Shock Index In Obstetric Hemorrhage As An Applicable Method To Anticipate Adverse Outcome

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Abstract

**Background:** To establish the ability of shock index and the different vital signs to predict the adverse maternal outcomes in the cases of obstetric hemorrhage.

**Methods:** This prospective -retrospective study comprised patients with primary PPH or hemorrhage due to obstetric cause who were referred to zagazig University hospital Egypt, from January 2018, to December 2019 Data of vital signs of them; systolic and diastolic blood pressure, pulse rate, pulse pressure, mean arterial pressure and shock index (heart rate divided by systolic blood pressure) at time of arrival were investigated. Adverse outcome like death, admission to the intensive care unit, massive transfusion and invasive procedures were revised and analyzed. AUROC (area under the receiver operating characteristic curve) was used for shock index in comparison to each vital sign for predicting the adverse maternal outcomes. Sensitivity, specificity, and negative and positive predictive values were assessed to detect the best predictor.

**Results:** The mean age of participants years (SD) was 29.2 (±7.3) of admission and 44% had altered. The most Common cause of hemorrhage was latentogenic; either misuse of uterotonic or traumatic 30.2%.

The mean value of HR 108.1±26.6, SBP 101±28.7 mmHg, DBP 58.9±21.3 mmHg, SI 1.153±0.541 and mean blood loss 1922 (0.862). For death, SI and SBP had the highest AUC value at 0.88 (0.81–0.95) with P=0.213). For ICU blood transfusion ≥ 5iu , admission and invasive surgical interventions, SI had the uppermost AUROC value at 0.76, 0.78 and 0.61. Sensitivity for all adverse outcomes of SI ≥ 0.7, is h from 99 to 90.0. For death prediction SI≥ 0.7 had very low specificity .06(0.2-1.3)and of SI ≥ 0.9 .6/4(2.8-7.1)

**Conclusion:** Shock index is a strapping applicable predictor of adverse outcomes. For patients who suffering from hypovolemic shock due to obstetric hemorrhage,

**Background**

Universally, Haemorrhage due to obstetric cause remains the foremost reason of maternal morbidity and mortality 99% of them happen in low- and middle-income countries.1 The primary condition of women with obstetric hemorrhage may be recognized by the quantity of blood.2 Visual estimation of blood loss was recommended as the standard for blood loss measurement by WHO although it may be underestimated by up to 33%–50 % before the transferal and even after the arrival of the patient.3 Assessment of pregnant ladies with an emergency like hemorrhage outside facilities, with inexpert or no assistants and delaying of transportation due to referral difficulties, increases the incidence of adverse outcomes.4 The basic strategy to reduce that hemorrhage-related outcomes is early recognition, rapid intervention, and well-timed referral.5 As, Visual estimation of blood loss miscalculates thus, vital signs like systolic blood pressure. (SBP) and heart rate (HR) are used to evaluate haemodynamic stability.6

During pregnancy and postpartum, there are haemodynamic changes which may postponement the detection of hypovolaemia. Blood pressure falls when pregnant females lose around 30% of their blood volume. But, at the time of severe bleeding the sympathetic tone is activated instantly to keep the blood pressure and so, the heart rate is increased over blood.7 Consequently, The shock index (SI) which was estimated as HR/SBP has been suggested as an former indicator of compromise than conventional vital signs in non-pregnant people.8,9 SI has also been planned as a dependable marker of compromise in an obstetric residents.10 It has been suggested that, normal SI in non-pregnant people 0.5–0.7 11 and SI ≥0.9 matches with high incidence of mortality and morbidity.12 "Shock index alterations, reflect the hemodynamic response to blood loss and announce the occurrence of adverse maternal outcomes‘.13

Another a significant predictor of maternal adverse outcome is coagulopathy, Nevertheless, it frequently yields ≥30 minutes to get the results. Also ,the samples of blood may coagulate easier when there is not enough blood of the sample like in the case of hypovolemia associated with obstetric hemorrhage and so delaying in management.14

Few studies have assessed SI as a marker to predict adverse outcomes in referred patients suffering from Postpartum or obstetric hemorrhage. So , The current study was designed to evaluate SI and the other vital signs, as predictor markers of different adverse maternal outcomes amongst patients with obstetric hemorrhage that were referred to our tertiary hospital.

**Methods**

It is a prospective -retrospective study of 242 ladies admitted with postpartum hemorrhage(PPH) to obstetric emergency unit at zagazig University tertiary hospital, Egypt from January 2018, to December 2019. Approval on the study was taken from the institutional committees of Zagazig University Hospital. Informed written or thumbprint consent was taken from All women or their relatives if they were unconscious or confused at time of admission. Participation of Women was depended on reaching to level of valued blood loss >750ml and systolic blood pressure (SBP)<100 mm Hg and/or pulse rate >100 beat/minute(BPM).

Predictor variables involved, Vital signs; (pulse, SBP, diastolic blood pressure [DBP], mean arterial pressure (MAP = (2 x DBP + SBP)/3), SI (pulse/SBP), and pulse pressure (SBP-DBP). Automated blood pressure device or auscultatory technique with mercury sphygmomanometer was used to measure blood pressure. and shock index (heart rate divided by systolic blood pressure) were documented at 15 minute breaks, till the source of bleeding was found and managed as patient became vitally stable (SBP ≥100mm Hg, pulse rate ≤100 BPM) for at least 2 hours, and blood loss had declined to almost 25–50mL per hour.

Severe shock at study entry was defined as MAP < 60 mmHg, as perfusion of blood to vital organs has been probably affected.15 The lower verge of the shock index was chose as ≥0.7 that was identified as the higher edge of normal shock index in a non-pregnant People,2 and ≥ 0.9 as the upper one of
normal Instant postpartum. The management was primarily with ordinary practice comprising intravenous hydration, manual massages, ice packs and/or uterotonic.

Adverse maternal outcomes like death, ICU admission, ICU admission massive blood transfusion and critical interventions outcome including blood transfusion ≥ 5 units, admission at intensive care unit, or emergency hysterectomy were documented all. Data were analyzed with SPSS version 19.0 (IBM, Chicago, IL, USA) and MedCalc 16.4.1 (MedCalc Software bvba, Ostend, Belgium). Calculation of sensitivities, specificities, and positive and negative predictive values was done. Differences were considered statistically significant at P < 0.05.

Results

242 women were women referred to our hospital due to obstetric hemorrhage. Demographics criteria of the participants at the stage of study entrance are presented in Table 1. The mean age of participants years (SD) was 29.2 (±7.3). 56% of the participants were alert at time of admission and 44% had altered consciousness. The most common cause of hemorrhage was iatrogenic; either misuse of ecoploics or traumatic 30.2% then uterine atony (2.91%) and last cause was molar pregnancy complications 0.7%.

Table 2; represents the (mean ± SD) values of vital signs of the participants. The mean value of HR (108.1±26.6), SBP (101±28.7) mmHg, DBP (58.9±21.3) mmHg, SI 1.153±0.541 and mean blood loss 1922 (0.862). Table 3 shows the performance of SI (Shock index) and other vital sign parameter in predicting the adverse clinical outcomes. For death, SI and SBP had the highest AUC value at 0.88 (0.81–0.95) with P=0.213. and significantly higher than pulse rate (p=0.031) and pulse pressure (p=0.022). As regard ICU admission, It had the uppermost AUROC value at 0.76(0.64-0.88) which was significantly higher than for SBP (P = 0.024), DBP (P = 0.012), MAP (P = 0.024), and PP (P = 0.002). But, pulse rate (PR) (P = 0.818) is not significantly higher than SI (Shock index). About blood transfusion ≥ 5iu, SI had the highest AUROC 0.78, which was significantly higher than for SBP (P = 0.034), DBP (P = 0.029), MAP (P = 0.025), and more significant than pulse pressure (P=0.001) but not that of pulse rate (P=0.708),

For invasive surgical interventions, the shock index had the highest AUROC value at 0.61 (0.46-0.79) which was statistically not significantly higher than for systolic BP (P=0.074), diastolic BP, heart rate or MAP (P=0.289, P=0.472 and p=0.344, respectively). But it had significant difference more than pulse pressure (P=0.0411).

Table 4 shows the convenience of SI ≥ 0.7 and SI ≥ 0.9 as early predictors of adverse outcome of postpartum hemorrhage. Of the 242 women encompassed in this study, there were 212 (88%) with SI ≥ 0.7 and 133 (55%) with SI ≥ 0.9. Sensitivity for all adverse outcomes of SI ≥ 0.7 is from 99 to 90.0 which is high specifying that approximately all positives are exactly recognized as such while several negatives are categorized as false positives. For death prediction SI ≥ 0.7 had very low specificity 0.6 (0.2-1.3) and of SI ≥ 0.9 ≤ 6.4 (2.8-7.1).

As all of the women in the study had hypovolemic shock, the high rate of positive test results is clinically acceptable.

Discussion

The current study evaluates the role of shock index as an indicator for prediction of adverse outcome in patients referred due to obstetric hemorrhage in Comparison with other vital signs. Numerous studies have investigated the efficiency of the shock index in PPH like Nathan et al. 18 who established that, comparing it with further vital signs, he found that SI and HR were significantly better predictors than all other vital signs. For ICU admission, but for transfusion ≥ 4 iu, SI had the highest AUROC value, performing significantly better than HR . Lee et al 2018 found that, the shock index was ominously useful for prediction of massive transfusion but for invasive procedures and ICU admission, shock index and pulse rate had higher AUROC values than blood pressure.

Our study established that; SI for ICU and massive blood transfusion ≥ 5 iu had more significant prediction than SBP (0.024, 0.034), DBP (0.012, 0.029), MAP (0.02, 0.025) and PP (0.002, 0.001). As regard the pulse rate; SI had the same significance. About surgical intervention; SI had more significance than SBP and PP (0.07, 0.041) and the same significance of DBP, PR and MAP.

Sohn et al. 20 stated that the shock index is a predictor of massive bleeding and the initial shock index is individualistically associated with massive transfusion 13, but they did not study other adverse outcomes, for example ICU admission or invasive procedures. And these results are similar to those results of Nathan et al 18. Predictable vital signs have been revealed to be late markers of haemodynamic Compromise in obstetric and even non-obstetric people. SI may aid Observing such cases with modify management to reduce the adverse outcomes via resuscitation and referral at time.

The current study examined the performance of the upper limits of SI ≥ 0.7 and SI ≥ 0.9. Lee et al suggested that SI ≥ 0.9 expects adverse events like massive transfusion and invasive procedures So, can take right decisions of the management (time and type). This agreed with our results. El Ayadi et al 21 found that SI ≥ 0.9 indicates a need for referral, as their this study was directed in a low-resource setting where necessary resuscitation for emergency patients with obstetric hemorrhage are insufficient or suboptimal; consequently, the results can be generalized to our communities.

Conclusion

Shock index is a strapping applicable predictor of adverse outcomes for patients who suffering from hypovolemic shock due to obstetric hemorrhage, and SI ≥ 0.9 Specifying the need for referral to tertiary place or rough nursing inside tertiary care.

Limitations
our interpretations are limited to a somewhat small sample that means need to a large one to be studied in the future. The protocol of management pre referral was different thus the outcome of patients might be affected.

**Recommendations**

Prospective studies on large number of patients suffering from obstetric haemorrhage is required to optimally appreciate the value of the shock index mainly in low source outcome setting.

**Abbreviations**

PPH: primary PPH or hemorrhage
AUROC: area under the receiver operating characteristic curve
SI: Shock Index
SBP: systolic blood pressure
DBP: diastolic blood pressure
MAP: mean arterial pressure
ICU: Intensive care unit
PP: pulse pressure
PR: pulse rate

**Declarations**

**Disclosure**
The contents of this publication are solely the responsibility of the authors.

**Ethics approval and consent to participate**
Not applicable

**Consent for publication**
Not applicable.

**Availability of data and materials**
The dataset for the current study is available from the corresponding author upon receipt of a reasonable request.

**Competing interests**
The authors declare they have no competing interests.

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The all authors confirm full responsibility for study conception and design, analysis and interpretation of results, and manuscript preparation. Also, all authors were involved in developing and drafting the manuscript. The final version is read and approved by all authors.

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**Conflicting of interests**
The authors declare they have no conflict of interests.

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Tables
Table (1): Characteristics of Participants
| Character          | N (242) | %    |
|-------------------|---------|------|
| Age               | 29.2 (7.3) a |
| **Parity**        |         |      |
| P0                | 3.4     |      |
| P1                | 10.1    |      |
| P2                | 36.2    |      |
| P≥3               | 50.3    |      |
| **Body mass Index (BMI)** | 27.3 (4-7) |      |
| Level of consciousness |       |      |
| Alert             | 56      |      |
| Altered           | 44      |      |
| **Mode of delivery** |      |      |
| Vaginal           | 39.1    |      |
| Caesarean section | 60.9    |      |
| **Obstetric causes** |      |      |
| Iatrogenic        | 73      | 30.1 |
| Misuse of ecopolics | 48    | 19.8 |
| Traumatic         | 25      | 10.3 |
| Atonic            | 70      | 28.9 |
| Placenta aacreta  | 41      | 16.9 |
| Placenta previa   | 29      | 12   |
| Ectopic           | 21      | 8.6  |
| Abortion          | 6       | 2.4  |
| Molar pregnancy   | 3       | 1.2  |

Values presented as Mean (SD), N=number or % = percentage

Table 2 (Mean ± SD) Values of different vital signs

| Variable                          | Value          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Shock Index (SI)                  | 0.541±1.153    |
| Pulse rate, beats per min         | 26.6±108.1     |
| Systolic blood pressure (SBP)mmHG | 28.7±101.8     |
| Diastolic blood pressure (DBP) mmHG| ±21,358.9    |
| Mean blood loss ml (SD)           | 1922(0.862)    |

Table 3 Performance of SI(Shock index) and various vital signs using AUROC in predicting mortality and adverse clinical outcome amongst ladies suffered from obstetric hemorrhage.
| Adverse clinical outcome | Vital sign                      | P value | P value | P value | P value | P value | P value |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                          | (ShockSI index)                 | (Systolic SBP BP) | (Diastolic DBP BP) | rate | (Pulse PR) | (MAP mean arterial pressure) | (Pulse PP Pressure) | P value |
| Death                    | 0.88 (0.81-0.95)                | 0.89 (0.82-0.96) | 0.213 | 0.80 (0.70-0.91) | 0.201 | 0.79 (0.68-0.88) | 0.031 | 0.84 (0.78-0.92) | 0.132 | 0.38 (0.27-0.52) | 0.022 |
| ICU admission            | 0.76 (0.64-0.88)                | 0.74 (0.65-0.84) | 0.024 | 0.65 (0.46-0.85) | 0.012 | 0.64 (0.45-0.83) | 0.818 | 0.65 (0.45-0.84) | 0.024 | 0.56 (0.41-0.68) | 0.002 |
| Blood                   | 0.78 (0.72-0.82)                | 0.70 (0.65-0.74) | 0.034 | 0.71 (0.64-0.74) | 0.029 | 0.81 (0.77-0.84) | 0.708 | 0.71 (0.66-0.77) | 0.025 | 0.49 (0.46-0.57) | 0.001 |
| Massive Blood transfusion | 0.61 (0.46-0.79)               | 0.59 (0.47-0.61) | 0.074 | 0.56 (0.41-0.76) | 0.289 | 0.58 (0.37-0.78) | 0.472 | 0.57 (0.36-0.61) | 0.344 | 0.49 (0.37-0.61) | 0.041 |

Table 4. showed the predictive value of shock indexes of ≥ 0.7 and ≥ 0.9

| Outcomes                  | SI     | Sensitivity (95% CI) | Specificity (95% CI) | Positive predictive value (95% CI) | Negative predictive value (95% CI) |
|---------------------------|--------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Death                     | SI ≥ 0.7 | 99.0 (91-100)      | 0.6 (0.2-1.3)        | 5.0 (1.9-4.6)                     | 99.5 (38.7-99.8)                   |
|                           | SI ≥ 0.9 | 99.0 (91-99)       | 6.4 (2.8-7.1)        | 5.6 (2.8-4.9)                     | 99.6 (93.7-98.9)                   |
| Icu admission             | SI ≥ 0.7 | 98.0 (78-98.1)     | 13.2 (9.8-18.7)      | 7.1 (2.9-11.1)                    | 99.8 (87.2-100)                    |
|                           | SI ≥ 0.9 | 97.0 (79.3-99.8)   | 41.2 (32.7-49.2)     | 9.1 (3.9-13.9)                    | 99.6 (95.1-100)                    |
| Massive Blood transfusion | SI ≥ 0.7 | 93.0 (80-97.0)     | 16.3 (11.2-20.7)     | 19.1 (12.8-23.8)                  | 89.9 (76.1-97.8)                   |
|                           | SI ≥ 0.9 | 81.0 (66.6-92.8)   | 43.5 (36.1-48.9)     | 22.6 (17.1-30.9)                  | 90.8 (84.1-95.8)                   |
| Invasive surgical         | SI ≥ 0.7 | 90.2 (60.7-98.5)   | 13.9 (8.9-18.8)      | 6.1 (3.1-10.1)                    | 97.1 (82.7-98.8)                   |
| intervention              | SI ≥ 0.9 | 85.6 (52.5-96.1)   | 41.9 (36.1-48.9)     | 8.1 (4.2-12.9)                    | 98.2 (91.8-99.6)                   |

AUROC, (95% confidence interval). area under the receiver operating characteristic curve; ICU, intensive care unit;