

Peripartum management of a patient after heart-lung transplant

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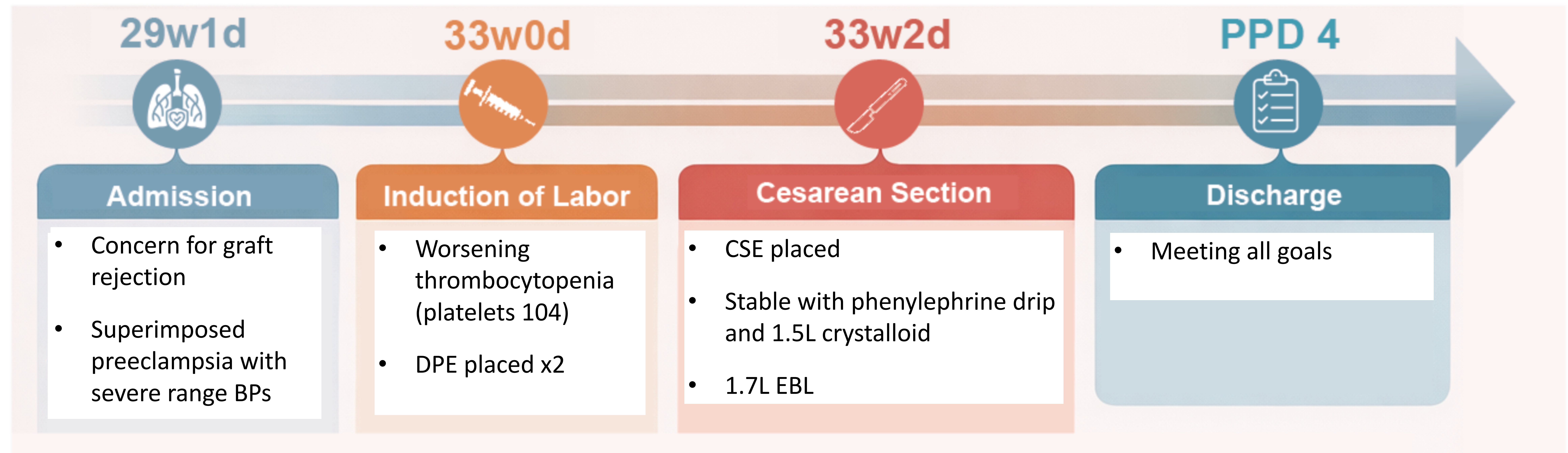


Background

- There is a growing population of patients with combined heart-lung transplant
- The rate of obstetric complications are higher than in the general population.¹
 - In one systematic review, 37% of heart transplant recipients and 58% of lung transplant required treatment for hypertensive disorders
 - 26% of heart transplant recipients and 34% of lung transplant recipients had a preterm delivery

Case

28 year old G3P0 s/p heart-lung transplant for idiopathic PAH



Teaching Points

Immunosuppression medications²

- Increased infection risk
- Hypertension
- Myelosuppression:
 - monitor for thrombocytopenia prior to neuraxial

Cardiac considerations²

- Preload dependent
- Denervated heart:
 - absent baroreceptor reflex
 - silent ischemia
 - blunted/absent response to indirect acting medications

Pulmonary considerations³

- Prone to edema
 - Disrupted lymphatic drainage
- Intubation risks
 - disrupting suture lines
- Loss of cough reflex
- Consider avoiding carboprost

2. *Ann Card Anaesth.* 2021 Apr-Jun; 24(2): 140-148

3. *J Clin Anesth.* 2011 Sep; 23(6): 508-16