



Anesthetic Management for Parturients with Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome: A Case Series

Amanda Ruiz MD, Emily E. Sharpe MD, Mingchun Liu MD

Mayo Clinic Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine – Rochester



Background

Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome (KTS) triad¹

- Bone and soft tissue hypertrophy of one or more limbs
- Venous varicosities
- Cutaneous capillary malformations

Cause and incidence

- Sporadic congenital mutation in PIK3CA (angiogenesis)³
- 1:30,000 to 1:100,000 live births³

KTS complications and comorbidities^{1,2}

- Venous thromboembolism
- Bleeding from malformations and chronic anemia

Obstetric anesthesia management of KTS

- Previously: avoid pregnancy³
- Data limited to case reports

Study Aims

Review anesthetic and peripartum care of KTS parturients within Mayo Clinic Health System to determine considerations for safe anesthetic care

Methods

- IRB exemption
- Inclusion criteria: pregnant patients with diagnosis of KTS that received anesthetic peripartum care in Mayo Health System
- Review of electronic health record with extraction of demographic, obstetric, and anesthetic details

Results

6 patient with KTS with a combined 10 encounters

Case Type and Anesthetic	No. Cases
Vaginal delivery (VD)	3
Unmedicated/IV	3
Epidural	0
Cesarean Delivery (CD)	6
Spinal	2
Epidural	1
General	3
Other	
Cerclage placement	1

Delivery Method and Neuraxial Considerations

- **CD Indications:** Abdominal cerclage n=2, Repeat n=2, Arrest of descent n=1, and KTS sequelae n=1
- **Vaginal Delivery:** Stillborn at 20 weeks GA with IV analgesia n=1, Unmedicated although offered neuraxial n=1, Unknown n=1
- MRI during pregnancy n=1; MRI prior to pregnancy n=1
- Anticoagulation n=2

Airway Considerations

- No noted difficult airway

Blood Management, Access, and Monitoring

- Estimated blood loss ≥ 1000 mL, n=4
- Invasive intraarterial monitoring, n=1

Complications

- Acute postoperative pulmonary embolism n=1

Discussion

Delivery Method³⁻⁵

- **Concerns:**
 - Venous malformations in pelvis, uterus, perineum, and abdominal wall
 - High-risk vaginal birth or cesarean delivery
- **Recommendations:**
 - Multidisciplinary planning
 - Recent pelvic MRI
 - Documented plan for emergent cesarean delivery

Neuraxial Considerations³⁻⁵

- **Concerns:**
 - Venous malformations in or near spine
 - Scoliosis
 - Prophylactic anticoagulation use
- **Recommendations:**
 - Physical exam
 - Recent MRI of lumbar spine
 - Review anticoagulation



Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome – example of signs in lower leg.

Discussion

Blood Management, Access, and Monitoring^{3,4}

- **Concerns:**
 - Potential large volume blood loss from abnormal venous plexus in uterus, vagina, and subcutaneous tissue
 - Chronic anemia
- **Recommendations:**
 - Type and screen or crossmatch
 - Cell-salvage
 - Delivery location and surgeon availability
 - Blood product availability
 - Large bore intravenous or central access
 - Invasive arterial hemodynamic monitoring

Airway Considerations^{3,5}

- **Concern:**
 - Venous malformations in airway
- **Recommendation:**
 - Airway exam and MRI

Postoperative Cares

- **Concerns:**
 - Risk of coagulopathy and venous thromboembolism
 - Chronic pain in affect limb
- **Recommendations:**
 - Postoperative monitoring of blood loss, coagulation studies, and blood count
 - Multidisciplinary assessment of anticoagulation
 - Shared decision making for multimodal pain control

References

1. Jacob AG. *Mayo Clin Proc.* 1998;73(1):28-36.
2. Xue W. *Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol.* 2023;291:96-98.
3. Moxon HM. *Anaesth Rep.* 2021;9(1):62-66.
4. Chang R. *Cureus.* 2025;17(8):e90065.
5. Teixeira CEFA. *Braz J Anesthesiol.* 2018;68(6):641-644.