

Syllabus	OB_IK_08, OB_BK_05
Topic	Pre-eclampsia

A 25 year old woman who is 37 weeks pregnant is admitted to the labour ward with a blood pressure of 180/115mmHg. A diagnosis of severe pre-eclampsia is made.

a)

Why is urgent blood pressure control required? (1 mark)

.....

b)

List 4 associated symptoms that may be described by this patient (4 marks)

1.

2.

3.

4.

c)

Name 2 drugs you would consider using to treat this patient's blood pressure (2 marks)

1.

2.

d)

Why would magnesium sulphate be indicated in this patient? (1 mark)

.....

e)

What magnesium sulphate dosing regimen would you recommend? (2 marks)

.....

The patient's blood pressure has settled to 150/90mmHg. She has been started on magnesium treatment and is being managed on the labour ward with a view to delivery within the next 24 hours as the continuous cardiotocograph (CTG) recording is currently normal.

f)

What hourly monitoring does the mother require? (5 marks)

1.
2.

The patient has had a caesarean section. She has lost 500mL of blood and has adequate, appropriate fluid replacement.

g)

How would you manage on-going fluid balance in the post-operative period? (4 marks)

1.
2.
3.
4.

h)

Why would this patient be susceptible to pulmonary oedema? (1 mark)

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Q	Answer	Mark	Guidance
a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent maternal intracranial haemorrhage 	1	
b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headache Visual disturbance (blurred or double vision, flashing lights) Abdominal pain (upper quadrant, liver tenderness) Vomiting Uterine tenderness or PV bleeding (abruption) 	1 mark for each point (Max. 4)	
c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labetalol Hydralazine Nifedipine 	1 mark for each point (Max. 2)	
d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seizure prevention 	1	
e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4g loading dose over 5-15 minutes Followed by infusion of 1g per hour 	1 1	
f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood pressure (NIBP or ABP) HR Pulse ox UO RR Reflexes and clonus 	1 mark for each point (Max. 5)	
g)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1mg/kg/hr input either oral or IV Hourly fluid balance monitoring Fluid challenge if UO < 0.5ml/kg/hr Check U&Es 	1 mark for each point (Max. 4)	
h)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capillary leak Hypoalbuminaemia 	1	

References:

1) Leslie D, Collis R. Hypertension in pregnancy. BJA Education (2016) 16(1)33-37

<https://academic.oup.com/bjaed/article/16/1/33/2463142>

2) NICE guideline (NG133). Hypertension in pregnancy – diagnosis and management (2019)

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng133>