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MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

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MGH TREATMENT GUIDE FOR CRITICALLY ILL PREGNANT PATIENTS

PRESENTATION

NOTABLE SX - SAME AS NON-PREGNANT

- ~65-80% Cough
- ~45% Febrile initially
- ~15% URI Sx
- ~10% GI Sx
- Anosmia
- Acute worsening after early mild sx

INCREASED RISK FOR SEVERE DZ

- Comorbid diseases:
 - Cardiac, pulm, renal
 - Diabetes, HTN, BMI >30
 - Immunocompromise

LABS INDICATING SEVERE DZ

- LDH >245, CPK 2x normal, CRP >100
- Abs lymphocyte count <0.8

PREGNANCY CONSIDERATIONS

- Tachycardia over 120bpm is abnormal
- Tachypnea over 18rpm is abnormal
- Elevated D-dimer expected, >2400 abnl
- Low HCO₃ 18-22 is normal
- Higher risk of intubation/ICU/death

DIAGNOSTICS

DAILY LABS

- CBC with diff (trend lymphocyte ct)
- CMP, in particular LFT
- Consider development of preeclampsia or HELLP syndrome, send spot urine protein:creatinine ratio if Cr elevated
- CPK/CRP (first week) /LDH (if elevated)

MONITOR FOR WORSENING DISEASE OR DRUG TOXICITY PRN

- Ferritin/ESR (if sHLH)
- PT/PTT/INR
- EKG/Troponin
- Lactate (<2)
- Monitor fetal status if increased O₂ req

ONE TIME TEST FOR ALL PTS

- Tracheal aspirate if intubated
- Additional tests for trial enrollment prn
- Additional testing per ID guidance

RESPIRATORY FAILURE

Transfer to ICU for HFNC vs Intubation
Consider RICU consult, Anticipate DIFFICULT intubation
WARNING SIGNS: INC FiO₂, DEC SaO₂, CXR WORSE

LUNG PROTECTIVE VENTILATION

- Vt 40% greater in pregnancy than 4-6 ml/kg PBW
- Plateau pressure <30
- Driving pressure (Pplat-PEEP) <15
- Target SaO₂ >93-95%, PaO₂>70
- Starting PEEP 8-10 cmH₂O



CONSERVATIVE FLUID STRATEGY

- Post resuscitation: NO or limited maintenance fluids
- Only diuresis if evidence of pulmonary edema



PEEP TITRATION

- ARDSnet low PEEP table
- Best PEEP considered w/ ICU attending input



PRONE - ACCEPTABLE IN PREGNANCY

- Early if cont. hypoxemia (P:F<150) or elevated driving/plateau pressure
- Supine with left lateral uterine displacement ~qAM



ADDITIONAL THERAPIES

- Paralytics for vent dysynchrony, not routine
- Inhaled NO eligible (no epoprostenol)

IF WORSENING

ECMO CONSULT
if continued hypoxemia
or elevated airway
pressures

IF STABLE OR IMPROVING

PATIENCE
Anticipate possible
prolonged intubation

PAGER NUMBERS

ICU CONSULT:26955 ECMO:29151 ID CONSULT: 16136 MFM:17977

HEMODYNAMICS

- Norepinephrine first choice pressor
- MAP 60-65 with BP < 160/110
- CO mean 6.2 L/min, 43% greater
- SVR decreased 21%, CVP unchanged
- IF WORSENING:
 - ? myocarditis/cardiogenic shock
Obtain POCUS, EKG, ? TTE
 - ? Intestinal ischemia, MRI preferred

USUAL CARE

- **Empiric abx per usual approach**
- Sedation PRN vent synchrony
- Daily SAT/SBT when appropriate
- ABCDEF Bundle
- Unfractionated heparin for VTE ppx

CHANGE TO USUAL CARE

- CXR safe prn with uterine shielding
- MINIMIZE staff contact in room
- HIGH THRESHOLD for bronchoscopy
- HIGH THRESHOLD to travel
- BUNDLE bedside procedures
- AVOID nebs, prefer MDIs
- Appropriate isolation for aerosol generating procedures
- Maintain left lat uterine displacement
- Normal ABG should demonstrate compensated respiratory alkalosis:
pH 7.40-7.44 PaCO₂ 27-32mmHg
PaO₂ 72-104mmHg SaO₂ 95-100%

THERAPEUTICS

- Delivery may improve maternal status
- Remdesivir
- *Hydrocortisone, Methylprednisolone or Prednisone favored for steroids as Dexamethasone crosses the placenta*
- *May consider Dexamethasone for the first 48 hours for fetal lung maturity
- Avoid NSAIDs
- Novel Rx trial or compassionate use