

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



سورة البقرة - الآية ٣٢

قالوا سبحانك
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إفك أنت العليم الحكيم

Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome

Presented by

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**Egypt
2008**

Definition:

It is a syndrome characterized by:

variable degree of ovarian enlargement and/or ascites, pleural effusion, oliguria, hemoconcentration, thromboembolism, and electrolyte disturbances which may be life threatening.

* It occurs :

-Commonly as an iatrogenic complication of ovulation induction.

Rarely may complicate normal pregnancy.

*Incidence: -Mild OHSS; 8 – 23%.
- Severe OHSS: 3.5-8%

Risk factors:

- 1) (1) Patient characters: OHSS common with:
 - a- Younger cases.
 - b- Cases with lower body weight.
 - c- Anovulatory cases with menstrual disorders, normal endogenous GnH, and estrogen.
 - d- Previous history of OHSS.
- 2) PCO: about 50% of OHSS cases have PCO, only 6% of severe degree.

3) Ovarian stimulation drugs:

a) GnRH:

i- **GnRH/hMG protocol:** increase the incidence of OHSS from 0.6% to up to 6.6% of moderate and severe grades. This may be due to:

- A direct effect of GnRH on the ovary.
- Prevention of premature luteinization allows many follicles to grow to a considerable size.
- The increased pregnancy rate and rate of multiple pregnancy.
- Increased exogenous GnH.
- The "flare up" effect of GnRH on GnH.

ii- **Pulsatile use of GnRH:** associated with mild OHSS.

3) Ovarian stimulation drugs:

b) **Human menopausal gonadotrophin:** OHSS is reported in up to 23% of cases (FSH+LH).

c) **Pure FSH:** OHSS is reported to be lower in these cases.

d) **Clomid:** mild degree occur in 13.5%. the incidence is increased when combined with hMG.

Risk factors:

4) Method of administration of hMG/hCG:

It was suggested that fixed schedule is associated with higher rate of OHSS.

5) Luteal phase support:

risk increased with HCG and decreased with progesterone.

6) Conception cycles:

3-4 times more risk for OHSS (longer course and severer in grade)

Pathogenesis:

The initial pathophysiological event in severe cases is increased capillary permeability specially from the enlarged ovaries leading to extravasation of fluid into the abdominal cavity causing:

1-Ascites.

2-Hemoconcentration.

3-Hypotension.

4-Decreased renal perfusion which leads to sodium and water retentions.

N.B: Renal failure may occur in the final stage due to sever volume depletion.

The suggested mediators for increased capillary permeability are:

1) Estrogen:

2) Prostaglandins:

3) Histamine

4) Prolactin:

5) Renin-angiotensin:

6) Cytokines:

7) Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF):

Pathogenesis:

N.B: It was suggested that haemodynamic changes are due to:

peripheral arteriolar dilatation leading to hypotension, tachycardia, and renal hypoperfusion.

However this hypothesis did not explain hemoconcentration commonly found in severe OHSS.

Benefits of mild OHSS:

- 1- Allow stimulation of more synchronous follicles.
- 2- Multiple mature oocytes can be fertilized.
- 3- Proper endometrial development - support implantation.
- 4- Low cycle cancellation

Recent classification of OHSS (Jenkins&Mathur,1998)

1)Mild.

2)Moderate.

3)Severe.

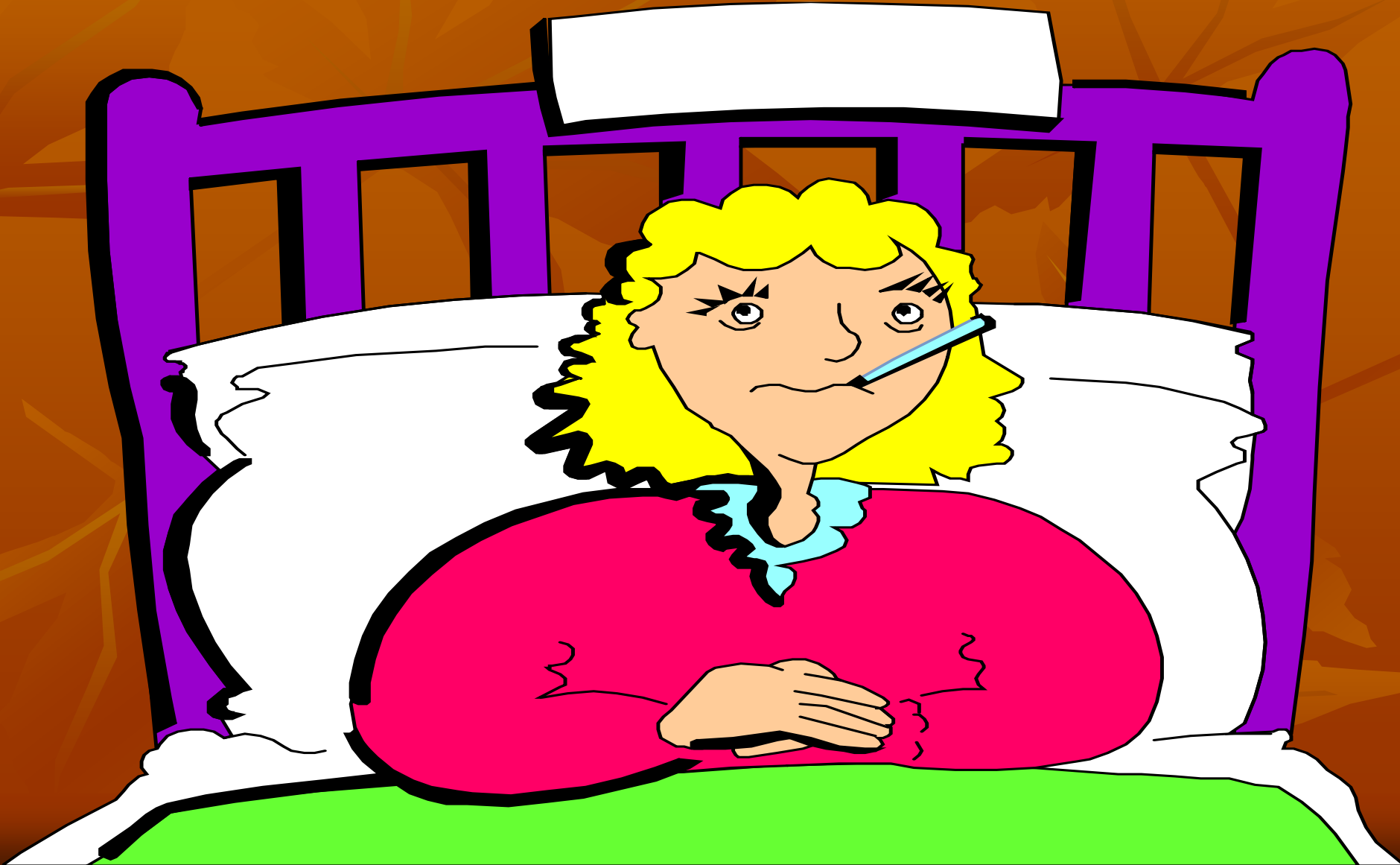
4)Critical.



| Grade | Ovary | Clinical | Lab. Blood |
|--------------------|----------|---|--|
| <i>1)Mild</i> | 5-10cc | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Abdominal Distension -GIT upset | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -HCV < 45 - TLC < 15.000/cc -Normal renal function |
| <i>2) Moderate</i> | 10-12 cc | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Moderate ascites -Body wt T 2 kg/c'ay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -HCV < 45 - TLC < 15.000/cc -Normal renal function |

| Grade | Ovary | Clinical | Lab. Blood |
|--------------------|--------|--|---|
| <i>3)Sever</i> | > 12cc | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Marked ascites -Dyspnea -Hypovolemia -Mild Thromboembolism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -HCV > 45 - TLC > 15,999/cc -Impaired renal function - |
| <i>4) Critical</i> | MARKED | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tense ascites, -Hydrothorax. -Sever Thrombocmbolism. -Adult respiratory distress syndrome - Life threatening | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -HCV(55%), -TLC > 25000/mm3, -serum creatinine> 1.6 mg%^, -creatinine clearance < 50ml/min. |

Complications of OHSS:



Complications of OHSS:

1-Thromboembolic complications.

2-Liver dysfunction: liver enzymes are elevated in 15% and persist for 2 months after.

3-Respiratory complications: (adult respiratory distress syndrome).

4-Renal complications: renal failure due to hypoperfusion.

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Complications of OHSS:

5-Adnexal torsion: due to enlargement, however laparoscopic unwinding is successful.

6-Internal hemorrhage.

7-Abortion rate: Increased from 30% to 50% in OHSS stimulated cycles after matching the maternal age.

Complications of OHSS:

8-Congenital malformation: Increased incidence due to abnormal steroid levels, abnormal body homeostasis and drugs used in treating the case , however there is increasing evidence reporting no association.

9- OHSS and ovarian cancer: The relation was suggested by some authors but with no general acceptance

Prevention of OHSS:

(Most important line of treatment).



**HOW??
?**

(1) PREDICTION OF OHSS:

I) Presence of risk factors.

II) Endocrine monitoring:

A) plasma E2 level:

No risk: $E2 < 1000$ pg/ml,

High risk: $E2 > 3000$ pg/ml, hCG should never be given.

2 pitfalls:

1 - Cases within severe OHSS are seen with E2 levels < 1500 pg/ml.

2- Small fraction of cases will be with excessive E2.

so, **slope of rise of E2 is more accurate**
(considered **if the value is doubled**).

II) Endocrine monitoring:

B) Urinary E3 glucuronyl > 200 ug/24hrs are dangerous,

Disadvantages:

- 1- Retrospective (take 24h).
- 2- Affected by body weight.
- 3- Difficulties and errors in urine collection.

N.B: Recently **VEGF** is suggested as a ■ predictor for OHSS.

(1) PREDICTION OF OHSS:

III) Follicular monitoring by U/S:

*It was suggested that the number of the immature follicles is more important than the number of mature follicles in predicting OHSS.

*No risk when immature follicles are < 15 .

IV) Color Doppler: under trial.

(1) PREDICTION OF OHSS:

Conclusions:

It is concluded that combined E2 plasma level \pm slope of rise + U/S folliculometry are accurate combination for:

- Predicting OHSS and in,
- Determining the optimum time and safety for giving hCG.

(2) Modified Stimulation Protocols:

A) Modification of HMG administration:

1- HMG Coasting: withhold hMG and continued GnRHa in cases with E2 levels > 6000 pg/ml till it reaches < 3000 pg/ml then 10000 IU of HCG was administered.

2- Titration of HMG or FHS dose in cases with PCOS: after GnRh desensitization start GnH with one ampoule to be increased by $1/2$ ampoule. The total duration of stimulation is 25 day (+14 days of GnRHa) and the docs needed is about 40 ampoules.

(2) Modified Stimulation Protocols:

B) GnRh analogue:

1- Using GnRH agonist {Treptorelien 0.2 IU} to trigger ovulation instead of hCG: the drug can be used to trigger endogenous LH (flare up effect) to effect ovulation in cases with high risk for development of OHSS.

N.B: This method cannot be used in cycles where pituitary desensitization was performed with continuous GnP.Ha.

2-Using GnRH agonist pump.

3- Using GnRH antagonists: delay LH surge 6-7 days.

(2) Modified Stimulation Protocols:

C) Modification of HCG administration:

1- **Withhold HCG administration:** Don't completely prevent OHSS as endogenous LH is also involved.

2- **Lower HCG doses** (2000 IU).

3- **Delaying HCG administration:** studies are deficient and of nonconstant results.

D) Luteal phase support: use of progesterone, no HCG.

(3) Modified techniques:

1- Follicular aspiration: it was suggested that aspiration of the follicles is protective against OHSS since. However, Aboulghar et al (1992) found no protective effect of such method.

2- Cryopreservation of embryo with subsequent replacement in non stimulated or natural cycle.

3- Selective oocyte retrieval in spontaneous conception cycles: This is done by puncturing most of the ovarian follicles 35 hrs after hCG administration as in IVF programs, prevent OHSS as well as multiple pregnancy.

4) Adjuvant:

1 - Intravenous albumin administration; why?:

a) Albumin can sequestrate any vasoactive substance released from corpora lutea or produced in the course of the disease (1/2 life of albumin = 10-15 day).

b) Due to its oncotic power, it serves to maintain intravascular volume and prevent ascites, hypovolemia and hemoconcentration.

2-Hydroxyethyl-starch: Large molecule, long 1/2 life.

3- Immunoglobulin:

IgG, IgA gammaglobulins have low level in patient with severe OHSS. When given IV reduce the severity.

4 - Corticosteroids:

Management of OHSS



HOW???

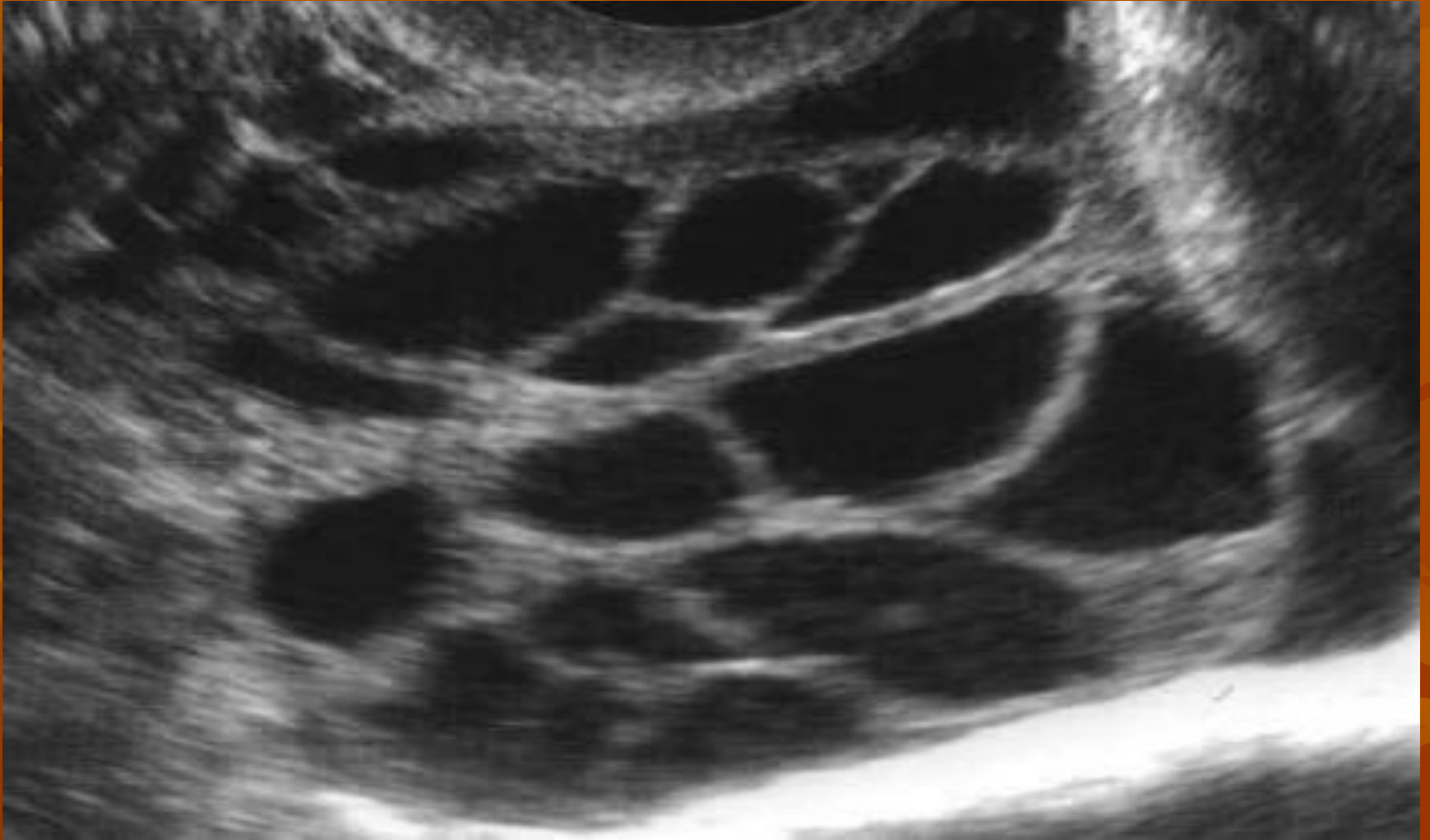
*DIAGNOSIS:

a) *History taking.*

b) Examination: (local, chest, abdomen, and for TE).

c) *Investigations.*

U/S for diagnosis of ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome



***Treatment**

A- Mild cases: Spontaneous recovery within 2-3 Wk (conservative measures and follow up)

B- Moderate and severe cases:

1-General treatment:

a- Hospitalization and reassurance.

b- Observations; (ICU)

| Table 2. Inpatient monitoring of patients with OHSS | |
|---|--|
| Assessment | Measurements |
| History and Examination | Pain |
| | Breathlessness |
| | Hydration |
| | Weight |
| | Cardiovascular |
| | Heart rate, blood pressure |
| | Abdominal girth, distension, ascites |
| | Intake and output chart |
| Investigations | Full blood count |
| | Haemoglobin, haematocrit, white cell count |
| | Urea & electrolytes |
| | Liver function tests |
| | Baseline clotting studies |
| | Pelvic ultrasound (for ascites and ovarian size) |
| | Chest X-ray or ultrasonography (if respiratory symptoms) |
| | ECG and echocardiogram (if suspect pericardial effusion) |

2- Medical treatment:

a- Circulation and electrolytes:

- Preserve the intravascular volume and renal perfusion.
- Done using colloid plasma expanders or human albumin, (effect is temporary)
- Sodium and water restriction (non effective).

b- Symptomatic treatment:

- Analgesia*: paracetamol and opioids.
- Antiemetics*: metoclopramid.

2- Medical treatment:

c-Prevent TE through:

- *Anticoagulant therapy:* only with:
 - Clinical evidence of thromboembolic complications.
 - Laboratory Evidence :hypercoagulability.
- *Mechanical methods.*

2- Medical treatment:

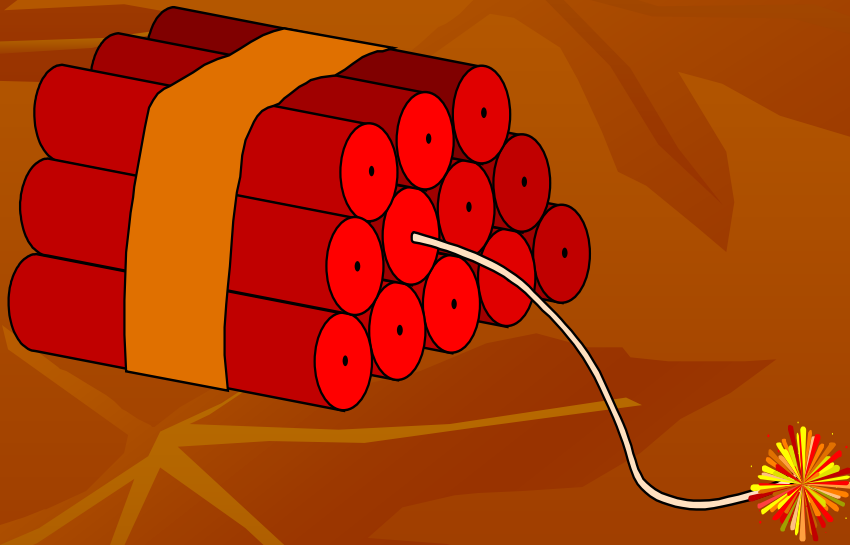
d- Antihistamines: was suggested to cause stabilization of capillary membrane.

e- Dopamine: in oliguric cases to improve perfusion and avoid renal failure.

f- Methotrexate: treatment of associated ectopic pregnancy to avoid surgery.

AVOID:

- 1- **Anti-PG**: disturb renal function.
- 2- **Danazol**: ineffective.
- 3- **Diuretics**: used only in pulmonary edema.



NEVER to use **Diuretics** before proper intravascular volume replacement to avoid further renal hypoperfusion

3) Aspiration of ascetic fluid or pleural effusion:

****Method:***

- Paracentesis or transvaginal aspiration under U/S guidance.
- The amount of aspirate ranges from 200-1400 ml/session.

****Advantages:***

- Improvement of respiration .
- Decrease abdominal discomfort..
- Increase venous return and COP.
- Increase urine output and creatinine clearance reflecting improving renal functions.

3) Aspiration of ascetic fluid or pleural effusion

****Disadvantages:***

- Temporary effect: Recollection causes discomfort needs 3-5 days.
- Loss of large amounts of proteins (25-69g/L), so protein replacement should be effected.
- Injury of the enlarged ovaries (avoided by U/S guide).
- Introduction of infection (so use strict aseptic conditions).

4)Surgical treatment:

**Indications of surgery in severe OHSS:*

- a- Signs of intraperitoneal Hemorrhage and/or rupture of ovarian cyst.
- b- Adnexal torsion.
- c- Associated ectopic pregnancy.

**Types of surgery:*

- a- **Laparoscopy:** the ideal surgical method through which all procedures can be done.
- b- **Laparotomy:** should always be avoided and if deemed necessary, measures are done to preserve (ovary)

Thank you



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