

Dissertation on

**EFFICACY OF INTRAVENOUS IRON SUCROSE IN
TREATING IRON DEFICIENCY ANAEMIA
IN ANTENATAL PATIENTS”**

Submitted in partial fulfillment for

M.D. DEGREE EXAMINATION

BRANCH - II

OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE

CHENNAI – 600 003



THE TAMILNADU Dr.M.G.R. MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

CHENNAI – 600 032

TAMILNADU

APRIL 2011

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation titled **“Study of Efficacy of Intravenous Iron sucrose in Treating Iron Deficiency Anaemia in Antenatal Patients”** submitted by Dr. G.V. Preetha to the Faculty of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Madras Medical College, The Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical university, Chennai in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of M.D. Degree (Obstetrics and Gynaecology) is a bonafide research work carried out by her under our direct supervision and guidance.

Dr. J. MOHANASUNDARAM,
M.D., Ph.D., DNB,
Dean,
Madras Medical College,
Chennai -3

Dr. RADHA BHAI PRABU
M.D.,D.G.O.,M.N.A.M.S., Ph.D.,F.R.C.O.G.
Director & Superintendent,
Institute of Obstetrics & Gynaecology,
Egmore, Chennai -8.

DECLARATION

I Dr. G.V. Preetha solemnly declare that the dissertation titled **“Efficacy of Intravenous Iron sucrose in Treating Iron Deficiency Anaemia in Antenatal Patients”** has been prepared by me.

This is submitted to the Tamilnadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai in partial fulfillment of the rules and regulation for MD Degree Examination in obstetrics and Gynaecology. This has not been previously submitted by me for the award of any degree or diploma from any university.

Place : Chennai

Dr. G.V. Preetha

Date :

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I gratefully acknowledge and sincerely thank our beloved Den, Prof Dr.Mohana Sundaram MD Ph.D., DNB, Madras Medical College, Chennai -3 for his patronage.

I am extremely grateful to our Director and Superintendent Prof Dr.Radha Bhai Prabhu M.D.,D.G.O.,M.N.A.M.S., Ph.D.,F.R.C.O.G. Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chennai for her guidance and encouragement given in completing my work.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to Prof Dr.Baby Vasumathi MD DGO for her valuable guidance, support and encouragement throughout my study.

I immensely thank Prof. Dr. Revathy Janakiram M.D, D.G.O. MNAMS., for her great support in conducting the study.

I am extremely thankful to all my professors, Asst professors, medical and paramedical staff of Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology for their co-operation in conducting my study.

I will be ungrateful if I don't thank my patients who have given me excellent co-operation all through my study.

I thank my family members very much for their support and encouragement at every step.

ETHICAL COMMITTEE CERTIFICATE

I **Dr. G.V. Preetha** apply for the ethical committee certificate for the project **“Efficacy of intravenous iron sucrose in treating iron deficiency anemia in antenatal patients”** under the guidance of Dr. Baby Vasumathi M.D, D.G.O Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Egmore, Chennai – 8.

I understand the implications of doing research with human subjects and will fully comply with the regulations and keep the dignity and protect the health of subjects at all costs.

Signature of Postgraduate student

I have no objection to guide this postgraduate student in the project mentioned above. I shall supervise that all the human rights are protected and research is carried on with the utmost humanitarian principles.

Signature of the guide

Seal of guide

I certify that this project has been presented in front of the Ethical Committee, duly formatted in this institution and that all the members of the Ethical Committee have given permission to conduct this research.

Chairman of Ethical Committee

Seal of Chairman

Date:

INDEX

| SL. NO. | TITLE | PAGE . NO. |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 2 | REVIEW OF LITERATURE | 3 |
| 3 | AIM | 38 |
| 4 | MATERIALS AND METHODS | 39 |
| 5 | RESULTS & ANALYSIS | 42 |
| 6 | DISCUSSION | 56 |
| 7 | SUMMARY | 62 |
| 8 | CONCLUSION | 65 |
| 9 | APPENDICES i) BIBLIOGRAPHY ii) PROFORMA iii) ABBREVIATIONS iv) MASTER CHART v) KEY TO MASTER CHART | |

INTRODUCTION

Anemia is one of the major public health problems in the developing world. More than 70% of pregnant women in South-East Asia region suffer from nutritional anemia.(1)

Anemia is the direct cause of maternal death in 10-15% of cases but is an associated cause in many maternal deaths due to haemorrhage, sepsis and cardiac failure.(2)

Anemia in pregnancy is associated with an adverse obstetric outcome in form of spontaneous abortions, preterm labor, low birth weight babies and intrauterine growth retardation.

It is paradoxical but true that though the cause of pregnancy anemia is known and iron therapy is cheap, anemia continues to take a heavy toll of maternal lives in most developing countries.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines anemia in pregnant women as hemoglobin level below 11 g / dl.

Iron deficiency is the most common hematinic deficiency in pregnancy, followed by folate deficiency.

Prevention or early treatment of pregnancy anemia is the best prophylaxis against maternal mortality.

Supplementation with iron and folic acid during pregnancy is an effective method for preventing mortality and morbidity associated with anemia and improving the outcome of pregnancy.

One of the primary aims of antenatal care is to prevent and treat anemia during pregnancy, since the safety of labour and the puerperal state, to say nothing of the future health, depend upon the state of the patient's hemoglobin reserve

Iron is an essential component of hemoglobin in blood. The pregnant women needs 1000 mg of iron all through her pregnancy to maintain iron balance.

Traditional iron therapy which is based on either oral administration of iron or blood transfusion has many drawbacks. Now parenteral administration of new well tolerated iron preparations like iron sucrose which has been successfully used in treatment of anemia has revolutionised the treatment of anemia. (3)

This study was done to find out the efficacy and safety of intravenous iron sucrose in treatment of iron deficiency anemia in second trimester of pregnancy.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

HISTORICAL ASPECTS OF ANEMIA

The work of Hedin and Wintrobe in assessing the volume of packed red cells by various types of hematocrit and work of Keith and Garofalo in estimating blood volume led to accurate laboratory definition of the presence or absence of anemia.

Pierre Baudouin in 1832, discovered that ferrous sulphate tablets were effective therapy for iron deficiency anemia.

In 1932, Wintrobe devised the concept of red cell indices.

In 1992 Price quantitated the variation in red cell size seen in various types of anemia.

Review of Literature

- **Bayoumeu F, Subiran - Buisset C, Baka NE, Legagneur H, Monnier - Barbarino P, Laxenaire MC** - France, 2002 March conducted a randomised control study in 50 patients with hemoglobin 8 to 10g/dl and ferritin <50 microg/L.

In intravenous group, iron dose was calculated from the formula: weight before pregnancy (kg) x (120g/l - actual hemoglobin g/l). Oral group received 240 mg of iron sulphate per day for 4 weeks. Treatment efficacy was assessed by measurement of hemoglobin and reticulocytes on days 8,15, 21 and 30 and at delivery and of ferritin on day 30 and at delivery.

Results:- An increase in hemoglobin rising from 9.6 ± 0.79 g/dl to 11.11 ± 1.3 g/dl on day 30 in IV group and from 9.7 ± 0.5 g/dl to 11 ± 1.25 g/dl on day 30 in per oral group. On day 30 and at delivery ferritin was higher in IV group. A mean higher birthweight of 250 g was noted in IV group (not significant).

- **Bencaiova G. Von Mandach U, Zimmermann R Zurich** University Hospital, Switzerland 2009 Jun; 144(2) : 135-9. Epub 2009 Apr 29 have done a study to assess and compare the efficacy and safety of two or three doses of intravenous

iron sucrose with daily oral ferrous sulphate in the prophylaxis of iron deficiency anemia in pregnant women 260 women between 21st and 24th week with singleton pregnancy were randomised into either the intravenous iron group or oral iron group. Of 130 women in IV iron group 75 received 2 doses of 200mg iron sucrose and 55 received 3 doses of 200mg iron sucrose.

The first dose was administered between 21st and 24th weeks, second dose between 28th and 32nd week and third between 35th and 37th week. Women of oral group were given oral tablets of 80mg ferrous sulphate daily, beginning on day of study enrolment and stopping on day of delivery.

Conclusion:- There was no significant difference in the haematological, maternal and fetal outcomes in the parenteral route of iron prophylaxis in pregnant women.

- **AI RA, Unlubilgin E, Kandemir O, Yalvac S, Cakir L, Haberal A** – Ankara Maternity Hospital, Turkey 2005 December conducted a randomised controlled study to compare the efficacy of intravenous iron to oral iron in treatment of anemia in pregnancy. 90 women with hemoglobin between 8 and 10.5g/dL and ferritin <13 microg/L received either oral iron polymaltose complex

(300mg elemental iron per day) or IV iron sucrose → dose calculated as follows:

Calculated: Weight before pregnancy (kg) x (110g/L – actual hemoglobin g/L) x 0.24 +500 mg

Results:- The change in hemoglobin from baseline was significantly higher in intravenous group than oral group.

Ferritin values were higher in IV iron group with no serious adverse reactions.

- **Perewusnyk G, Huch R, Huch A, Breymenn C** – Zurich University, Switzerland , 2002 July.

Parenteral iron therapy in obstetrics – 8 years experience with iron – sucrose complex.

Results:- Fe- sucrose complex has become a major interest to prevent functional Fe deficiency. Good tolerance to this formulation is partly due to low allergenic effect, partly due to slow release of elementary Fe from the complex, incorporation into bone marrow for erythropoiesis is faster.

By using parenteral iron sucrose in cases of severe iron deficiency, anemia during pregnancy is treated efficiently and rate of blood transfusion could be reduced to below 1% of patients per year.

- **Wali A, Mushtaq A, Nilofer J** Pak Med assoc 2002 Sep 52 (9) did a prospective comparative study – efficacy, safety and compliance of intravenous iron sucrose and intramuscular iron sorbitol in iron deficiency anemia of pregnancy.

A total number of 60 pregnant women with gestation age 12-34 weeks who had iron deficiency anemia. They were divided into 3 groups. Group A (n=15) received intravenous iron sucrose according to recommended dose containing 500mg of iron sucrose for storage, in group B (n=20) iron sucrose was administered according to deficit calculated as per formula but 200mg of iron was given for storage. Group C received intramuscular iron sorbitol in dose used as practice.

Conclusion:- Intravenous iron therapy is safe, convenient and more effective than intramuscular iron therapy in treatment of iron deficiency anemia during pregnancy and can replace blood transfusion in antenatal period.

- A study was conducted by **Divakar hospitals** Bangalore

A cohort of 96 women were recruited if their Hb <11g/dl, IV iron sucrose 200mg was given and their Hb estimated after 4 weeks of therapy.

A rise of >2g/dl was seen in 17.2%.

A mean rise of 1.31g/dl in 92%.

- **Al Momen et al** 1996 Nov conducted a prospective, open label controlled trial in 111 pregnant women with iron deficiency anemia, with Hb <9 g/dL and divided into 2 groups. Intravenous iron sucrose was administered as an infusion of single 100mg dose in normal saline every 1 to 3 days. Controls receive intramuscular iron dextran (100mg on alternate days) till the calculated dose was reached.

Intravenous iron therapy resulted in higher levels of Hb, with time to achieve maximum Hb in shorter period compared with controls. No serious adverse effects were noted in iron sucrose group whereas 6% of patients could not tolerate intramuscular iron dextran, who were excluded from study. 30% patients in control group had disturbing gastrointestinal symptoms and 32% were non-compliant.

- **Lipincott William**, Pakistan institute of Medical Science conducted a randomised controlled study in 80 patients with gestational age 12-36 weeks from antenatal clinic and 20 patients after postpartum haemorrhage with anemia.

Group A received intravenous iron sucrose

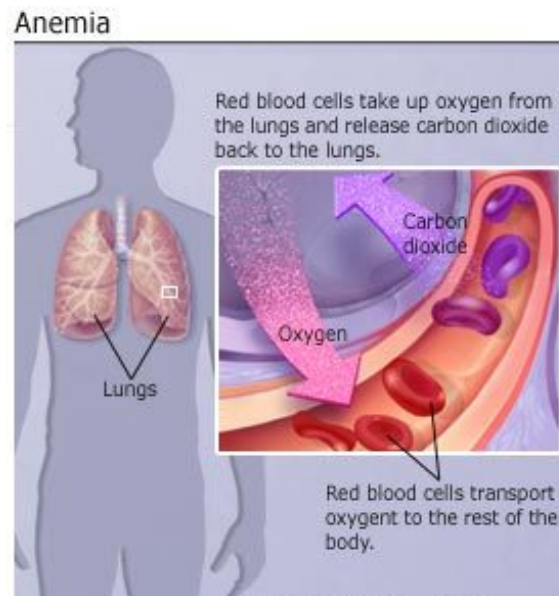
Group B received intramuscular iron sorbitol.

Conclusion:- IV iron sucrose is safe, convenient and more effective than intramuscular iron therapy in treatment of iron deficiency anemia during pregnancy. It can minimise blood transfusion in postnatal women. Increase in Hb was noted 1 week after iron sucrose administration.

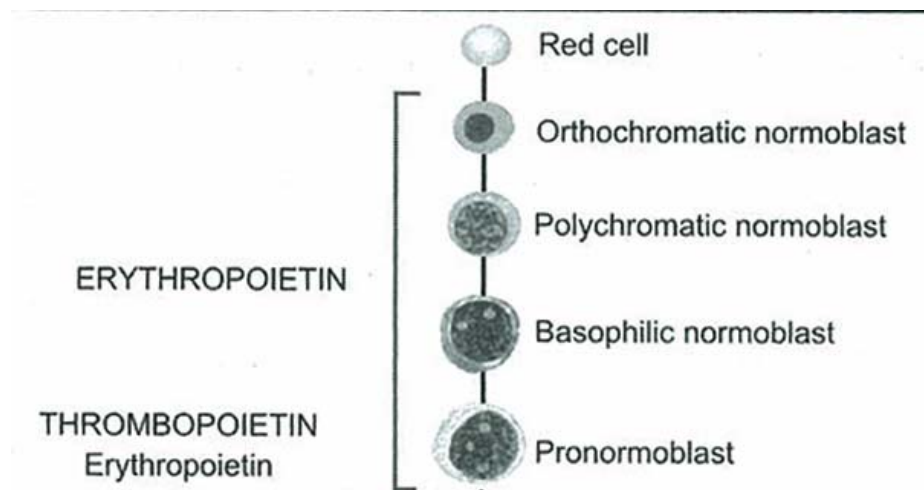
ANEMIA

Definition

Anemia is a reduction in RBC mass and hemoglobin content of blood due to diminished production or increased destruction or loss of RBC. This results in reduced oxygen carrying capacity of blood and inadequate oxygen supply to tissues.

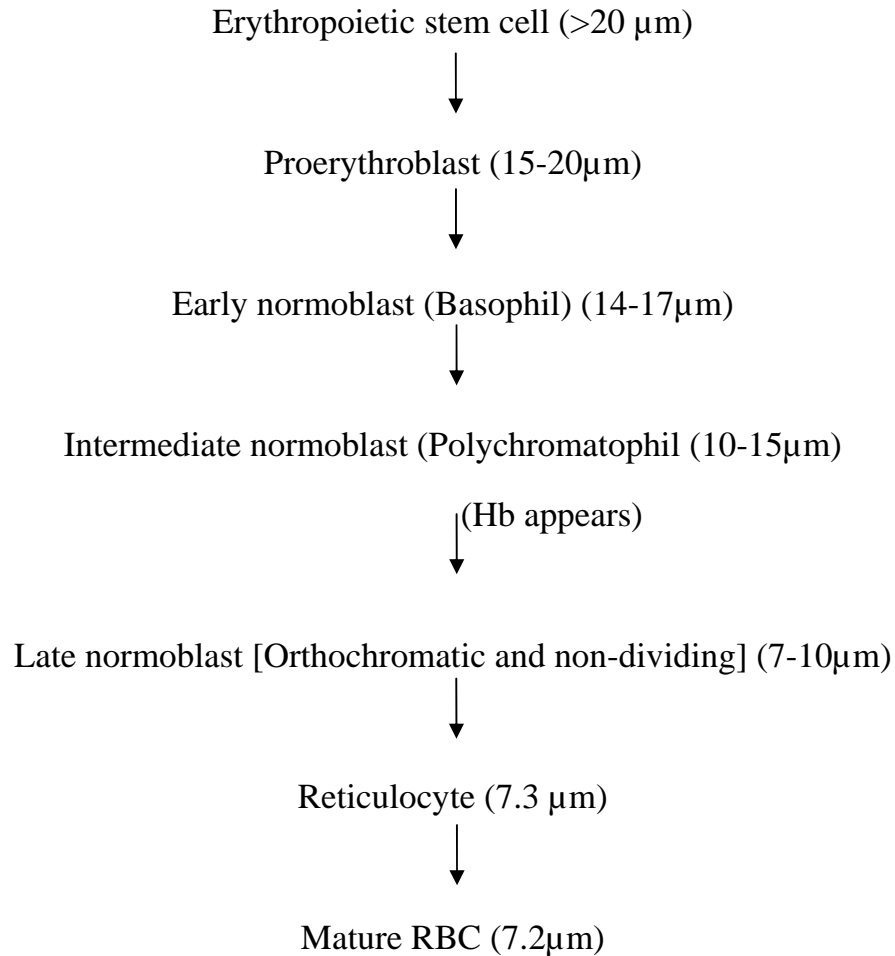


ERYTHROPOIESIS



Erythropoiesis

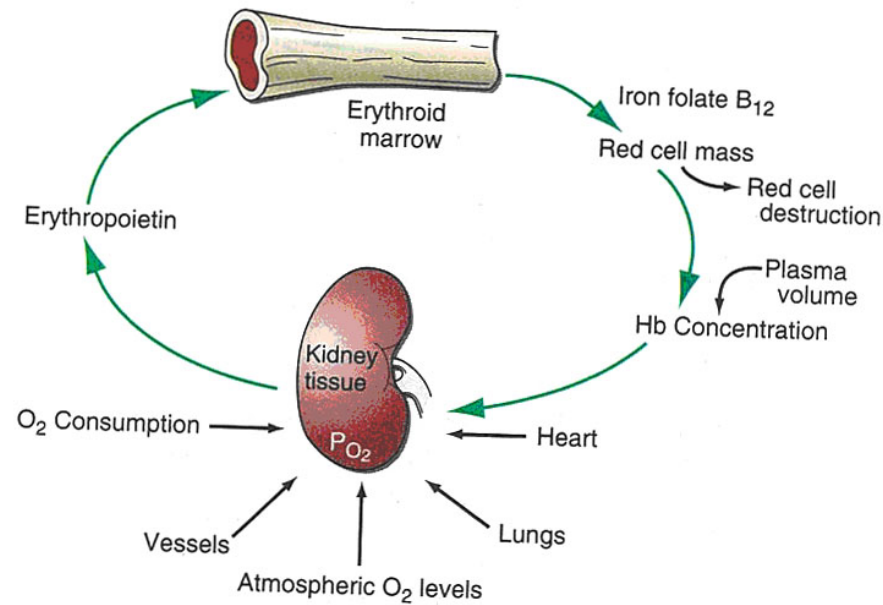
After birth red cells normally develop only in red bone marrow.



FACTORS REQUIRED FOR RBC FORMATION (4)

1. Proteins
2. Minerals – Iron, copper, zinc and cobalt.
3. Vitamins – Vitamin B12, folic acid, riboflavin and Vitamin C

4. Erythropoietin – Principal stimulus for red cell production in hypoxia.

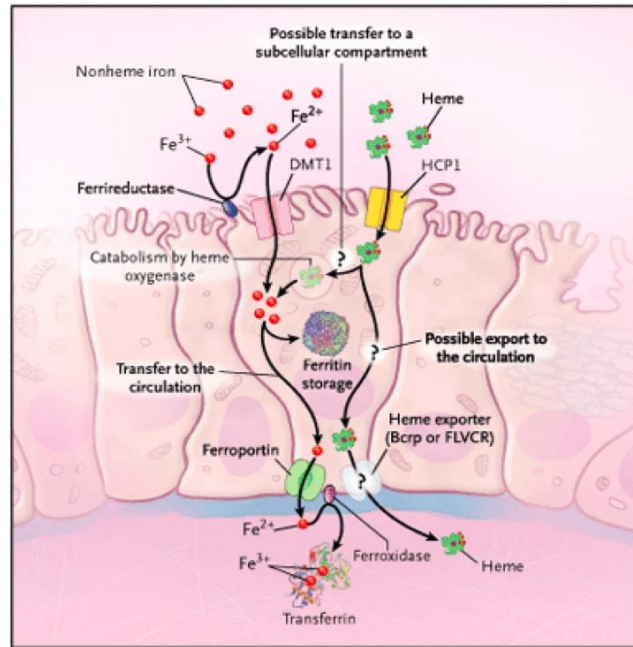


The physiologic regulation of red cell production by tissue oxygen tension. Hb, hemoglobin.

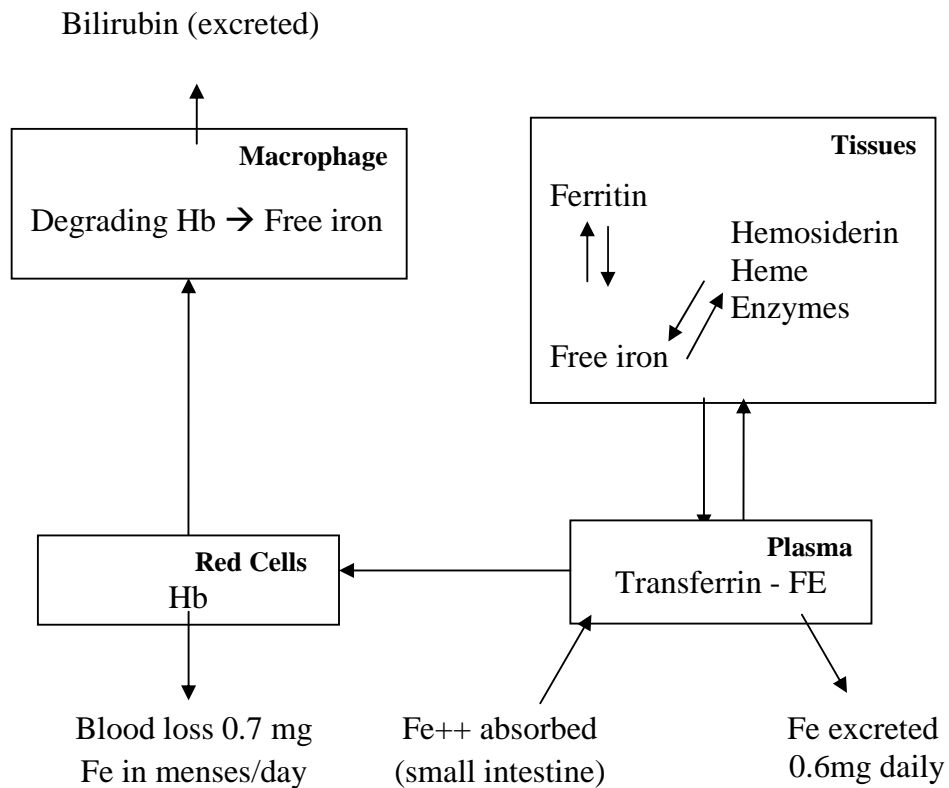
IRON METABOLISM

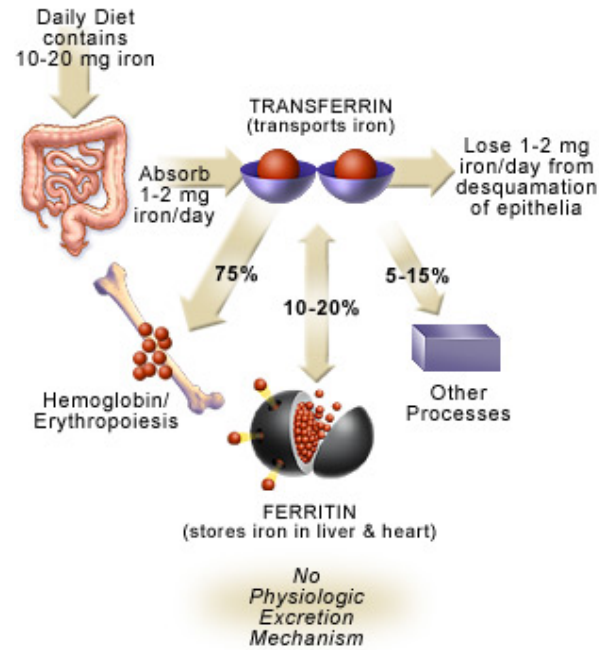
Body iron distribution

| | Iron content, mg (female 60 kg) |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Hemoglobin | 1700 |
| Myoglobin / enzymes | 300 |
| Transferrin iron | 3 |
| Iron stores | 0 – 300 |



IRON CYCLE





The Iron Cycle

ABSORPTION OF IRON

Iron absorption mostly occurs in duodenum and proximal jejunum. Mostly dietary iron is in ferric form which is not easily absorbed. Iron has to be reduced to ferrous form to be transported across the intestinal epithelium.

Iron Transport : Iron is transported by 2 stages

- a) Brush border
- b) Serosal surface

Brushborder of mucosal cell has mobilferrin which binds to iron and causes it to enter mucosal cell. The mucosal cell has apoferritin which binds iron and iron may be stored in mucosal epithelial cell or may be transported to blood. The regulation of iron absorption is by equilibrium between ferrous iron in mucosal cell, circulating iron levels and stored form of iron in mucosal cell

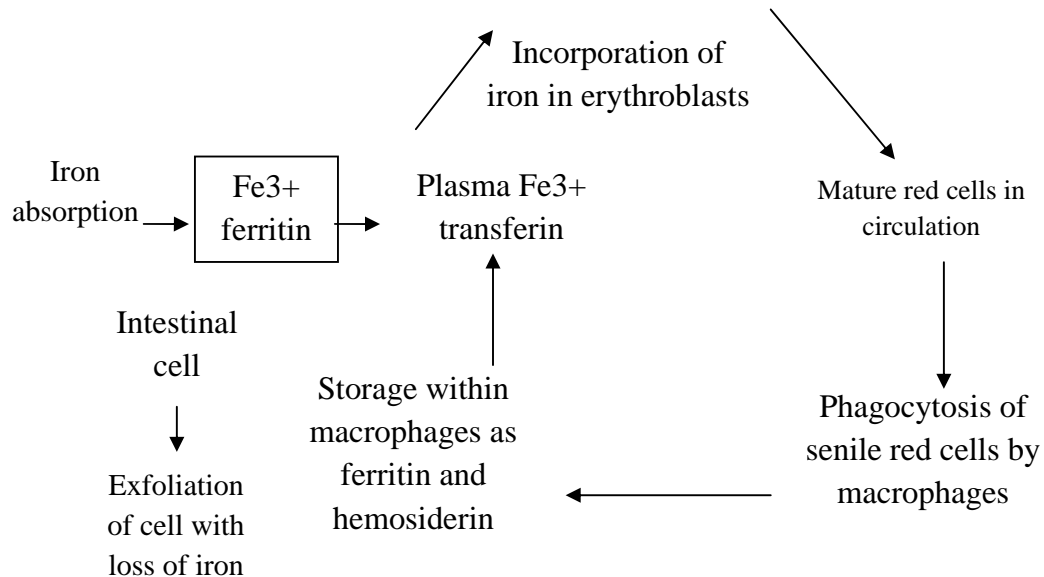
Mucosal Block

The gut has a mechanism to prevent entry of excess iron in body. Iron reaching inside mucosal cell is either transported to plasma or oxidised to ferric form and complexed with apoferritin to form ferritin. This ferritin is generally stored in mucosal cell and is lost when they are shed (life span of mucosal cell is 2-4 days). This is called “FERRITIN CURTAIN”

Transferrin is the protein involved in iron transport. Each transferrin is capable of binding one atom of iron. The transferrin-receptor – iron complex moves inside the cell by an endosome and iron is released and taken up by DMT-1 (divalent metal transporter), that carries iron through endosome membrane to be incorporated into iron containing proteins or to be stored as ferritin.

The reticuloendothelial system phagocytoses old red blood cells and hemoglobin is liberated. Heme is further converted to biliverdin and iron is released and incorporated into ferritin or transported back to plasma.

Iron Metabolism



Nutritional Iron Balance (5)

The balance of iron in humans is tightly controlled and designed to conserve iron for reutilization there is no regulated excretory pathway for iron, and only mechanism by which iron is lost from the body are blood loss and loss of epithelial cells from the skin, gut and genito urinary tract. This margin between the amount of iron available for absorption and the requirement of iron, this accounts for the great prevalence of iron deficiency worldwide.

The amount of iron required from the diet to replace losses averages 15% in women of child bearing age. An individual with iron deficiency can increase iron absorption to about 20% of iron present in meat containing diet, but only 5-10% of iron in vegetarian diet, because certain food stuffs that include phytates & phosphates reduce iron absorption by 50% when ionizable iron salts are given together with food, the amount of iron absorbed is reduced, this is true with iron in

ferric state. In pregnancy, during the last two trimesters, daily iron requirement increase to 5 to 6mg. That is the reason why iron supplements are strongly recommended for pregnant women.

IRON DEFICIENCY ANEMIA IN PREGNANCY

Definition

According to WHO, anemia in pregnancy is present when the hemoglobin concentration of peripheral blood is 11g/dl or less. Anemia is responsible for 17% of maternal deaths in developing countries.

PHYSIOLOGICAL ANEMIA OF PREGNANCY (6)

Disproportionate increase in plasma volume, RBC volume and hemoglobin mass during pregnancy. In addition there is marked demand of extra iron during pregnancy.

ICMR CATEGORIES OF ANEMIA

| Category | Severity (Hb level in g/dl) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Mild | 10-10.9 |
| Moderate | 7-10 |
| Severe | <7 |
| Very severe | <4 |

IRON REQUIREMENT IN PREGNANCY

Demands for iron in pregnancy come to a total of about 900mg (range 700 – 1400mg) of which about

- 500 to 600mg goes to the uterus and its contents
- Around 150 to 200 mg are lost in the average blood loss at delivery and a similar amount is expended in lactation.
- In addition, there is an increased maternal hemoglobin mass which consumes about 500mg, but this iron is returned to the stores after delivery.(7)
- On the credit side, there is an average saving of about 225mg as a result of amenorrhoea throughout pregnancy. (7)
- This leaves a likely iron deficit of 600 to 700mg.

In terms of daily needs, this approximates

4-6 mg/day – Second trimester

6-8 mg/day – Third trimester

Prevalence of iron deficiency anemia in pregnancy

Exact data on prevalence of anemia in women is not available but a crude estimate is that 500 million women between 15 and 49 yrs of age worldwide are anemic.(8)

According to World Health Organization estimates, upto 56% of all women living in developing countries are anemic.(9)

In India, National Family Health survey-2, shows that 54% of women in rural and 46% of women in urban areas are anemic.(10)

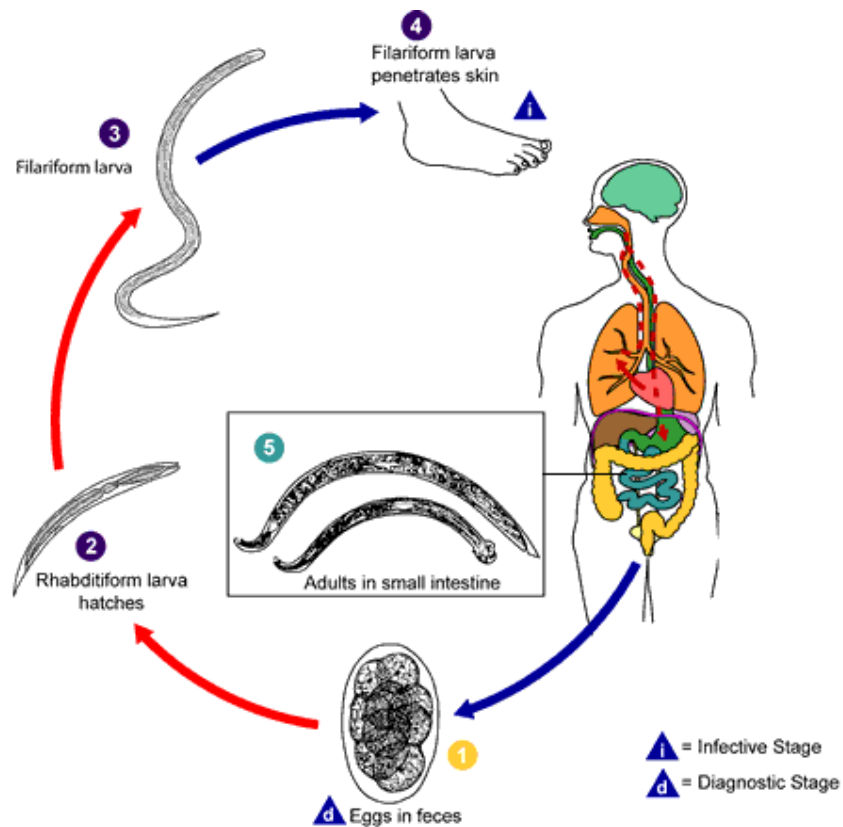
Prevalence of anemia during pregnancy is much higher. It is estimated that 60 million pregnant women world wide are anemic. In developing countries, the prevalence of anemia in pregnant women varies between 50 and 90%.

In a steering committee report from India, 13% women were reported to have hemoglobin <5g% and 34% had hemoglobin less then 8gm%.(11)

Nutritional anemia is a serious problem in pregnancy which affects 60-70% of pregnant women.

CAUSES OF INCREASED PREVALENCE OF ANEMIA IN TROPICS

1. Faulty dietetic habit – High phosphate and phytates decrease absorption
2. Faulty absorption mechanism – Due to intestinal infestation
3. Iron loss –
 - (i) Excess blood loss during menstruation
 - (ii) Repeated pregnancies at short intervals
 - (iii) Hook worm infestation



Hook worm Life Cycle

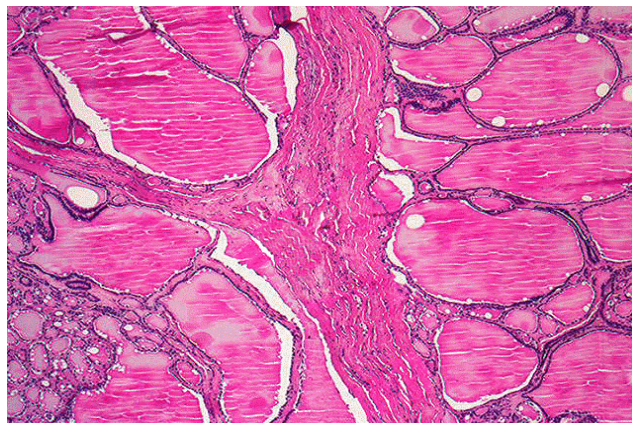
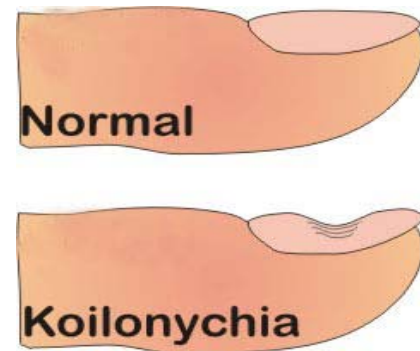
DURING PREGNANCY

1. Increased demand (13)
2. Diminished intake
3. Disturbed metabolism

CLINICAL FEATURES

| Symptoms | Signs |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Lassitude | • Pallor , Koilonychia |
| • Palpitation | • Glossitis and stomatitis |
| • Dyspnoea | • Tachycardia |
| • Giddiness | • Systolic heart murmur |
| • Pica | • Oedema (due to hypoproteinemia) |

Koilonychia



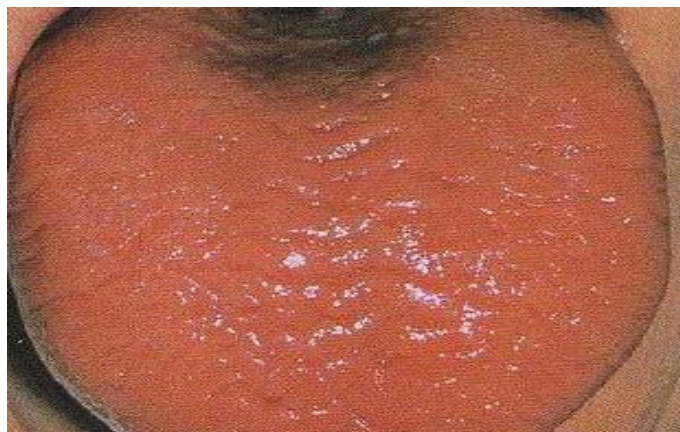
Angular Stomatitis



Eyes – Pallor



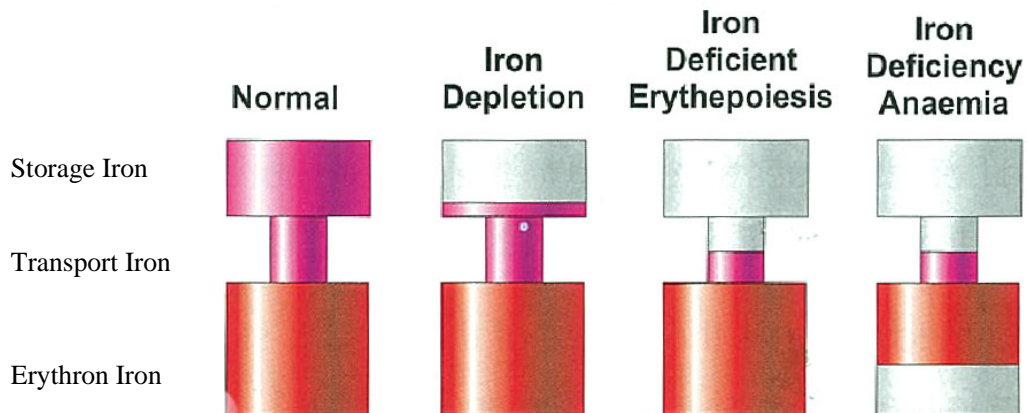
Smooth Bald Tongue



STAGES OF IRON DEFICIENCY

| | | Normal | Negative Iron balance | Iron deficient erythropoiesis | Iron deficiency anemia |
|----|---|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Marrow iron stores | 1-3+ | 0-1+ | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Serum ferritin ($\mu\text{g/L}$) | 50-200 | <20 | <15 | <15 |
| 3. | TIBC ($\mu\text{g/dl}$) | 300-360 | >360 | >380 | >400 |
| 4. | Serum iron ($\mu\text{g/dl}$) | 50-150 | NL | <50 | <30 |
| 5. | Saturation (%) | 30-50 | NL | <20 | <10 |
| 6. | Marrow Sideroblasts | 40-60 | NL | <10 | <10 |
| 7. | RBC protoporphyrin ($\mu\text{g/dl}$) | 30-50 | NL | >100 | >200 |
| 8. | RBC morphology | NL | NL | NL | Microcytic hypochromic |

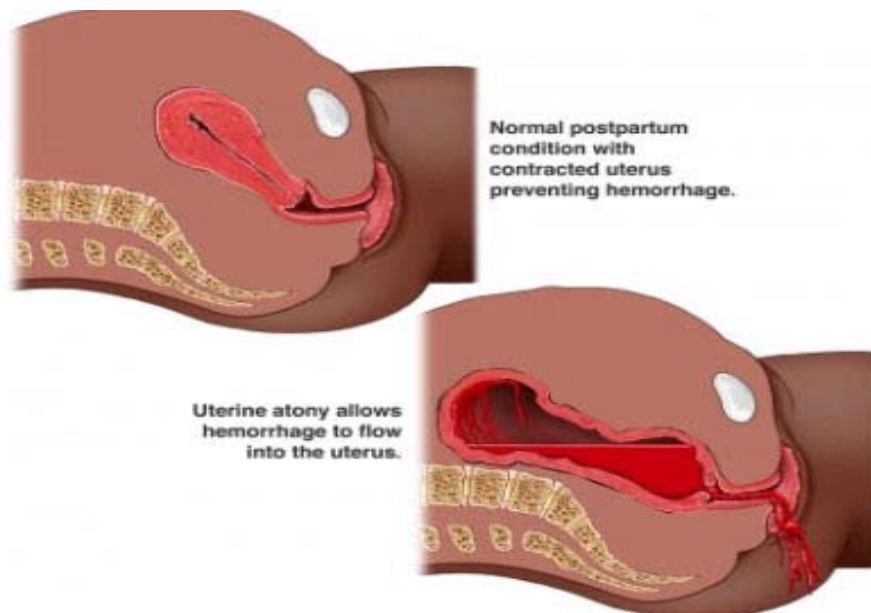
* NL - Normal Limits



COMPLICATIONS OF SEVERE ANEMIA

| During pregnancy | Labour | Puerperium | Fetal effects |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pre-eclampsia | Uterine inertia | Puerperal sepsis | Low birth weight |
| Intercurrent infection | Postpartum haemorrhage | Subinvolution | Intrauterine death (anoxemia) |
| Heart failure at 30-32 weeks of gestation | Cardiac failure | Puerperal venous thrombosis | |
| Preterm labour | Shock | Pulmonary embolism | |

Postpartum Haemorrhage

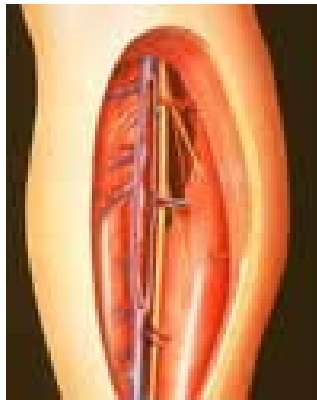


Cardiac failure

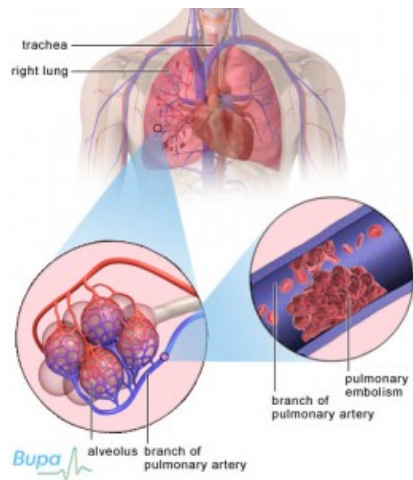
Enlarged Heart



Puerperal venous thrombosis



Pulmonary embolism



MANAGEMENT OF IRON DEFICIENCY ANEMIA

Investigations

I. To know degree of anemia

Determination of hemoglobin concentration:

- a) Tallquist method
- b) Sahli's acid hematin method
- c) Alkali – hematin method
- d) Cynmethemoglobin method – most accurate



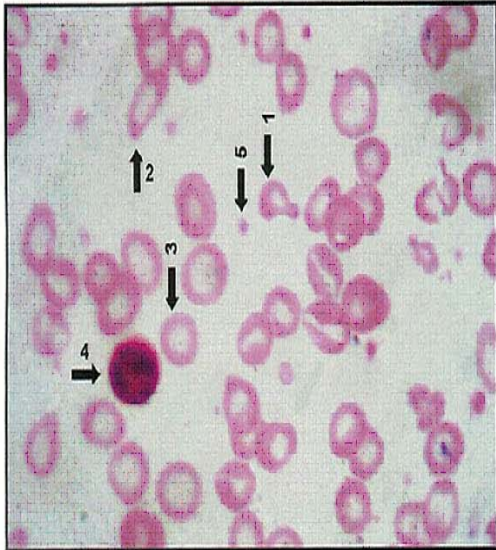
II. To assess type of anemia

a) **Peripheral smear:-** Single best investigation

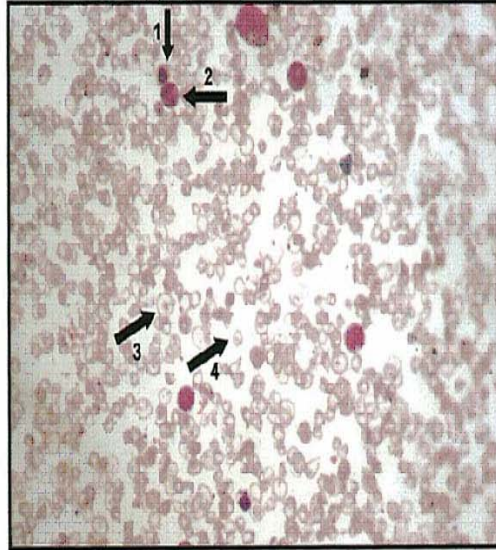
The differential RBC morphology like micro or macrocytosis, hypo or normochromia, anisocytosis, poikilocytosis, howel jolly bodies, heinz bodies, presence of target cells and schizocytes serve as important clues to the aetiology.

It also provides information about white blood cells (WBC), differential count and morphology, platelet count, presence of parasites like malaria and kala-azar, and toxic granules in case of chronic infections.

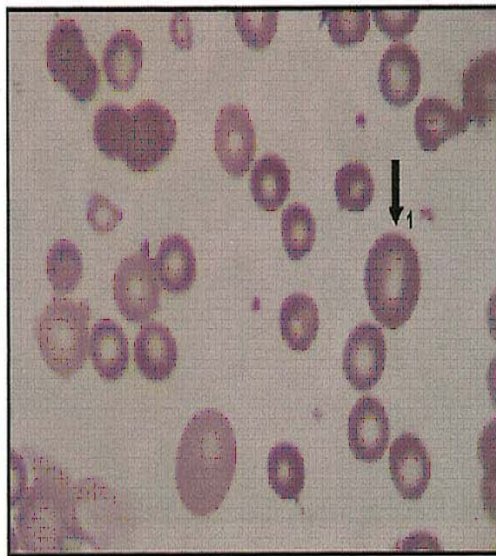
The reticulocyte count requires supravital staining of the peripheral smear.



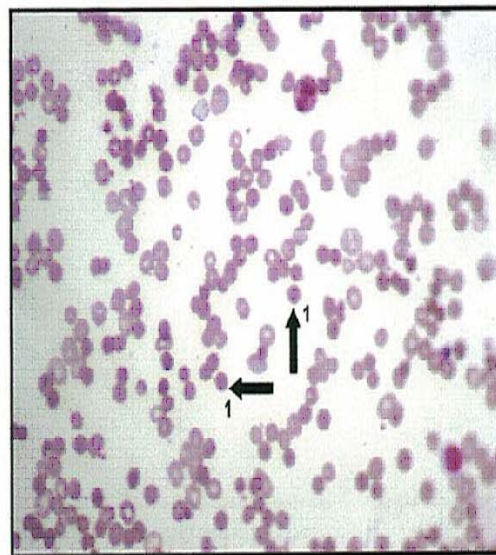
Microcytic hypochromic anemia
 1. Tear drop cell 2. Elliptocyte 3. Microcytic hypochromic cell 4. Lymphocyte 5. Platelet



Thalassemia major (marked aniso poikilocytosis)
 1. nRBC (nucleated RBC) 2. Neutrophil 3. Target cell 4. Microcytic hypochromic cell



Macrocytic anemia 1. Macrocyte



Hereditary spherocytosis 1. Spherocyte

SEMI AUTO ANALYSER –ERBA CHEM PLUS V2



CELL COUNTER



Hematological indices (15)

- a. MCV (Mean corpuscular volume)

$$\text{MCV} = \frac{\text{Packed cell volume \%}}{\text{RBC count in millions/cu.mm}} \times 10$$

Normal range : 80-95 fl

- b. MCH (Mean corpuscular hemoglobin)

$$\text{MCH (Picograms)} = \frac{\text{Hemoglobin g/dl}}{\text{RBC count in millions/cu.mm}} \times 10$$

Normal range : 27-32 pg

- d. MCHC (Mean Corpuscular hemoglobin concentration)

$$\text{MCHC (g/dl)} = \frac{\text{Hemoglobin g/dl}}{\text{Packed cell volume}} \times 100$$

Normal range : 34 – 37 g/dl

III. Other Blood values

1. Serum iron: 50-150 $\mu\text{g/L}$
2. TIBC (Total Iron Binding Capacity)

Normal 325-400 $\mu\text{g/dl}$

Increased in iron deficiency anemia

3. Transferrin saturation

Serum iron

----- x100

TIBC

Normal : 20-50%

Decreased in iron deficiency anemia

4. Serum ferritin :- Normal value 50 – 200 µg/ l

- Most sensitive and specific test for iron deficiency anemia

- It correlates with body iron stores

5. Soluble transferrin receptor assay (TFR). (16)

o Indicates cellular iron status

o Increased in iron deficiency anemia.

6. Free erythrocyte protoporphyrin:- Increased in iron deficiency anemia.

7. Red cell distribution width – It is the degree of variation of red cells size.

It is increased in iron deficiency anemia and helps in distinguishing from beta-thalassemia, where red cell distribution width is normal.

IV. Examination of stool: To detect helminthic infection (especially hookworm)

- V. Examination of urine – for protein, sugar and pus cells.
- VI. Bone marrow aspiration and examination

INDICATION

- a) Cases not responding to therapy
- b) To diagnose hypoplastic anemia
- c) To diagnose kala-azar

TREATMENT OF IRON DEFICIENCY ANAEMIA

PROPHYLACTIC SUPPLEMENTATION

An additional 500-600mg iron is required in pregnancy at a rate of 4-6 mg/day increasing upto 8mg/day in later stages of pregnancy. The average Indian diet seldom contains more than 15mg of iron per day, of which only a fraction (about 10%) is available for absorption.

So there is a definite role of prophylactic supplementation in pregnant women in developing countries.

Natural foods like liver, meat, eggs, peas, green leafy vegetables, sprouts, jaggery and certain dried fruits are sources of iron.

- WHO recommendation based on the prevalence of anemia is 60 mg elemental iron with 400 microgram of folic acid for 6 months, where prevalence of anemia is <40% and this dose to be

supplemented for another 3 months postpartum in areas where the prevalence $>40\%$. (17)

- The National Nutritional Anaemia control programme of India recommends 100mg elemental iron and 500 microgram of folic acid for prophylactic supplementation for a minimum of 100days starting in second trimester. (18)
- Double this dose for the treatment of anemia that is 200mg elemental iron and 1000 microgram of folic acid. These cases need to continue the iron supplementation in postpartum period for 3-6months to replenish stores

Iron

The best source of iron is lean red meat. Iron can also be found in chicken, turkey, eggs, and cereals.



Treatment

Oral therapy

There must be atleast 10 weeks for delivery to obtain satisfactory result with oral iron.

Iron is best absorbed in the ferrous form

Ferrous sulphate is cheapest of these and is suitable for most patients.

Other expensive forms like ferrous fumarate, gluconate and succinate may produce less epigastric discomfort.

Iron preparations should preferably be taken on an empty stomach to prevent dietary factors from interfering with its absorption.

Recently two newer preparations namely carbonyl iron and iron polymaltose complex have been shown to be effective with lesser gastrointestinal side effects. (19)

Treatment should be continued till the blood picture becomes normal, thereafter a maintenance dose is to be continued for atleast 100 days following delivery to replenish the iron stores.



Drawbacks

1. Intolerance – Evidenced by epigastric pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea or constipation.
2. Unpredictable absorption rate – Antacids, oxalates and phosphates will reduce absorption.
3. With the therapeutic dose, the serum iron may be restored but there is difficulty in replenishing the iron stores.

Rate of improvement

The improvement should be evident within three weeks of therapy.

Hemoglobin concentration is expected to rise at the rate of 0.7gm/100ml per week.

Contraindications of oral therapy

- 1) Intolerance to oral iron.
- 2) Severe anemia in advanced pregnancy

PARENTERAL THERAPY

Indications:- 1. Intolerance to oral iron

2. Patient is not co-operative to take oral iron

(A) Intravenous route

(i) Total dose infusion:- The deficit of iron is first calculated and total amount of iron required to correct the deficit is administered by a single sitting intravenous infusion. The compound used is iron dextran. 1 ml of which contains 50 mg elemental iron.

Advantage:- It eliminates repeated and painful intramuscular injections.

Estimation of the total Iron requirement (20)

$$0.3 \times W (100 - \text{Hb}\%)$$

W → patient's weight in pounds;

Hb – hemoglobin

Additional 50% is to be added for replenishment of the body iron store.



B) Intra muscular therapy:- The compounds used are

(i) Iron dextran (Imferon)

(ii) Iron – sorbitol – citric acid complex (Jectofer)

Both preparations contain 50 mg elemental iron in one milli litre.

Oral iron should be suspended atleast 24 hours prior to therapy to avoid reaction

Both compounds require a test dose to be given

The injections are given into upper outer quadrant of the buttock

Drawbacks

- 1) Injections are painful
- 2) Chance of abcess formation and discolouration of skin over the injection site
- 3) Reactions - Pyrexia, Lymphadenopathy, headache, nausea, vomiting and allergic reactions are infrequently met with.

Rate of improvement : The expected rise in hemoglobin concentration is 0.7 gm / 100ml per week The rate of response to iron therapy is the same whether given orally or parenterally

Newer injectable iron preparations now available are iron polymaltose for intramuscular and intra venous use and sodium ferric gluconate for intravenous use. (21)

Place of Blood Transfusion

Indications

- 1) To correct anemia due to blood loss and to combat postpartum hemorrhage



- 2) Patients with severe anemia seen in later months of pregnancy
- 3) Refractory anemia – not responding to either oral or parenteral therapy
- 4) Associated infection

Advantages

- 1) Increases oxygen carrying capacity of the blood
- 2) Stimulates erythropoiesis
- 3) Supplies the natural constituents of blood like proteins, antibodies, etc
- 4) Improvement is expected after 3 days

Draw backs

- 1) Premature labour
- 2) Increased chance of cardiac failure with pulmonary edema because of over loading of heart
- 3) Transfusion reactions

Erythropoietin

Recently this has been tried in resistant cases of anemia during pregnancy and anemia associated with end stage renal disease.

- It acts by stimulating erythropoiesis and therefore may be an alternative to blood transfusion
- Recombinant human erythropoietin (rHu Epo) given at a dose of 150 IU / kg subcutaneously thrice a week.(22)
- Administration of rHuEpo seems to be safe for the fetus since it does not cross the placental barrier due to its high molecular weight
- Adequate iron stores need to be present for the treatment to be effective

Side Effects

Hypertension and thrombosis in mother, more often in women with end stage renal disease.

IRON SUCORSE



- It is a sterile complex of polynuclear iron (III) hydroxide for intravenous use with molecular weight of approximately 60,000 daltons.

- Each ml contains 20mg elemental iron as iron sucrose in water for injection.
- The drug product contains 30% sucrose and pH 10.5-11.1
- It has no preservatives and the osmolality 1.250 mOsmoL/L.

MECHANISM OF ACTION

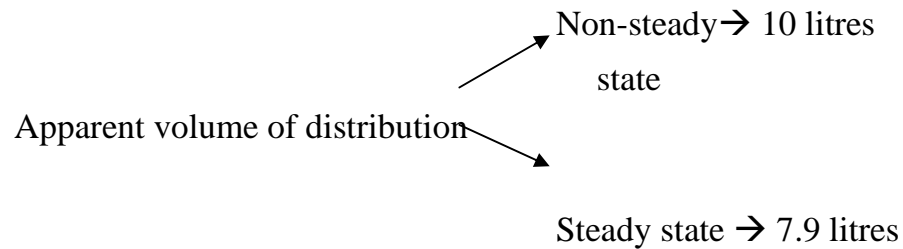
After iv injection, iron sucrose mix with plasma, then enter reticuloendothelial system directly from intravascular fluid compartment. Resident phagocytes of liver, spleen and bone marrow remove iron agents from circulatory plasma. Within phagocytes, iron is released from the iron sucrose compound into iron pool. Iron is either incorporated by ferritin into intracellular iron stores or released from the cell to be taken up by the extracellular iron binding protein transferrin. Iron-transferrin supplies iron for hemoglobin synthesis and maturation of red blood cells.

PHARMACOKINETICS

Iron component exhibits first order kinetics

Elimination $t_{1/2}$: 6 hrs

Total clearance 1.2 l/hr



Iron sucrose mainly distributes in blood and to some extent in extra vascular fluid.

Elimination

Sucrose component and some iron is eliminated by urinary excretion.

Side effects

- Hypotension
- Cramps (Leg cramps)
- Nausea
- Headache
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea

METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

1. SLOW IV INJECTION

100mg to be administered undiluted over a period of 2-5 minutes.

2. *IV INFUSION*

100mg to be diluted with 100ml of normal saline immediately prior to infusion and infused over a period of at least 15 minutes.

Maximum 100-200mg given as single dose repeated upto 3 times a week on alternate days.

Storage: stored at 25°C

Excursions permitted 15-30°C

SALIENT FEATURES OF IRON SUCROSE

1. It is safe and effective in pregnancy anemia.
2. It has convenient dosage and administration.
3. It is a stable high molecular complex which does not cause transferrin saturation.
4. It does not cause oxidative cell toxicity due to free iron generation.
5. It has a safety profile established worldwide.
6. It is safe for patients intolerant to other IV iron preparations.
7. No parenchymal damage.

AIM OF STUDY

AIM OF STUDY :

1. To determine efficacy of iron sucrose in treating iron deficiency anemia in antenatal patients
2. To determine safety of iron sucrose in treatment of iron deficiency anemia in antenatal patients

MATERIALS AND METHODS

STUDY PLACE : Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

STUDY PERIOD : 2009 to 2010

STUDY DESIGN : Prospective Study

50 antenatal patients in second trimester with hemoglobin > 6 grams % and < 11 grams % were selected.

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- a) Gestational age 13 to 28 weeks
- b) Hemoglobin > 6 gm % to < 11 gm %

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- 1) Patients in first and third trimester of pregnancy.
- 2) Bleeding disorders.
- 3) Patients who had known allergy to parenteral iron.

METHOD

Iron sucrose was given as an intravenous infusion.

No test dose required

200mg iron sucrose was diluted with 100 ml of normal saline immediately prior to infusion and is to be infused over a period of atleast 30 minutes to 1 hour. The same dose repeated after 2 days.

We did not calculate the optimal dose of iron sucrose required by each women based on her pre – treatment hemoglobin; we studied the response to a uniform dose over a range of pre – treatment hemoglobin values.

Hemoglobin, packed cell volume were analysed by automatic cell counter. Serum iron, total iron binding capacity was calculated using semi auto analyser.

An informed consent obtained from patient and a detailed history taken.

OBSERVATION

- ❖ The following investigations were done before starting therapy.
 1. Hemoglobin
 2. Packed cell volume
 3. Peripheral smear
 4. Serum iron
 5. Total iron binding capacity

6. Iron saturation

7. Serum ferritin

During therapy the following were monitored

1. Vitals - Pulse rate, Blood Pressure, Temperature.
2. Anaphylactic reactions
3. Adverse effects - Nausea, Vomiting, Chills & Rigors,
Abdominal Pain, Headache etc.

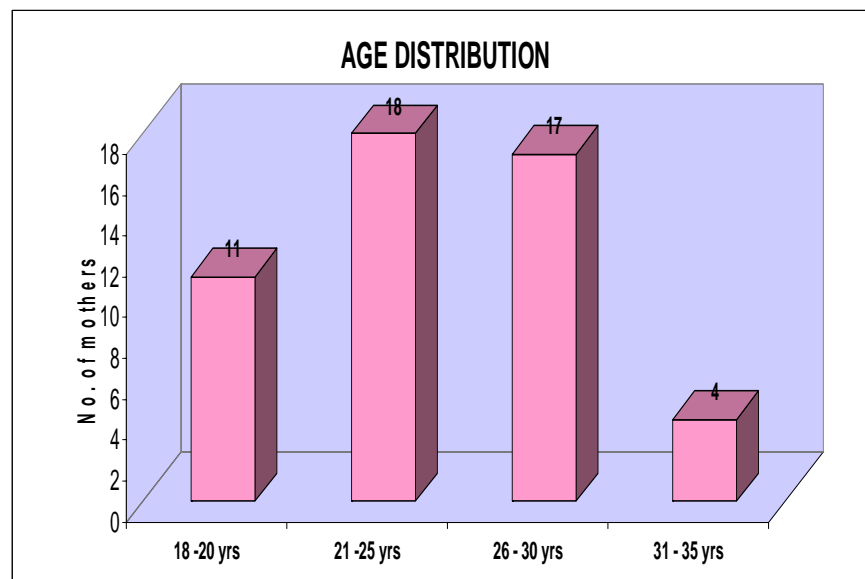
RESULTS

I. AGE DISTRIBUTION

| Age group | No. of Mothers | % |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| 18 – 20 Yrs | 11 | 22.0% |
| 21 – 25 Yrs | 18 | 36.0% |
| 26 – 30 Yrs | 17 | 34.0% |
| 31 – 35 Yrs | 4 | 8.0% |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Among the fifty patients 22% (11/50) were in the age group 18 – 20 yrs.

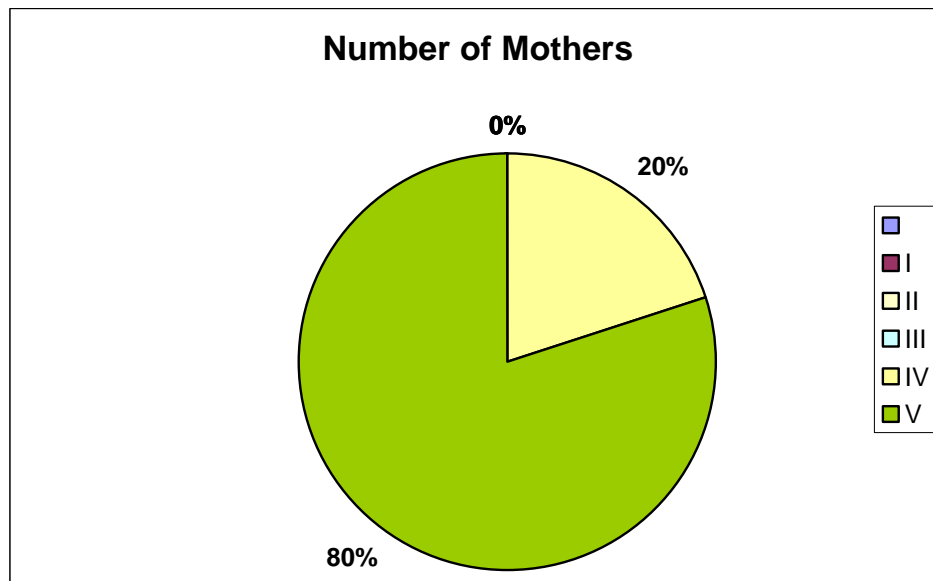
- * 36% (18/50) were in age group 21 – 25 yrs.
- * 34% (17/50) were in age group 26 – 30 yrs
- * 8% (4/50) were in age group 31 – 35 yrs.



II. SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS

| Socio Economic Status | Number of Mothers | % |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| I | - | - |
| II | - | - |
| III | - | - |
| IV | 10 | 20 |
| V | 40 | 80 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

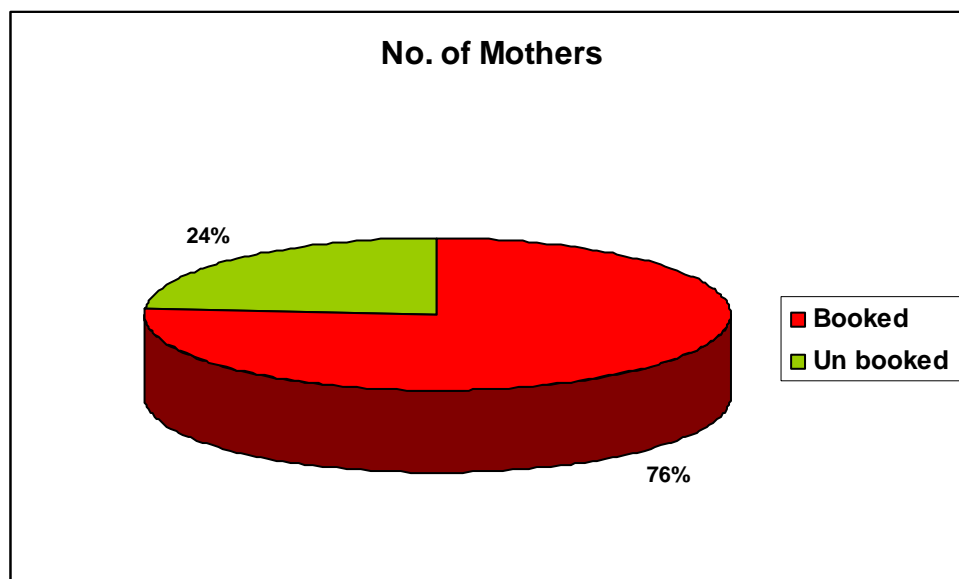
Among the fifty patients, 20% (10/50) are in class IV Socio – economic status. 80% (40/50) are in Class V socio economic status.



III. BOOKING STATUS

| Booking Status | No. of Mothers | % |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Booked | 38 | 76% |
| Un booked | 12 | 24% |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Among the fifty patients, 76% (38/50) were booked and 24% (12/50) were un-booked.

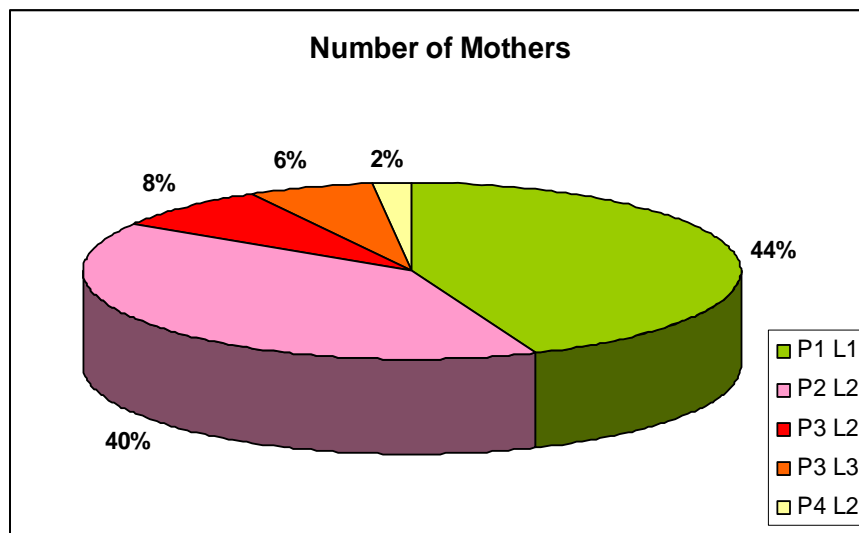


IV. OBSTETRIC CODE

| Obstetric Code | Number of Mothers | % |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| P ₁ L ₁ | 22 | 44% |
| P ₂ L ₂ | 20 | 40% |
| P ₃ L ₂ | 4 | 8% |
| P ₃ L ₃ | 3 | 6% |
| P ₄ L ₂ | 1 | 2% |
| Total | 50 | 100% |

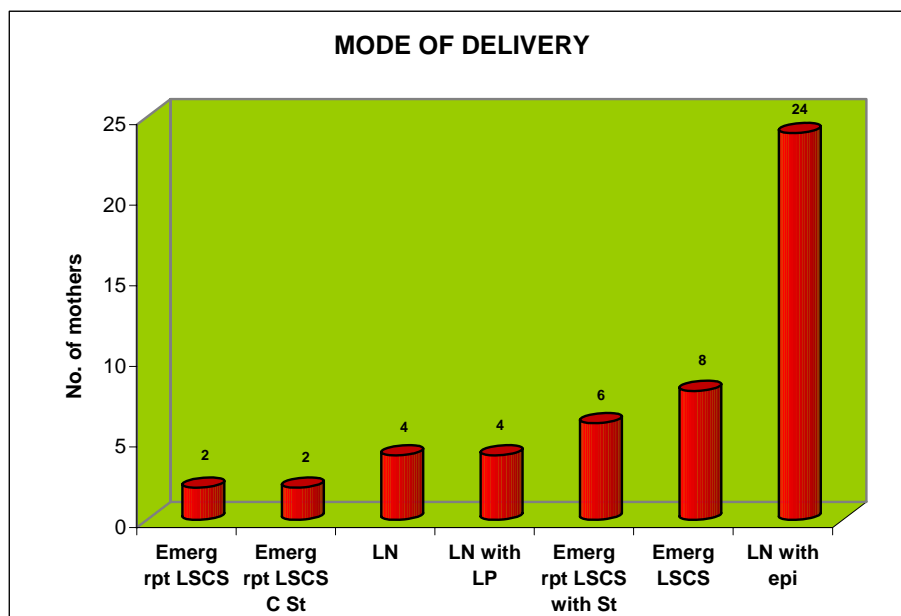
Among the fifty patients

- * 44% (22/50) were P₁ L₁
- * 40% (20/50) were P₂ L₂
- * 8% (4/50) were P₃ L₂
- * 6% (3/50) were P₃ L₃
- * 2% (1/50) were P₄ L₂



V. Mode of Delivery

| Mode of Delivery | No. of Mothers | % |
|---|----------------|------|
| Emergency LSCS | 8 | 16.0 |
| Emergency repeat LSCS | 2 | 4.0 |
| Emergency repeat LSCS with sterilization) | 6 | 12.0 |
| Labour Natural | 4 | 8.0 |
| Labour natural with LP | 4 | 8.0 |
| Labour natural with episiotomy | 24 | 48.0 |
| Total | | |



VI. Hemoglobin

| | Mean (g/dl) | SD | Repeated Measures Anova F Test |
|---------------------|-------------|------|--------------------------------|
| Before iron sucrose | 7.70 | 0.76 | F = 8694.2 P = 0.001 |
| After Month | 10.32 | 0.74 | |
| At delivery | 11.43 | 0.89 | |

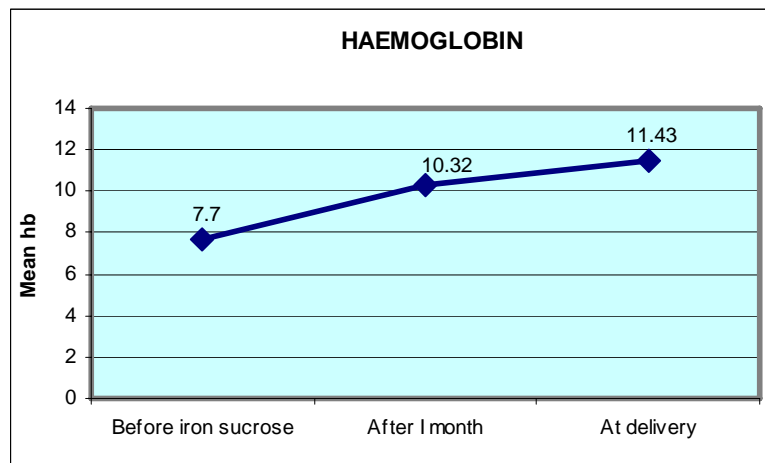
The change in hemoglobin level was significant

Before iron sucrose administration - Mean hemoglobin was 7.70mg / dl

1 month after iron sucrose administration, mean hemoglobin was 10.32 g / dl mean

At delivery, hemoglobin 11.43 g / dl.

p value 0.001 which was significant.



Multiple comparison using Bonferroni t-test

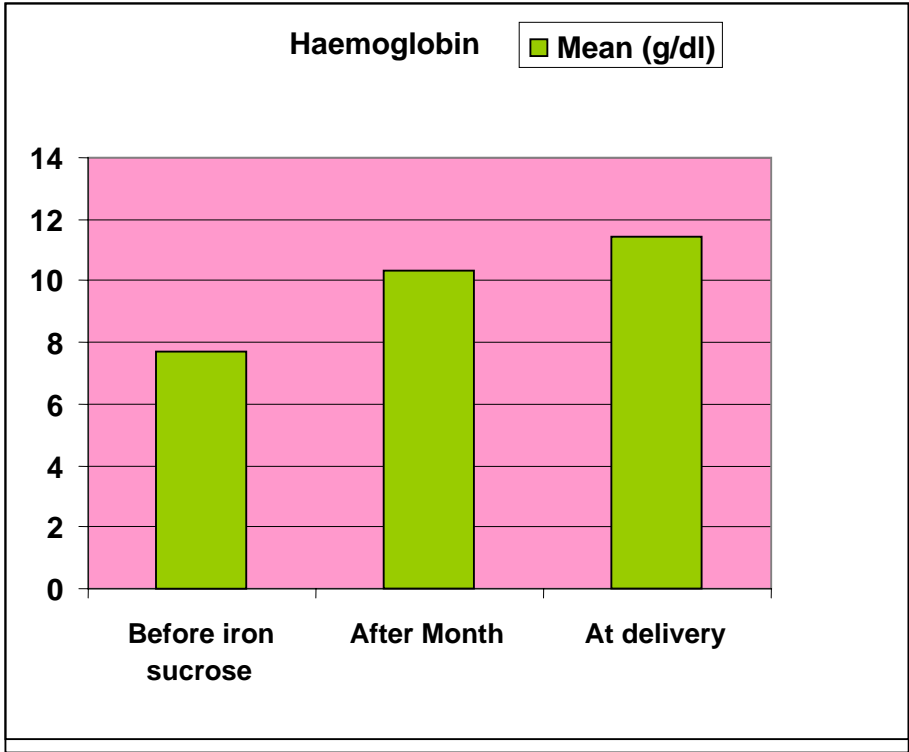
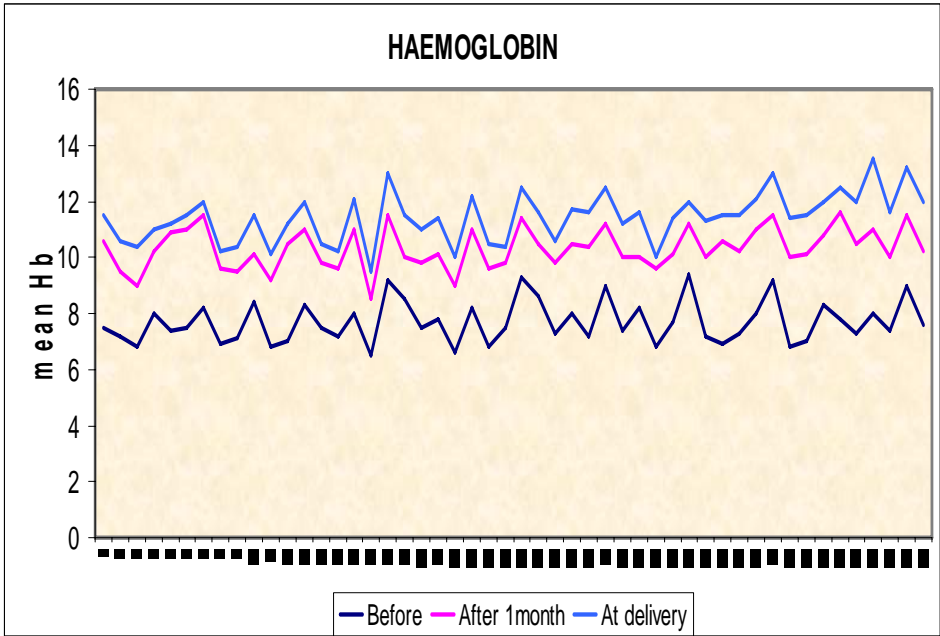
| I | J | Mean Difference (I-J) | Significance | 95% Confidence Interval for Difference(a) | |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|---|--------|
| | | | | Lower | After |
| Before iron sucrose | After 1 month | -2.618(*) | .001 | -2.803 | -2.433 |
| | At delivery | -3.732(*) | .001 | -3.938 | -3.526 |
| After 1 month | Before | 2.618(*) | .001 | 2.433 | 2.803 |
| | At delivery | -1.114(*) | .001 | -1.256 | -.972 |
| At delivery | Before | 3.732(*) | .001 | 3.526 | 3.938 |
| | After 1 month | 1.114(*) | .001 | .972 | 1.256 |

Based on estimated marginal means

* The mean difference is significant at the .05 level.

Hemoglobin

| Hb | Mean difference (g/dl) | Std. Deviation | Paired t - test | Significance (2 - tailed) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Pair 1 After 1 month – Before | 2.618 | 0.52 | 35.095 | 0.001 |
| Pair 2 – At delivery Before | 3.732 | 0.58 | 44.950 | 0.001 |
| Pair 3 At delivery – After | 1.114 | 0.40 | 19.470 | 0.001 |



VII. SERUM FERRITIN

| | Mean | SD | Repeated measures ANOVA F-test |
|---------------------|--------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| Before iron sucrose | 21.40 | 7.00 | F=1816.1 P=0.001 |
| After 1 month | 85.03 | 15.96 | |
| At delivery | 177.29 | 27.65 | |

Mean Serum ferritin before iron sucrose administration was 21.40 $\mu\text{g/l}$

After 1 month of iron sucrose administration it was 85.03 $\mu\text{g/l}$

At delivery serum ferritin was 177.29 $\mu\text{g/l}$

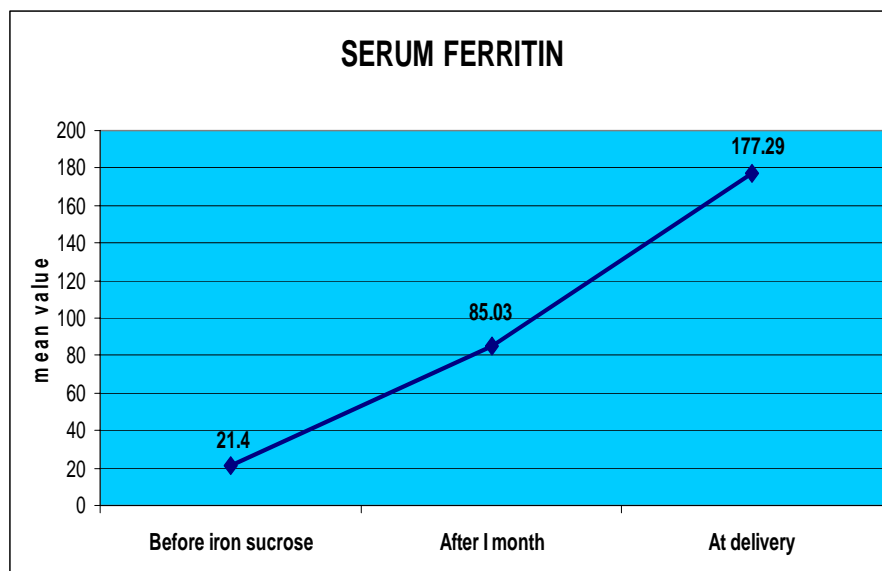
P value 0.001 & was significant

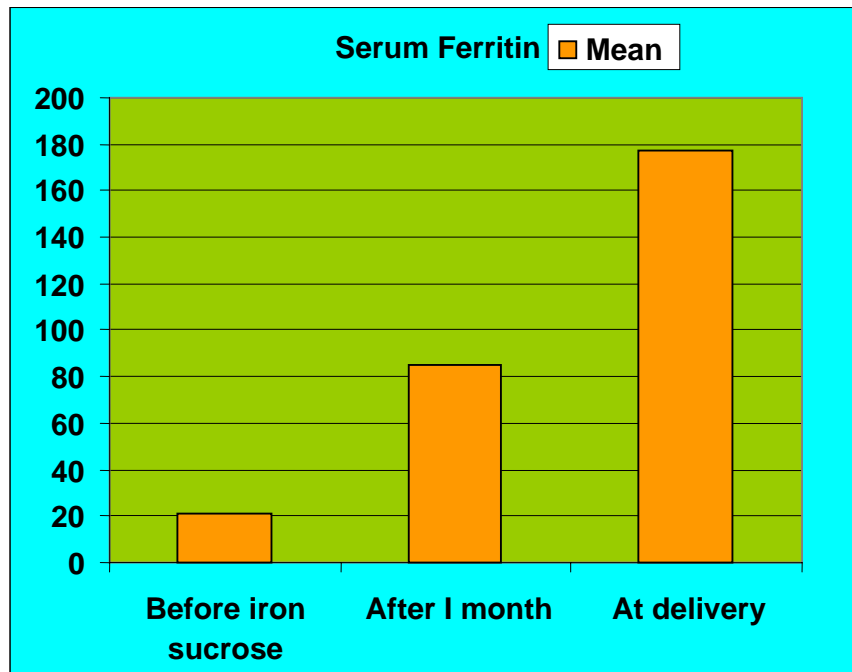
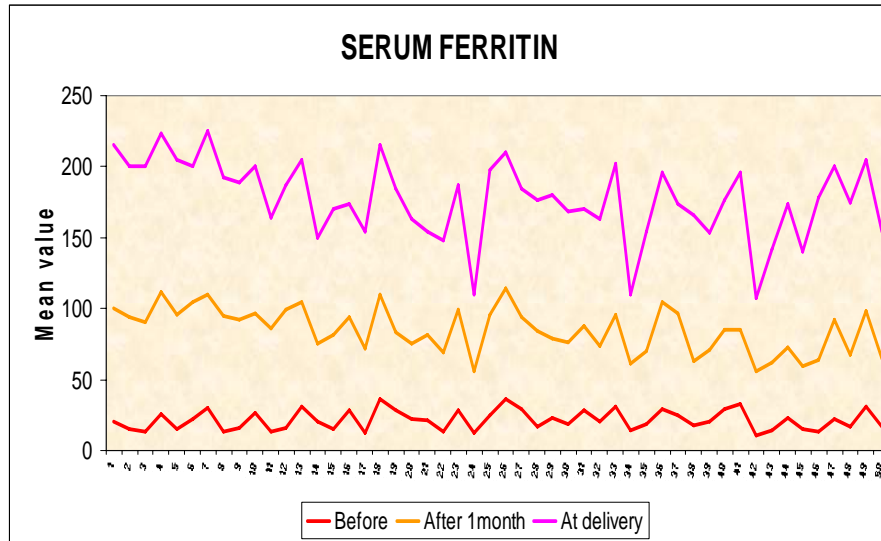
| SR. FERRITIN | | Mean difference | Std. Deviation | Paired t-test | Sig. (2-tailed) |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Pair 1 | After 1 month – Before | 63.63 | 0.52 | 34.789 | .001 |
| Pair 2 | At delivery - Before | 92.26 | 0.58 | 45.530 | .001 |
| Pair 3 | At delivery - After 1 month | 92.26 | 0.40 | 41.671 | .001 |

Multiple comparison using Bonferroni t-test

| I | J | Mean Difference (I-J) | Significance | 95% Confidence Interval for Difference(a) | |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|---|----------|
| | | | | Lower | After |
| Before iron sucrose | After I month | -63.630(*) | .001 | -68.042 | -59.218 |
| | At delivery | -155.890(*) | .001 | -164.378 | -147.402 |
| After I month | Before | 63.630(*) | .001 | 59.218 | 68.042 |
| | At delivery | -92.260(*) | .001 | -97.748 | -86.772 |
| At delivery | Before | 155.890(*) | .001 | 147.402 | 164.378 |
| | After I month | 92.260(*) | .001 | 86.772 | 97.748 |

* The mean difference is significant at the .05 level.





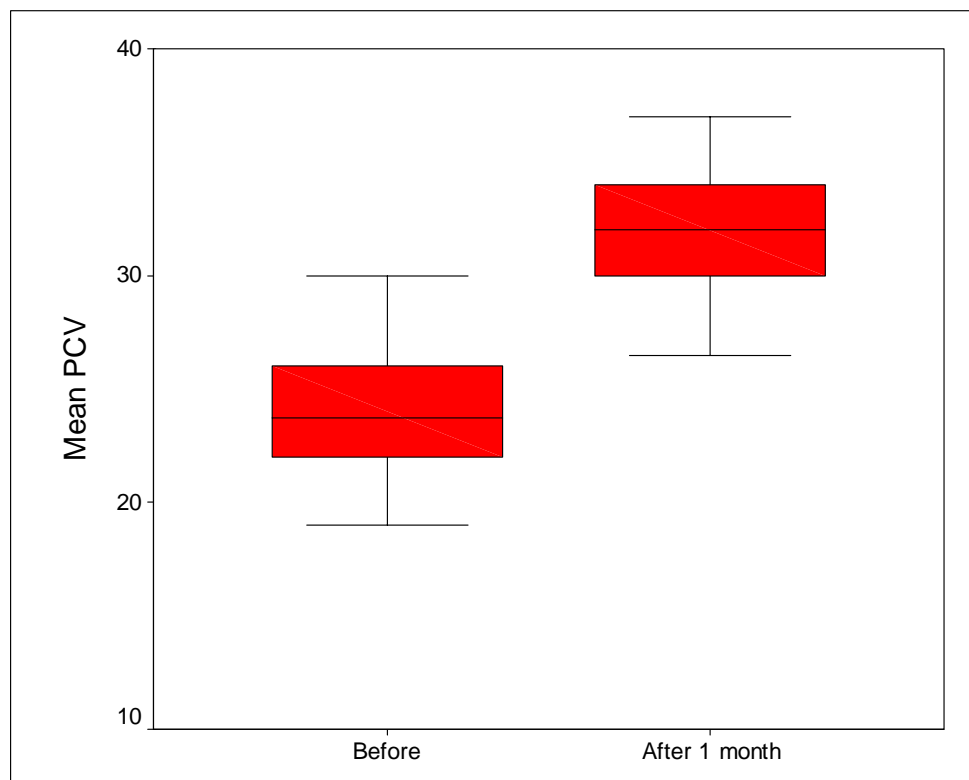
VIII. PCV – PACKED CELL VOLUME

| | Mean | Std. Deviation | Paired t-test |
|---------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|
| Before iron sucrose | 24.08 | 2.54 | t=25.13 |
| After one month | 31.91 | 2.63 | P=0.001*** |

* significant at $p < 0.05$ ** significant at $p < 0.01$ *** significant at $p < 0.001$

- Mean PCV before administration of iron sucrose 24.08
- After one month mean PCV 31.91

P value 0.001 & was significant



IX. SERUM IRON

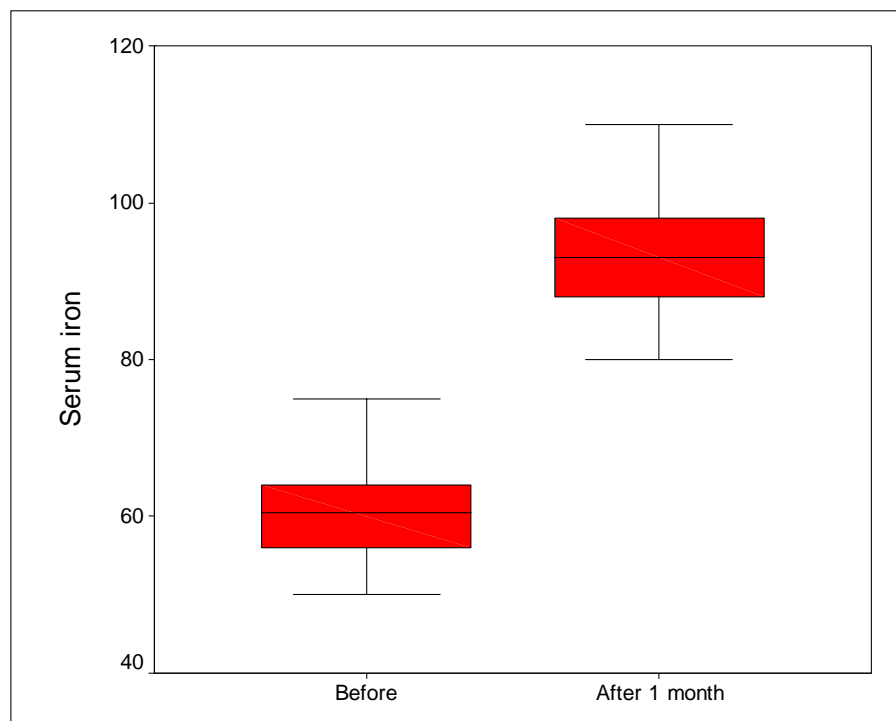
| | Mean | Std. Deviation | Paired t-test |
|---------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|
| Before iron sucrose | 60.82 | 6.140 | t=34.78 |
| After one month | 94.64 | 9.253 | P=0.001*** |

significant at $p < 0.05$ ** significant at $p < 0.01$ *** significant at $p < 0.001$

Mean serum iron before administration of iron sucrose 60.82 $\mu\text{g/dl}$.

1 Month after iron sucrose administration 94.64 $\mu\text{g/dl}$

P value 0.001 & was significant



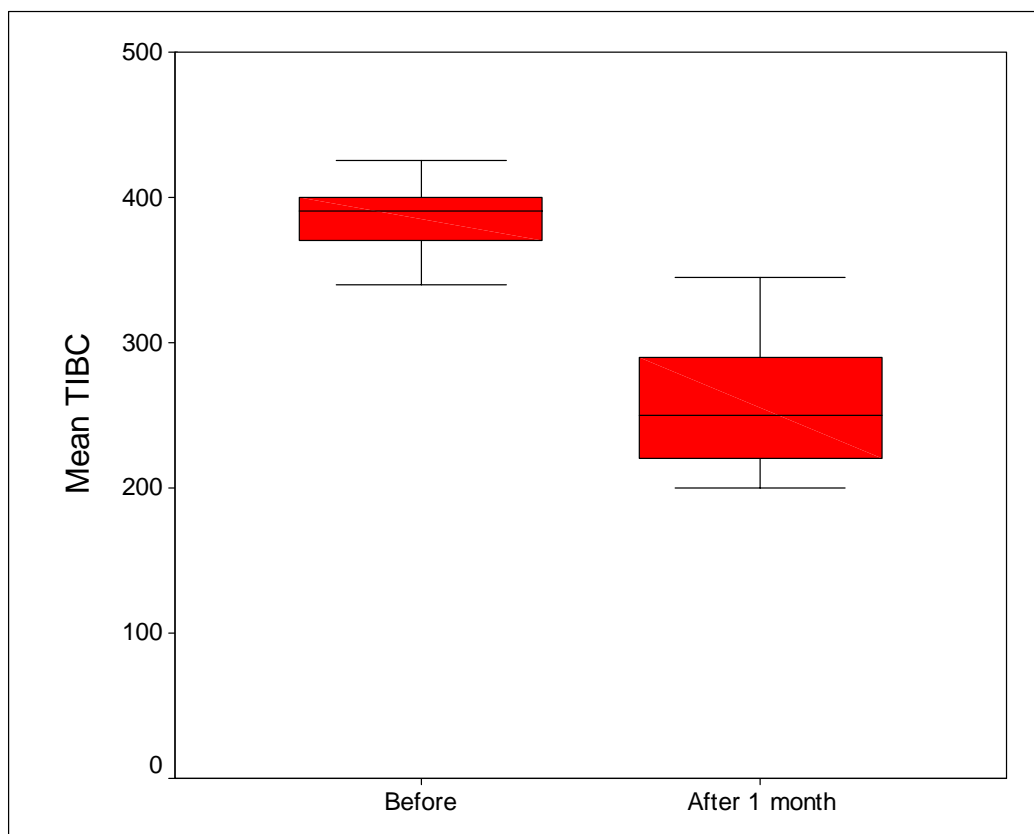
X. TOTAL IRON BINDING CAPACITY (TIBC)

| | Mean | Std. Deviation | Paired t-test |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|---------------|
| Before iron sucrose | 375.82 | 60.835 | t=11.96 |
| After one month | 256.32 | 37.507 | P=0.001*** |

* significant at $p < 0.05$ ** significant at $p < 0.01$ *** significant at $p < 0.001$

Mean TIBC before iron sucrose administration was 375.82.

Mean TIBC 1 month after iron sucrose administration was 256.32.

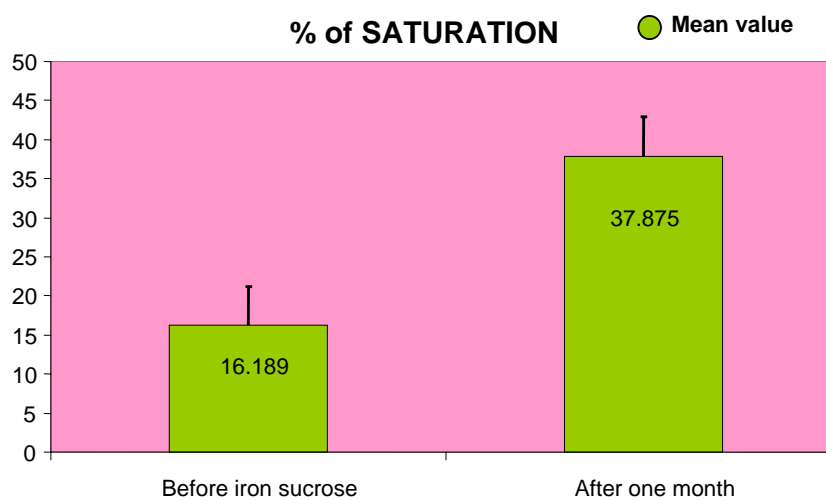


XI. PERCENTAGE SATURATION OF IRON

| | Mean | Std. Deviation | Paired t-test |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|---------------|
| Before iron sucrose | 16.189 | 3.5137 | t=26.46 |
| After one month | 37.875 | 7.8960 | P=0.001*** |

* significant at $p < 0.05$ ** significant at $p < 0.01$ *** significant at $p < 0.001$

- Mean percentage saturation of iron before iron sucrose administration was 16.189%.
- Mean percentage saturation of iron 1 month after iron sucrose administration was 37.875%.

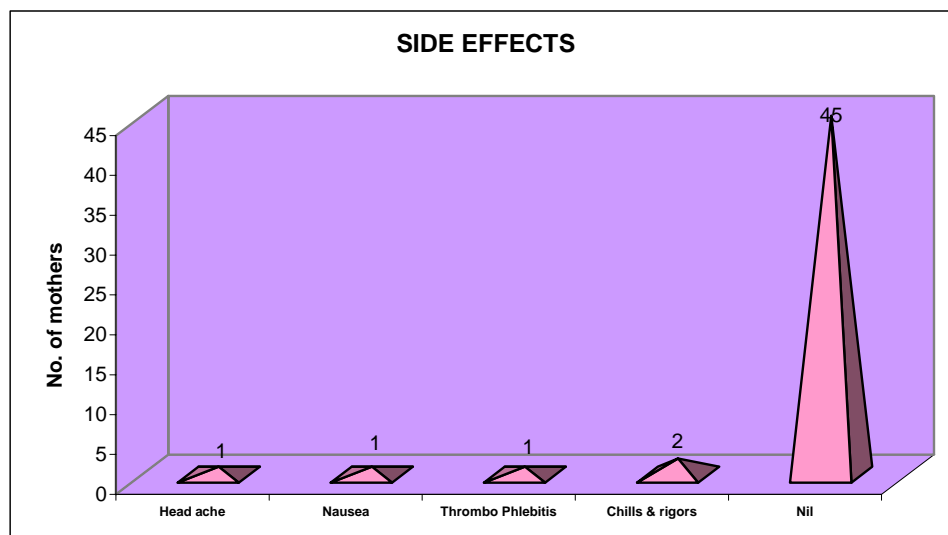


XII. SIDE EFFECTS

| Side Effects | No. of mothers | % |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Nil | 45 | 90.0 |
| Chills & rigors | 2 | 4.0 |
| Headache | 1 | 2.0 |
| Nausea | 1 | 2.0 |
| Thrombophlebitis | 1 | 2.0 |
| Total | 50 | 100.0 |

Of the fifty patients 90% (45/50) had no side effects.

- 4% (2/50) had chills & rigors
- 2% (1/50) had headache
- 2% (1/50) had nausea
- 2% (1/50) had thrombophlebitis



DISCUSSION

In this study, 50 antenatal patients with iron deficiency anemia were selected according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria stated.

200 mg iron sucrose was given intravenously 2 doses 2 days apart and was followed up after 1 month interval & again at delivery.

- In our study, among the fifty patients 36% (18/50) were in age group 21 – 25 yrs.

22% (11/50) were in age group 18 – 20 yrs.

34% (17/50) were in age group 26 – 30 yrs

8% (4/50) were in age group 31 – 35.

- In our study, among the fifty patients

20% (10/50) were in class IV socio economic status

80% (40/50) were in class V socio economic status

- Among the fifty patients in our study, 76% (38/50) were booked
24% (12/50) were unbooked.

- Obstetric code among the fifty patients, was

* P₁ L₁ 44% (22/50)

* P₂ L₂ 40% (20/50)

* P₃ L₃ 6% (3/50)

* P₄ L₂ 2% (1/50)

COMPARISON OF THE OUTCOME OF THE PARAMETERS

1. CHANGE IN HEMOGLOBIN:-

In our study of 50 antenatal patients, mean hemoglobin before starting treatment was 7.70 g/dl.

- 1 Month after iron sucrose administration mean hemoglobin was 10.32 g /dl.
- At delivery, mean hemoglobin was 11.43 g/dl.

The average raise is 3.73 g/dl with a p value < 0.05 which is statistically significant.

Change in Hemoglobin

| Study | Rise in hemoglobin |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Bayoumeu et al | 1.6 ± 0.79 g/ dl |
| AI RA, Unlubilgin et al | 2 g/dl |
| Divakar | 0.9 – 2 g/dl |
| Wali A et al | 1.9 – 2.8 g/dl |
| Krafft A et al | 1.1 – 2 g/dl |
| Bhandal R Russel et al | 3.7 g / dl |
| A. Dede et al | 4.3 ± 0.6 g/dl |
| This study | 3.73 g/dl |

This study is similar to Bhandal R Russel et al study.

2. CHANGE IN FERRITIN

- In our study of 50 antenatal patients, mean serum ferritin was 85.03 $\mu\text{g/l}$.
- 1 Month after iron sucrose administration, mean serum ferritin was 85.03 $\mu\text{g/l}$.
- At delivery, mean serum ferritin was 177 – 20 $\mu\text{g/l}$.

The average rise is 155.89 $\mu\text{g/l}$. with p value < 0.05 is statistically significant.

Change in Ferritin:

| Study | Rise in serum ferritin |
|-------------------------|---|
| Bayoumeu et al | Ferritin was higher after iron sucrose |
| Al RA, unlubilgin et al | Ferritin values were higher in intravenous iron sucrose group |
| Our study | Mean rise in serum ferritin 155.89 $\mu\text{g/L}$ |

3. CHANGE IN PACKED CELL VOLUME

- Mean packed cell volume before starting treatment 24.08.
- 1 Month after iron sucrose administration mean packed cell volume is 31.91.

The average rise in mean PCV is 7.83 with p value < 0.05 and is statistically significant.

4. CHANGE IN SERUM IRON

Mean serum iron before iron sucrose administration is 60.82 $\mu\text{g/dl}$.

Mean serum iron 1 month after iron sucrose administration is 94.64 $\mu\text{g/dl}$.

The average rise in mean serum iron is 33.82 $\mu\text{g/dl}$, with p value < 0.05 & is statistically significant.

Change in serum iron:

| Study | Rise in serum iron |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Dede, D.uygut et al | 43.4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ |
| This study | 33.82 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ |

Our study correlated with A.Dede et al and all other studies and showed rise in serum iron after intravenous iron sucrose.

5. CHANGE IN TOTAL IRON BINDING (TIBC) CAPACITY

Mean TIBC before iron sucrose administration is 375.82.

Mean TIBC 1 month after iron sucrose administration is 256.32.

The average decrease in mean TIBC is 119.5 with p value < 0.05 and is statistically significant.

Change in TIBC:

| Study | Decrease in TIBC |
|--------------|------------------|
| A Dede et al | 123.8 |
| This study | 119.5 |

6. CHANGE IN PERCENTAGE SATURATION OF IRON

Mean percentage saturation of iron before iron sucrose administration
16.189%.

Mean percentage saturation of iron 1 month after iron sucrose administration is 37.875%.

The average rise in mean percentage saturation of iron is 21.686% with p value < 0.05 and is statistically significant.

7. SIDE EFFECTS

90% (45/50) had no side effects.

4% (2/50) had chills & rigors

2% (1/50) had headache

2% (1/50) had nausea

2% (1/50) had thrombophlebitis.

Adverse reactions:

| Study | Incidence of adverse reactions |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| N Bhandal, R Russel et al | Nil |
| Giannoulis et al | 0.002% |
| Khurshid et al | Nil |
| Our study | 10% |

SUMMARY

In our study of 50 antenatal patients with iron deficiency anemia, were selected according to inclusion & exclusion criteria mentioned.

METHOD

200 mg of iron sucrose was given intravenously 2 doses 2 days apart, & followed up 1 month after administration of iron sucrose and at delivery.

The following parameters were assessed

1. Hb in g/dl
2. PCV
3. Serum ferritin in $\mu\text{g/l}$
4. Serum iron in $\mu\text{g/dl}$
5. Total iron binding capacity
6. Percentage saturation of iron.

THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY ARE AS FOLLOWS

1. Majority of patients around 36%, were in age group 21 – 25 yrs.
2. 80% of patients were in class V socio economic status.
3. 76% patients were booked
4. Majority of patients were multiparous
5. Average rise in hemoglobin after treatment was 3.73 g/dl with p value < 0.05, statistically significant.
6. Average rise in serum ferritin after treatment was 155.89 $\mu\text{g/l}$ with p value < 0.05, statistically significant.
7. Average rise in packed cell volume after treatment was 7.83 with p value < 0.05, statistically significant.
8. Average rise in serum iron after treatment was 33.82 $\mu\text{g/l}$ with p value < 0.05, statistically significant.
9. Average rise in total iron binding capacity after treatment was 119.5 with p value < 0.05, statistically significant.
10. Average rise in percentage saturation of iron after treatment was 21.686% with p value < 0.05, statistically significant.

11. Side effect profile were very minimal with 90% patients (45/50) had no side effects

2 patients had chills & rigors

1 patients had headache

1 patients had nausea

1 patients had thrombophlebitis

No anaphylactic reactions occurred.

CONCLUSION

1. Intravenous iron sucrose has become a major interest to prevent functional iron deficiency.
2. Iron sucrose has been found to be effective in improving hemoglobin, hematocrit, serum iron & ferritin values significantly in antenatal women with iron deficiency anemia
3. There is good tolerance to this formulation partly due to low allergenic effect and partly due to slow release of elementary iron from the complex.
4. By using intravenous iron sucrose to treat iron deficiency anemia in antenatal patients, the rate of blood transfusions could be reduced.

To conclude intravenous iron sucrose is safe, convenient and more effective therapy for treatment of iron deficiency anemia in antenatal patients requiring shorter period to achieve maximum hemoglobin concentration. It has convenient dosage and administration. It can be used to replace blood transfusion in antenatal period.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Maternal Health Around The World, WHO Geneva 1997
2. Bhatta R.V. Maternal Mortality in India FOGSI WHO study,
J. Obst Gynec, Ind 47:207; 1997
3. Christian Breymann MD, Treatment of iron deficiency anemia in pregnancy and postpartum with special focus on intravenous iron sucrose complex. J Med Assoc Thai 2005; 88 (suppl 2); s108 – 9.
4. D.C. Dutta Text Book of Obstetrics and Gynaecology including Perinatology and Contraception, Sixth edition 2004.
5. Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine 16th edition.
6. Koller O. The Clinical Significance of hemodilution during pregnancy. Obstet Gynecol Surv 1982; 37:649.
7. Barrett JF, Whittaker PG, Williams JG, et al Absorption of non-haem iron from food during normal pregnancy. Br Med J 1994; 309:79.
8. Un standing Committee on Nutrition 5th annual report on the World Nutrition Situation: Nutrition for improved development outcomes March 2004.

9. World Health Organisation. The Prevalence of Anemia in Women: A Tabulation of Available Information; Second Edition. Geneva: WHO, 1992 (WHO/MCH/MSM/92.2)
10. Kennedy E. Dietary reference intakes: development and uses for assessment of micronutrient status of women- a global perspective AM J Clin Nutr 2005; 81 (suppl): 1194S -7S.
11. Report of Steering Committee on Nutrition for tenth five year plan (2002 -2007). Government of India, Planning Commission. Sept 2002. Micronutrient deficiencies pp 75-107.
12. Sharma JB, Arora BS, Kumar S, Goel SI Dhanuja'A: Helminth and protozoan intestinal infection: on important cause of anemia in pregnancy – women in Delhi. J Obstet Gynecol Ind 2001; 51(6) : 58 – 61.
13. Prema K, Neela KS, Ramalashmi BA, Anemia and Adverse Obstetric Outcome. Nutr Rep Int 1981; 23:637-643.
14. Cook JD, Skikne BS, Lynch SR, et al Estimates of iron sufficiency in the US population. Blood 1986, 68:726.
15. Sharma JB, Medical Complications in pregnancy, In: Sharma JB ed). The Obstetric Protocol, 1st edn Delhi : Jaypee Brothers, 1998; 78-98.

16. Carriaga MT, Skikne BS, Finley B et al, Serum transferrin receptor for detection of iron deficiency in pregnancy. *Am J Clin Nutr* 1991; 54: 1077.
17. Stoltzfus R, Dreyfuss ML. Guidelines for the use of iron supplements to prevent and treat iron deficiency anemia.

Geneva: INACG, WHO, UNICEF, 1998
18. Indian Council of Medical Research Supplementation trail in pregnant women with 60mg, 120mg and 180 mg iron with 500 µg of folic acid. Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, 1992 P.641.
19. Devasthali SD, Gortenk VR, Brittenham GM, et al. Bioavailability of carbonyl iron. A randomized double blind study *Eur J Haematol* 1991; 46: 272.
20. Callender ST, Treatment of iron deficiency. *Clin Haematol* 1982; 11 : 327.
21. Faich G, Strobos J. Sodium ferric gluconate complex in Sucrose. Safer intravenous iron therapy than iron dextran *am J, Kidney Dis* 1999; 33:464.

22. Sifaki S, Angelalis E, Vardaki E, et al Erythropoietin in the treatment of iron deficiency anemia during pregnancy Gynecol Obstet Invest 2001; 51:150.

PROFORMA

Study of efficacy of intravenous iron sucrose in treating anemia in antenatal women

Name

Occupation

Age

Address

IP Number

Phone Number

Income

Socio-Economic Class

Obstetric Score

Para

Live

Abortions

Presenting Complaints

Yes

No

H/o. easy fatigability

H/o breathlessness

H/o swelling of legs

H/o puffiness of face

H/o haemetemesis / malena

H/o passing worms in stool

History suggestive of iron intolerance

Past H/o

- H/o Diabetes mellitus, hypertension, bronchial asthma, epilepsy, tuberculosis.

- H/o blood transfusion

Menstrual H/o

Age at menarche:

Cycles

Regular

Irregular

Flow

a) Moderate

Excess

b) Lasting for

Days

Marital H/o

Married Since :

Obstetric H/o

| Details of previous pregnancy / pregnancies: | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| I. Any antenatal complication | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1) APH | | | | |
| 2) PIH | | | | |
| 3) GDM | | | | |
| 4) Others | | | | |
| II. Outcome of pregnancy | | | | |
| 1. Spontaneous abortion | | | | |
| 2. Induced abortion | | | | |
| 3. Pre-term delivery | | | | |
| 4. Term delivery | | | | |
| a) Normal vaginal | | | | |
| b) Vaginal instrumental | | | | |
| c) LSCS | | | | |
| III Place of delivery: | | | | |
| Hospital / Nursing Home | | | | |
| SC/ PHC / CHC | | | | |
| IV Any Complication during Labour, delivery, puerperium | | | | |
| a) No | | | | |
| b) PPH | | | | |
| c) Sepsis | | | | |
| V) Baby's Status at birth | | | | |
| Healthy live birth | | | | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|--|----|--|
| Birth weight | | | | |
| Low birth weight | | | | |
| Asphyxiated | | | | |
| Still birth | | | | |
| Congenitally malformed | | | | |
| Large birth weight | | | | |
| Present Pregnancy | Yes | | No | |
| H/o antepartum haemorrhage | | | | |
| H/o heart disease | | | | |
| H/o diabetes | | | | |
| H/o PIH | | | | |
| H/o GDM | | | | |
| General Examination | Yes | | No | |
| Features of anemia | | | | |
| 1. Pallor | | | | |
| 2. Glossitis | | | | |
| 3. Facial puffiness | | | | |
| 4. Koilonychia | | | | |
| Vital Signs | | | | |
| Temperature | | | | |
| Pulse rate | | | | |
| Blood Pressure | | | | |
| CVS | | | | |
| RS | | | | |

| INVESTIGATIONS | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Urine : Albumin Sugar Deposits 2. Blood Sugar Urea 3. Serum : Creatinine 4. Hemoglobin 5. Packed cell volume (Hematocrit) 6. Peripheral Smear 7. Serum iron 8. TIBC 9. Percentage saturation 10. Ferritin | | |
| Parameters Monitored during therapy | Yes | No |
| 1. Anaphylactic reaction (Hypotension) 2. Nausea/vomiting 3. Thrombo phlebitis 4. Chills / rigors 5. Joint pain 6. Headache | | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Post therapy assessment | | |
| a) The following parameters assessed 1 month after therapy | | |
| 1. Hb 2. Hematocrit 3. Serum iron 4. TIBC 5. Percentage Saturation 6. Ferritin | | |
| b) The following parameters were assessed at delivery | | |
| 1) Hb 2) Ferritin | | |
| Details of delivery | | |
| 1. Delivery | a) Term / Preterm b) Vaginal / Assisted vaginal / Caesarean section | |
| 2. Complications during delivery If yes, specify 3. Post delivery complication If yes, specify | | |

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| IV | Intravenous |
| IM | Intramuscular |
| Fe | Iron |
| Hb | Hemoglobin |
| PCV | Packed Volume |
| TFR | Transferrin Receptor |
| rHuEPO | Recombinant Human Erythropoietin |

| BEFORE IRON SUCROSE | | | | | | | | | | | | AFTER 1 MONTH | | | | | | AT DELIVERY | | |
|---------------------|----------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|-----|------|----------|------|-------|----|-------|---------------|------|----------|------|-------|-------|-------------|------|-------|
| S.No. | NAME | AGE | OS | MOD | HB | PCV | SR. IRON | TIBC | % SAT | PS | S.FER | HB | PCV | SR. IRON | TIBC | % SAT | S.FER | SE | HB | S.FER |
| 1 | Egavalli | 26 | P ₂ L ₂ | 6 | 7.5 | 21.5 | 63 | 395 | 15.9 | MH | 20 | 10.6 | 32 | 98 | 230 | 42.6 | 100 | NO | 11.5 | 215 |
| 2 | Vennila | 20 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 7.2 | 24 | 54 | 3.95 | 13.6 | MH | 15 | 9.5 | 26.5 | 80 | 340 | 23.5 | 94 | NO | 10.6 | 200 |
| 3 | Latha | 19 | P ₂ L ₂ | 6 | 6.8 | 22 | 50 | 412 | 12.1 | MH | 13 | 9.0 | 28.2 | 83 | 345 | 24 | 90 | NO | 10.4 | 200 |
| 4 | Jothi | 23 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 8.0 | 25.5 | 64 | 400 | 16.0 | MH | 26 | 10.2 | 32 | 92 | 290 | 31.7 | 112 | NO | 11.0 | 223 |
| 5 | Thilaga | 22 | P ₂ L ₂ | 2 | 7.4 | 22 | 60 | 380 | 15.7 | MH | 15 | 10.9 | 35 | 98 | 214 | 45.7 | 96 | NO | 11.2 | 205 |
| 6 | Vimala | 24 | P ₂ L ₂ | 2 | 7.5 | 23 | 61 | 370 | 16.4 | MH | 22 | 11.0 | 36 | 94 | 220 | 42.7 | 105 | NO | 11.5 | 200 |
| 7 | Kala | 25 | P ₂ L ₂ | 2 | 8.2 | 27 | 60 | 400 | 15.0 | MH | 30 | 11.5 | 37 | 96 | 290 | 33.1 | 110 | NO | 12.0 | 225 |
| 8 | Nagammal | 30 | P ₃ L ₃ | 3 | 6.9 | 23 | 67 | 410 | 16.3 | MH | 13 | 9.6 | 30 | 100 | 270 | 37 | 95 | NO | 10.2 | 192 |
| 9 | Prema | 20 | P ₁ L ₁ | 4 | 7.1 | 21 | 59 | 400 | 14.75 | MH | 16 | 9.5 | 29 | 90 | 296 | 30.4 | 92 | NO | 10.4 | 189 |
| 10 | Lalitha | 24 | P ₂ L ₂ | 6 | 8.4 | 26 | 62 | 410 | 15.1 | MH | 27 | 10.1 | 32 | 105 | 230 | 45.6 | 97 | NO | 11.5 | 200 |
| 11 | Kavitha | 23 | P ₂ L ₂ | 5 | 6.8 | 23 | 52 | 415 | 12.5 | MH | 13 | 9.2 | 28 | 85 | 215 | 39.5 | 86 | NAU | 10.1 | 164 |
| 12 | Jaya | 18 | P ₁ L ₁ | 4 | 7.0 | 21 | 61 | 375 | 16.2 | MH | 16 | 10.5 | 33 | 98 | 215 | 45.5 | 98.5 | NO | 11.2 | 186.5 |
| 13 | Anitha | 26 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 8.3 | 27 | 64 | 352 | 18.1 | MH | 31 | 11.0 | 34 | 85 | 230 | 36.9 | 105 | NO | 12.0 | 205 |
| 14 | Jeyanthi | 27 | P ₂ L ₂ | 3 | 7.5 | 24 | 62 | 380 | 16.3 | MH | 20 | 9.8 | 30 | 80 | 250 | 32 | 75 | NO | 10.5 | 150 |
| 15 | Devi | 21 | P ₂ L ₂ | 2 | 7.2 | 23 | 58 | 400 | 14.5 | MH | 15 | 9.6 | 31 | 84 | 275 | 30.5 | 82 | NO | 10.2 | 170 |
| 16 | Jothi | 22 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 8.0 | 25.1 | 54 | 392 | 13.7 | MH | 28 | 11.0 | 34 | 87 | 270 | 32.2 | 94 | NO | 12.1 | 174 |
| 17 | Poongodi | 19 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 6.5 | 19 | 65 | 400 | 16.2 | MH | 12 | 8.5 | 24 | 88 | 290 | 30.3 | 72 | NO | 9.5 | 154 |

| BEFORE IRON SUCROSE | | | | | | | | | | | | AFTER 1 MONTH | | | | | | AT DELIVERY | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|-----|------|----------|------|-------|----|-------|---------------|------|----------|------|-------|-------|-------------|------|-------|
| S.No. | NAME | AGE | OS | MOD | HB | PCV | SR. IRON | TIBC | % SAT | PS | S.FER | HB | PCV | SR. IRON | TIBC | % SAT | S.FER | SE | HB | S.FER |
| 18 | Prabha | 32 | P ₂ L ₂ | 3 | 9.2 | 28.5 | 76 | 325 | 23.3 | MH | 36 | 11.5 | 34 | 100 | 210 | 47.6 | 110 | NO | 13.0 | 215 |
| 19 | Uma | 25 | P ₂ L ₂ | 6 | 8.5 | 26 | 60 | 390 | 15.3 | MH | 28 | 10.0 | 31 | 92 | 215 | 42.7 | 83 | T | 11.5 | 184 |
| 20 | Meena | 27 | P ₂ L ₂ | 2 | 7.5 | 23 | 52 | 406 | 12.8 | MH | 22 | 9.8 | 30 | 88 | 275 | 32 | 75 | NO | 11.0 | 163 |
| 21 | Priya | 27 | P2L2 | 2 | 7.8 | 23 | 62 | 400 | 15.5 | MH | 21 | 10.1 | 32 | 96 | 295 | 32.5 | 82 | NO | 11.4 | 154 |
| 22 | Latha | 23 | P1L1 | 4 | 6.6 | 20.5 | 61 | 410 | 14.8 | MH | 13 | 9.0 | 28 | 90 | 290 | 31.03 | 69 | NO | 10.0 | 148 |
| 23 | Elizabeth | 18 | P1L1 | 2 | 8.2 | 25.5 | 64 | 380 | 16.8 | MH | 28 | 11.0 | 34 | 94 | 240 | 39.1 | 99 | NO | 12.2 | 187 |
| 24 | Ramya | 29 | P3L2 | 6 | 6.8 | 20.5 | 58 | 340 | 17.05 | MH | 12 | 9.6 | 29 | 89 | 220 | 40.4 | 56 | H | 10.5 | 110 |
| 25 | Vimala | 23 | P1L1 | 2 | 7.5 | 23 | 50 | 400 | 12.5 | MH | 25 | 9.8 | 29.5 | 85 | 285 | 29.8 | 96 | NO | 10.4 | 198 |
| 26 | Malathi | 28 | P1L1 | 2 | 9.3 | 28 | 70 | 320 | 21.8 | MH | 36 | 11.4 | 35 | 115 | 215 | 53.48 | 114 | NO | 12.5 | 210 |
| 27 | Sheela | 20 | P2L2 | 3 | 8.6 | 26 | 66 | 340 | 19.4 | MH | 29 | 10.5 | 32 | 88 | 210 | 41.9 | 94 | NO | 11.6 | 184 |
| 28 | Megala | 30 | P4L2 | 1 | 7.3 | 23 | 54 | 395 | 13.6 | MH | 17 | 9.8 | 29.5 | 92 | 250 | 36.8 | 84 | NO | 10.6 | 176 |
| 29 | Jaya | 24 | P1L1 | 2 | 8.0 | 25 | 58 | 410 | 14.1 | MH | 23 | 10.5 | 32 | 98 | 310 | 31.6 | 79 | NO | 11.7 | 180 |
| 30 | Sumathy | 22 | P1L1 | 4 | 7.2 | 22 | 62 | 385 | 16.1 | MH | 19 | 10.4 | 31.5 | 110 | 300 | 36.6 | 76 | NO | 11.6 | 168 |
| 31 | Nithya | 27 | P2L2 | 5 | 9.0 | 28 | 70 | 380 | 18.42 | MH | 28 | 11.2 | 34 | 115 | 200 | 57.5 | 88 | NO | 12.5 | 170 |
| 32 | Jothi | 32 | P3L2 | 1 | 7.4 | 23.5 | 54 | 400 | 13.5 | MH | 20 | 10.0 | 31.5 | 90 | 2800 | 32.1 | 74 | NO | 11.2 | 163 |
| 33 | Kaa | 19 | P1L1 | 4 | 8.2 | 25 | 64 | 350 | 18.2 | MH | 31 | 10.0 | 32 | 106 | 246 | 43.08 | 96 | NO | 11.6 | 202 |
| 34 | Nagammal | 24 | P1L1 | 2 | 6.8 | 20 | 65 | 425 | 15.2 | MH | 14 | 9.6 | 28.5 | 90 | 300 | 30 | 61 | NO | 10.0 | 110 |

| BEFORE IRON SUCROSE | | | | | | | | | | | | AFTER 1 MONTH | | | | | | AT DELIVERY | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|-----|------|----------|------|-------|----|-------|---------------|------|----------|------|-------|-------|-------------|------|-------|
| S.No. | NAME | AGE | OS | MOD | HB | PCV | SR. IRON | TIBC | % SAT | PS | S.FER | HB | PCV | SR. IRON | TIBC | % SAT | S.FER | SE | HB | S.FER |
| 35 | Indhira | 28 | P2L2 | 6 | 7.7 | 25 | 54 | 400 | 13.5 | MH | 19 | 10.1 | 32 | 87 | 290 | 30 | 70 | NO | 11.4 | 154 |
| 36 | Prabha | 29 | P2L2 | 6 | 9.4 | 30 | 72 | 325 | 22.1 | MH | 29 | 11.2 | 35 | 110 | 210 | 52.3 | 105 | NO | 12.0 | 196 |
| 37 | Poongodi | 19 | P1L1 | 2 | 7.2 | 21.5 | 56 | 410 | 13.6 | MH | 25 | 10.0 | 31.5 | 90 | 280 | 32.14 | 97 | NO | 11.3 | 174 |
| 38 | Meena | 34 | P3L3 | 1 | 6.9 | 22.5 | 64 | 410 | 15.3 | MH | 18 | 10.6 | 32.5 | 104 | 290 | 35.8 | 63 | C | 11.5 | 166 |
| 39 | Manimegalai | 20 | P1L1 | 4 | 7.3 | 23 | 60 | 390 | 15.38 | MH | 20 | 10.2 | 33.5 | 98 | 210 | 46.6 | 71 | NO | 11.5 | 153 |
| 40 | Faizana | 26 | P2L2 | 2 | 8.0 | 26 | 62 | 410 | 15.12 | MH | 29 | 11.0 | 35 | 105 | 295 | 35.5 | 85 | NO | 12.1 | 176 |
| 41 | Priya | 26 | P ₁ L ₁ | 4 | 9.2 | 28.5 | 72 | 320 | 32.5 | MH | 33 | 11.5 | 35 | 115 | 200 | 57.5 | 85 | NO | 13.0 | 196 |
| 42 | Kamul Nisha | 32 | P ₃ L ₃ | 1 | 6.8 | 21 | 56 | 410 | 13.6 | MH | 11 | 10.0 | 32 | 90 | 280 | 32.1 | 56 | NO | 11.4 | 107 |
| 43 | Jasmine | 24 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 7.0 | 22 | 58 | 400 | 14.5 | MH | 14 | 10.1 | 30.5 | 96 | 275 | 34.9 | 62 | NO | 11.5 | 142 |
| 44 | Mariam | 27 | P ₂ L ₂ | 2 | 8.3 | 26.5 | 56 | 385 | 14.54 | MH | 23 | 10.8 | 35 | 98 | 255 | 38.4 | 73 | NO | 12.0 | 174 |
| 45 | Ponni | 25 | P ₁ L ₁ | 4 | 7.8 | 24.5 | 54 | 390 | 13.8 | MH | 15 | 11.6 | 36 | 96 | 250 | 38.4 | 59 | NO | 12.5 | 140 |
| 46 | Geetha | 20 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 7.3 | 23.5 | 60 | 385 | 15.5 | MH | 13 | 10.5 | 32 | 85 | 250 | 34 | 64 | NO | 12.0 | 178 |
| 47 | Meena | 23 | P ₂ L ₂ | 3 | 8.0 | 25.5 | 66 | 340 | 19.4 | MH | 22 | 11.0 | 34 | 97 | 215 | 45.1 | 92 | C | 13.5 | 200 |
| 48 | Rajeswari | 26 | P ₃ L ₂ | 2 | 7.4 | 24 | 56 | 365 | 15.3 | MH | 17 | 10.0 | 31.5 | 83 | 245 | 33.8 | 67 | NO | 11.6 | 175 |
| 49 | Shanthi | 30 | P ₃ L ₂ | 6 | 9.0 | 29 | 75 | 320 | 23.4 | MH | 31 | 11.5 | 33.5 | 110 | 225 | 48.8 | 98 | NO | 13.2 | 205 |
| 50 | Mary | 24 | P ₁ L ₁ | 2 | 7.6 | 24 | 58 | 380 | 15.2 | MH | 17 | 10.2 | 31.5 | 87 | 235 | 37.02 | 65 | NO | 12.0 | 154 |

KEY TO MASTER CHART

| | | |
|------------|---|--|
| MOD | - | Mode of Delivery |
| 1 | - | Labour Natural |
| 2 | - | Labour Natural with Episiotomy |
| 3 | - | Labour Natural with Lacerated Perineum |
| 4 | - | Emergency LSCS |
| 5 | - | Emergency repeat LSCS |
| 6 | - | Emergency repeat LSCS with Sterilisation |
| OS | - | Obstetric Score |
| PS | - | Peripheral Smear |
| MH | - | Microcytic Hypochromic picture |
| % SAT | - | Percentage Saturation |
| S. FER | - | Serum Ferritin |
| TIBC | - | Total Iron Binding Capacity |
| SE | - | Side Effects |
| N | - | No Side Effects |
| NAU | - | Nausea and Vomiting |
| H | - | Headache |
| T | - | Thrombophlebitis |
| C | - | Chills and Rigors |