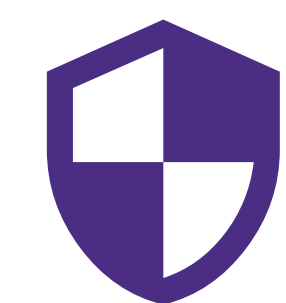


1. Clinical Viability

Effective Alternative

Indicated when neuraxial analgesia is contraindicated (e.g., coagulopathy).

- Reduces morbidity from poorly controlled labor pain.
- Targeted for high-risk patients.
- Apply within a risk–benefit framework; not first-line.



2. Safety Protocols

Strict Monitoring Required

Risk of respiratory depression and oversedation.

Mandatory Resources:

- Continuous SpO2 & ETCO2
- 1:1 dedicated nursing care
- Immediate airway support
- Institutional protocols



3. Pharmacokinetics

Dual-Edged Nature

Half-time: ~3 min (ultrashort) enables rapid recovery.

Accumulation: Minimal, making it favorable for labor.

CRITICAL WARNING:

Rapid onset leads to unpredictable respiratory depression if titration is not precise.

References

1. Shams, M. (2023). Congenital Factor VII Deficiency, Diagnosis, and Management. In: Dorgalaleh, A. (eds) Congenital Bleeding Disorders . Springer, Cham.
2. Lei X, Yu Y, Li M, Fang P, Gan S, et al. (2022) The efficacy and safety of remifentanil patient-controlled versus epidural analgesia in labor: A meta-analysis and systematic review. PLOS ONE 17(12): e0275716.
3. Ronel I, W. (2019) Non-regional analgesia for labour: remifentanil in obstetrics. BJA Educ.19(11):357-361
4. .Hyers et al. Anesthetic management with labor epidural analgesia of the parturient with severe factor VII deficiency: a case report. Reg Anesth Pain Med. 2025 Sep 4;50(9):764-767. doi: 10.1136/rapm-2024-105674. PMID: 38950930.