

# What's New at National Women's Anaesthesia

Some cool things that we are doing

Dr Marty Minehan, Anaesthetist, L9

# Overview

## Sustainability

- Syringe recycling
- Drug trays
- Ditch the Des

## Clinical Practice

- Nurse led pain clinics
- IV Iron
- Noradrenaline
- MHP (the new MTP)
- Badgernet



# Syringe Recycling - Pilot

Piloted in 2020

- L9, Starship and BD partnership
- 296kg recycled

‘Clean’ used drug syringes

- No body fluids, no residual drugs
- No sharps

No need to disassemble or remove stickers

High level of staff engagement





# Syringe Recycling - Processing





# Syringe Recycling - Issues

## Disposal of unused medications

- No pharmaceutical waste stream in New Zealand

## Contamination

- Sharps
- Other plastics - polycarbonate
- Not emptied of medications - fenatnyl
- Wrappers and paper

## Bins and Process

- Collection bins
- Theatre floor spaces



# Syringe Recycling - Volumes

- 2020 - 387kg
- 2021 - 553kg
- 2022 - 843kg
  - 2022 includes Auckland, Counties, Waitemata and Northland
- 1.7 tonnes of plastic diverted from landfill.
  - ~ 100 x 120L wheelie bins.





# Syringe Recycling - Moving Forward

- Expansion
  - Other theatre blocks
  - Other hospitals in Auckland
  - National expansion
- Other partners

- Considerations
  - Only operating theatres
    - Lower risk of contamination
    - Captured user group
  - Contamination
    - Working with Ara Manawa
      - *Ara Manawa is an interdisciplinary research, design and innovation studio inside Te Toka Tumai. We are a team of creative problem solvers who develop solutions to challenges in Papakainga Atawhai (Auckland Hospital) and our wider health sector.*



ARA  
MANAWA

# Drug Trays

*The trays are used for storing drawn up drugs and carrying equipment to the bedside.*





# Drug Trays - The Old

- *Approximately 17,000 plastic drug trays were used annually at ADHB in theatres, at around \$1.30 each.*
- *Most were not being disposed of appropriately and sent directly to landfill.*



# Drug Trays - Alternatives

- Several alternatives were explored looking at cost, manufacture, transport and disposal.
- Trialed for several weeks.





# Drug Trays - Potato Trays

- A locally made product was selected
  - Manufactured in NZ
  - Made from potato starch, edible
  - 100% compostable - waste stream
  - Available in 2 sizes
- Cost about \$0.35 each (a third of the plastic trays)
- Widely accepted by staff
- Now used by all departments
  - > 110,000 per annum



# Drug Trays - Outcomes

- ~110,000 trays per annum
- ~11 tonnes of plastic avoided per annum
- ~ 3 tonnes composted\*
- Significant cost savings



ADHB landfill savings (KG) (Read Only) - Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Tell me what you want to do...

Normal Page Break Previous Layout Views Gridlines Headings Zoom 100% Zoom In Zoom Out New Average Freeze Pivot Tables Switch Windows Macros

ADHB

Reduction of landfill for single use trays and composting the alternatives

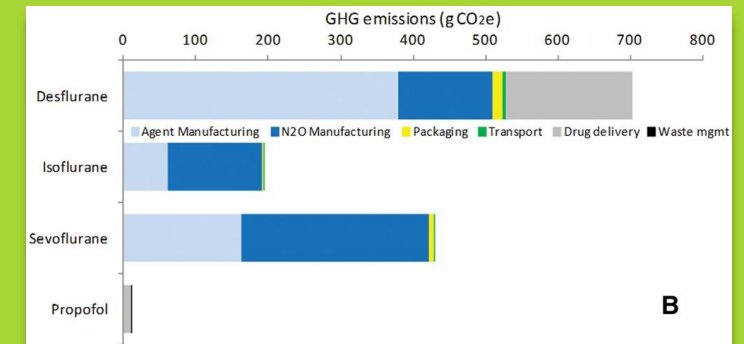
	Quantity of trays used	KG's saved from landfill in Plastic trays	KG's of trays composted
<b>Total for 2020</b>	<b>106,800</b>	<b>11,214</b>	<b>3,306</b>
Jan-21	7,050	740	217
Feb-21	9,000	945	287
Mar-21	12,150	1,276	378
Apr-21	8,700	914	259
May-21	10,350	1,087	322
Jun-21	9,300	976.5	301
Jul-21	8,400	882	259
Aug-21	9,450	999.25	308
Sep-21	6,450	677.2	203
Oct-21	9,150	960.75	294
Nov-21	12,300	1,291.5	371
Dec-21	10,200	1,071	322
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<b>112,900</b>	<b>11,820.0</b>	<b>3,521</b>
Jan-22	7,200	756	224
Feb-22	7,800	819	245
Mar-22	6,300	661.5	210
Apr-22	7,350	771.75	238
May-22	9,750	1,023.75	273
Jun-22	10,800	1,134	336
Jul-22	6,000	630	182
Aug-22	8,700	913.5	280
Sep-22	10,050	1,055	322
Oct-22	9,150	960.75	287

Sheet1



# Ditch the Des - The Problem

- Desflurane's GWP100 = 2540 (Sevo 130)
- 240ml Canister of desflurane = 893kg CO<sub>2</sub>e
  - (250ml Sevo = 41.5kg CO<sub>2</sub>e)
- 1kg Propofol\* (1 million miligrams) = 21kg of CO<sub>2</sub>e (Parvatker<sup>1</sup>)
  - *Propofol's cradle-to-grave is 10,000 times less than desflurane even when hardware, syringe drivers (with fossil fuel energy supply) & 50% waste disposal by incineration is taken into account (Sherman<sup>1</sup>). \*Propofol is toxic the aquatic environment and needs to be disposed of appropriately.*

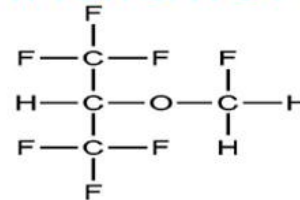


1) Parvatker *et. al.* ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering 2019 7 (7), 6580-6591

2) Sherman *et. al.* Anesth Analg. 2012 May;114(5):1086-90

# Ditch the Des vs Others

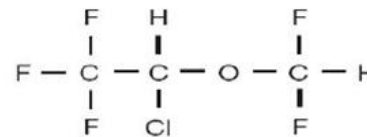
## Inhalational anaesthetic agents



### **Sevoflurane**

GWP 130

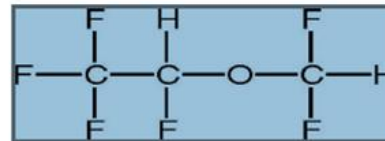
Bottle (250ml) 44kg CO<sub>2</sub>e



### **Isoflurane**

GWP 510

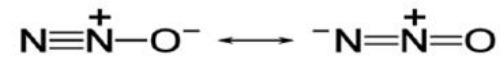
Bottle (250 ml) 190 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e



### **Desflurane**

GWP 2540

Bottle (240 ml) 886 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e



### **Nitrous oxide**

GWP 310

Cylinder (3.4 kg) 1054 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e



# Ditch the Des - Removing It



4. The use of desflurane as inhalation anaesthetic is prohibited as from 1 January 2026, except when such use is strictly required and no other anaesthetic can be used on medical grounds. The user shall provide evidence, upon request, on the medical justification to the competent authority of the Member State and the Commission.

These hospitals have Ditched the Des and removed it from their formulary

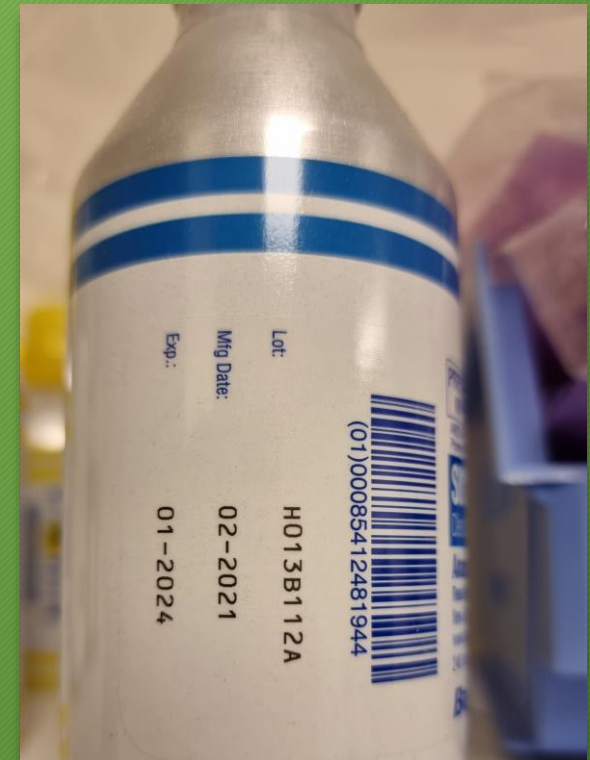
Will your hospital join them?



<https://www.tra2sh.org/refuse-desflurane>

# Ditch the Des - Slow Progress

- L9 removed the vapourisers from the machines
- Still available for use if requested...but
  - Vapouriser servicing overhead
    - NB Dräger serviced in Germany!
  - MOQs and expiry dates
  - Disposal of unused desflurane
- Considering removing it from the formulary





# Nurse Led Pain Clinics - Women's Health

- Traditionally nurse-led phone call following hospital discharge
  - Ad-hoc
- Nurse-led outpatient clinics established in July 2020
  - Specialty pain nurses
    - Given training
    - Guidelines for management
    - Guidelines for referral
  - Obstetric and gynaecology patients
  - Clinician oversight (in the room next door)
  - Consistent and comprehensive transitional pain management

# Nurse Led Pain Clinics - Experience

- Well received by patients
- Therapeutic relationship established
- Minimal 'Did Not Attend' rate (8.2%)
- Nurses felt empowered and well supported by the MDT
- Designated Nurse Prescriber role complemented the clinics
- Potential for Nurse Practitioner pathway in the future

“Implementation of a Nurse Led Transitional Pain Clinic”: C Baird, F Storr, J Vipond, V Martyres



# Nurse Led Pain Clinics - Data

- “Implementation of a Nurse Led Transitional Pain Clinic”: C Baird, F Storr, J Vipond, V Martyres

## IMPLEMENTATION OF A NURSE LED TRANSITIONAL PAIN CLINIC

C Baird<sup>1</sup>, F Storr<sup>2</sup>, J Vipond<sup>3</sup>, V Martyres<sup>4</sup>,  
Anaesthetist and Pain Specialist <sup>1</sup>, Clinical Nurse Specialist <sup>2,3,4</sup>  
<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Auckland City Hospital, New Zealand



### Background/ Introduction

Transitional care programs improve patient outcomes following hospital admission. (Verhaegh et al., 2017). Transitional pain clinics provide integrated multidisciplinary pain management following discharge (Katz et al., 2015). The most effective model includes coordination by a specialist nurse, communication between the hospital and primary care provider, and timely patient follow up (Verhaegh et al., 2017).

The National Women's Pain Service provides transitional pain management via nurse-led phone calls following discharge from hospital. This has limitations, functioning on a largely ad-hoc basis. We set out to develop and implement a specific nurse-led outpatient clinic to provide more consistent and comprehensive transitional pain management, bridging the gap between inpatient and community care.

### Aim

To establish a nurse-led outpatient transitional pain clinic.

### METHODS

A strategy for implementing and supporting a nurse-led clinic was agreed by all members of the team which included training, supervision, and guidelines for management and referral. Data was collected on all patient encounters, including type of patient, management plan and disposition. Qualitative feedback was obtained from the nurses and selected patients.

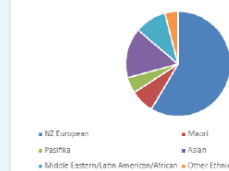
### OUR EXPERIENCE

- Well received by patients
- Therapeutic relationship established
- Minimal Did Not Attend (DNA) rate 8.19% (10/122)
- Nurses felt empowered and well supported by the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT).
- Designated Nurse Prescriber role complemented the clinics
- Potential for Nurse Practitioner pathway in the future

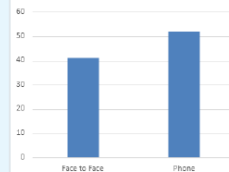
### Conclusion

It is possible to provide high quality transitional pain management via a nurse-led clinic provided there is appropriate support from other members of the MDT.

### Patient Ethnicity



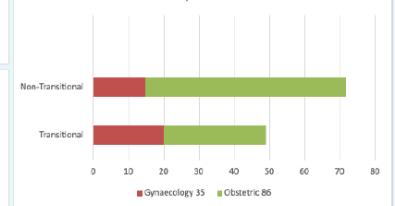
### Clinic Consult Type



### Results

Our nurse-led clinics commenced in July 2020. Three nurses in our pain team have seen a total of 122 patients; made up of 35 Gynaecological and 86 Obstetric. 40% (49/122) of these patients were transitional, defined as having been an inpatient within the previous 2 months. Overall satisfaction was good, and patient feedback was positive.

### Clinic Patients: July 2020 - December 2021



Holistic support

Flexible appointments-  
Zoom, face to face,  
telephone

GOOD MDT  
SUPPORT AND  
INPUT

Caring, Authentic  
Empathetic  
Always available

Patient Feedback

### References

- Katz J, Weinreb A, Wendtlandt K, et al. (2015) The Toronto General Hospital Transitional Pain Service: development and implementation of a multidisciplinary program to prevent chronic postsurgical pain. *Journal of Pain Research* Volume 8: 895-902. DOI: 10.2147/jpr.s10324
- Verhaegh KJ, Madileil-Vroomen JL, Edami S, et al. (2017) Transitional Care Interventions Prevent Hospital Readmissions For Adults With Chronic Illnesses. *Health Affairs* 33(9): 1531-1539. DOI: 10.1377/hlthaff.2014.0160

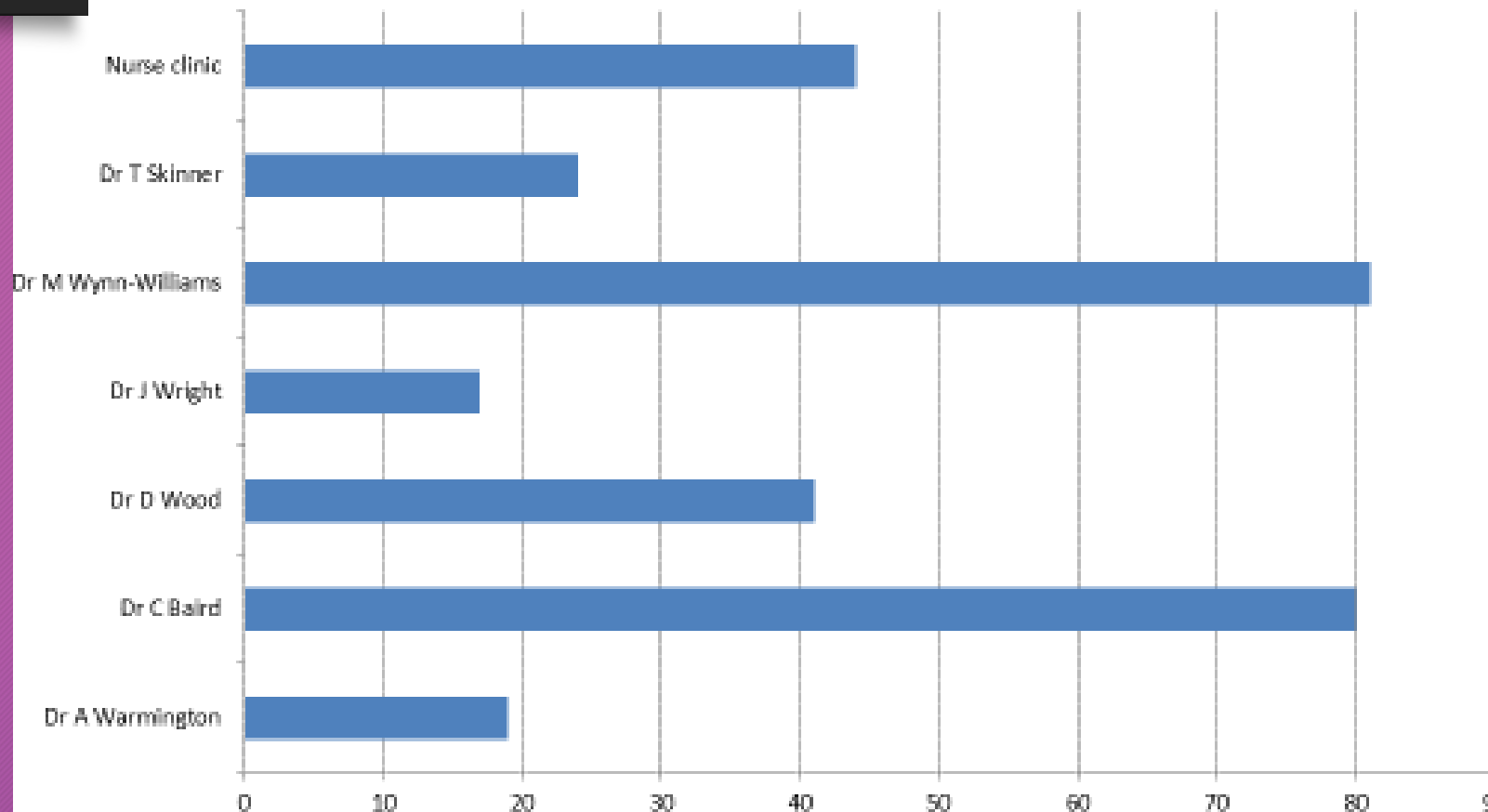
### Contact Details:

Women's Health Acute Pain Service (ADHB) <WomensAcutePain@adhb.govt.nz>; 021433787

## Nurse Led Pain Clinics - Data

- “Implementation of a Nurse Led Transitional Pain Clinic”: C Baird, F Storr, J Vipond, V Martyres

## Patients seen in 6 months to June 2022





# Nurse Led Pain Clinics - Conclusion

## Conclusion

It is possible to provide high quality transitional pain management via a nurse-led clinic provided there is appropriate support from other members of the MDT.



# Nurse Led Pain Clinics - The Team





# IV Iron in Pregnancy and Post-Partum

- Implemented IV Iron pathway
- Iron deficiency anaemia (IDA) in pregnancy
  - Estimated the prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women 38% and for all women of reproductive age was 29%.<sup>1</sup>
  - Low infant birth weight.
  - Increased risk of maternal and perinatal mortality.
  - Infants born to anaemic mothers are more vulnerable to anaemia during their first year of life.
  - Can also affect work productivity, cognition, including post-natal depression and effects on bonding, poor wound healing, as well as fatigue.

1) World Health Organization. (2015). The global prevalence of anaemia in 2011.

# IV Iron in Pregnancy and Post- Partum

RANZCOG do not currently recommend routine antenatal ferritin screening.



At Te Toka Tumai we suggest ferritin testing at booking, around 28 weeks or at other points in the pregnancy, if there are additional risk factors:

refusal of  
blood  
transfusion

RBC antibodies

vegetarian  
diet

multiple  
pregnancies

adolescent  
pregnancies

low  
socioeconomic  
status

short  
pregnancy  
intervals



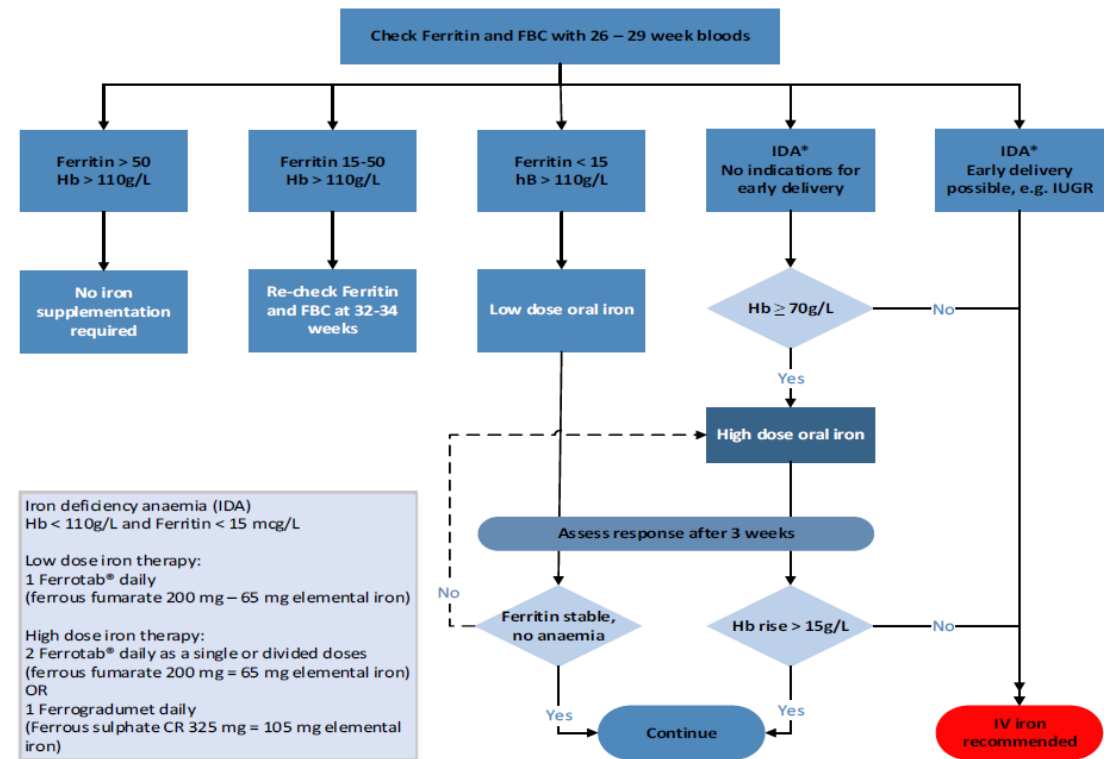
## IV Iron in Early Pregnancy

- Pathway for early in pregnancy

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Te V  
Health

### : Pathway for iron supplementation in pregnancy starting at 26 – 29 weeks



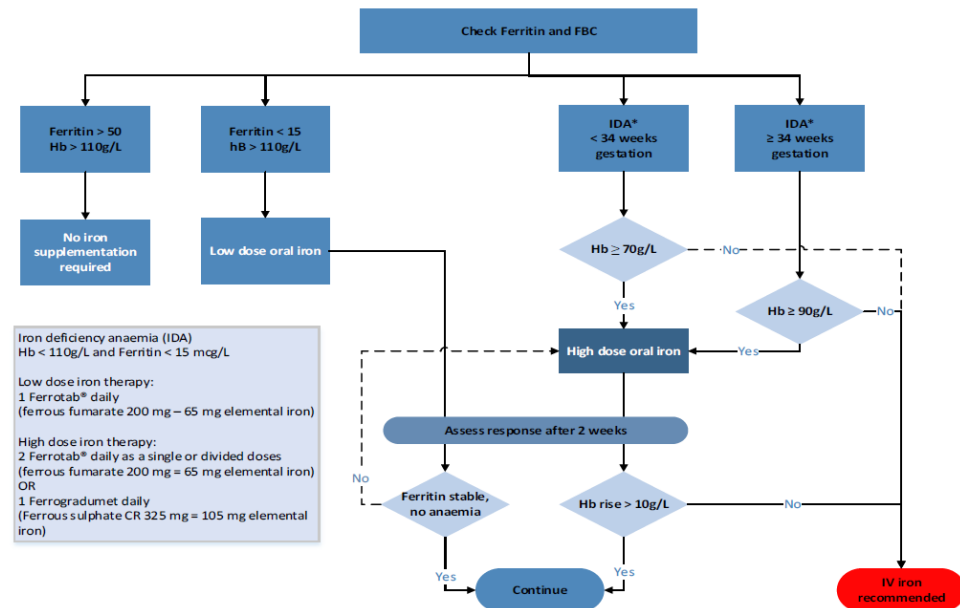
# IV Iron in Late Pregnancy

- Pathway for late in pregnancy

*If printed, this document is only valid for the day of printing.*

**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand

## 10. Flowchart: Pathway for iron supplementation in pregnancy starting at $\geq 30$ weeks





# IV Iron in Pregnancy and Post-Partum

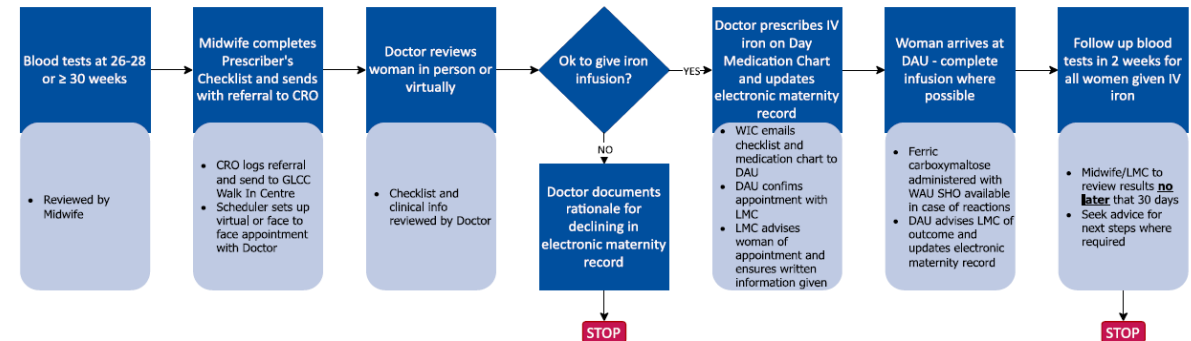
- Easy to follow referral pathway for midwives
- IV Fe administered in Day Admission Unit

*If printed, this document is only valid for the day of printing.*

**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand

## 12. Flowchart: Processes for referral in pregnancy for an infusion in Day Assessment

### 12.1 Process for Midwives



# IV Iron in Pregnancy and Post-Partum

## Cumulative antenatal dose of ferric carboxymaltose

- Hb  $\geq$  90 g/L - 1000 mg
- Hb < 90 g/L - 1500 mg

## Postnatal dose of ferric carboxymaltose

- 0.5 mg of iron is required to replace each 1 mL of blood loss
  - e.g. if 1000 mL blood loss, woman requires extra 500 mg iron

**IMPORTANT:** The maximum weekly dose of ferric carboxymaltose is 1000 mg. Do NOT exceed this weekly dose.



## IV Iron - The Iron Ladies

- Liz Dunn
- Justine Wright
- Jay Van Der Westhuizen



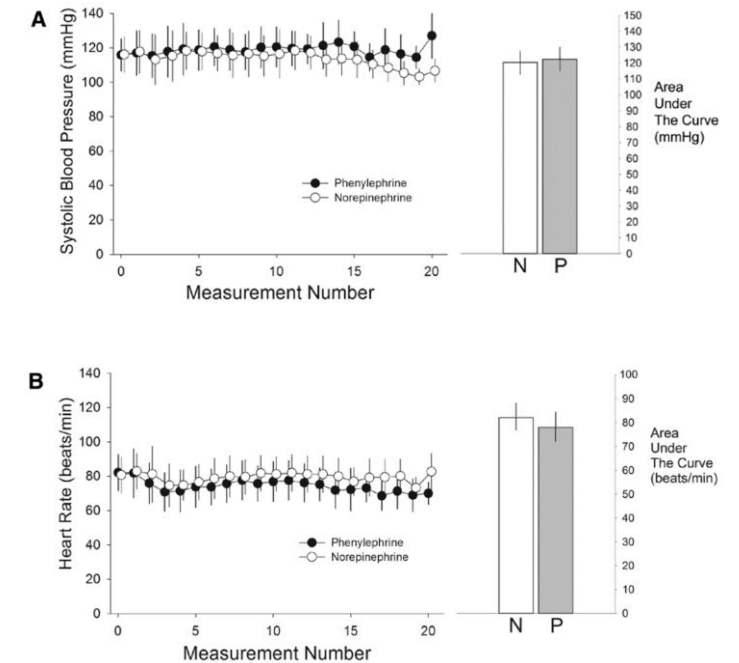


# Peripheral Noradrenaline

- 104 Elective LSCS under spinal + cohydration
- Randomised to Phenylephrine or Noradrenaline (double blind)
- Computer controlled infusion pumps to maintain SBP near baseline - measured every 1 minute
- Suprasternal doppler every 5 mins - CO, SV, SVR

## Randomized Double-blinded Comparison of Norepinephrine and Phenylephrine for Maintenance of Blood Pressure during Spinal Anesthesia for Cesarean Delivery

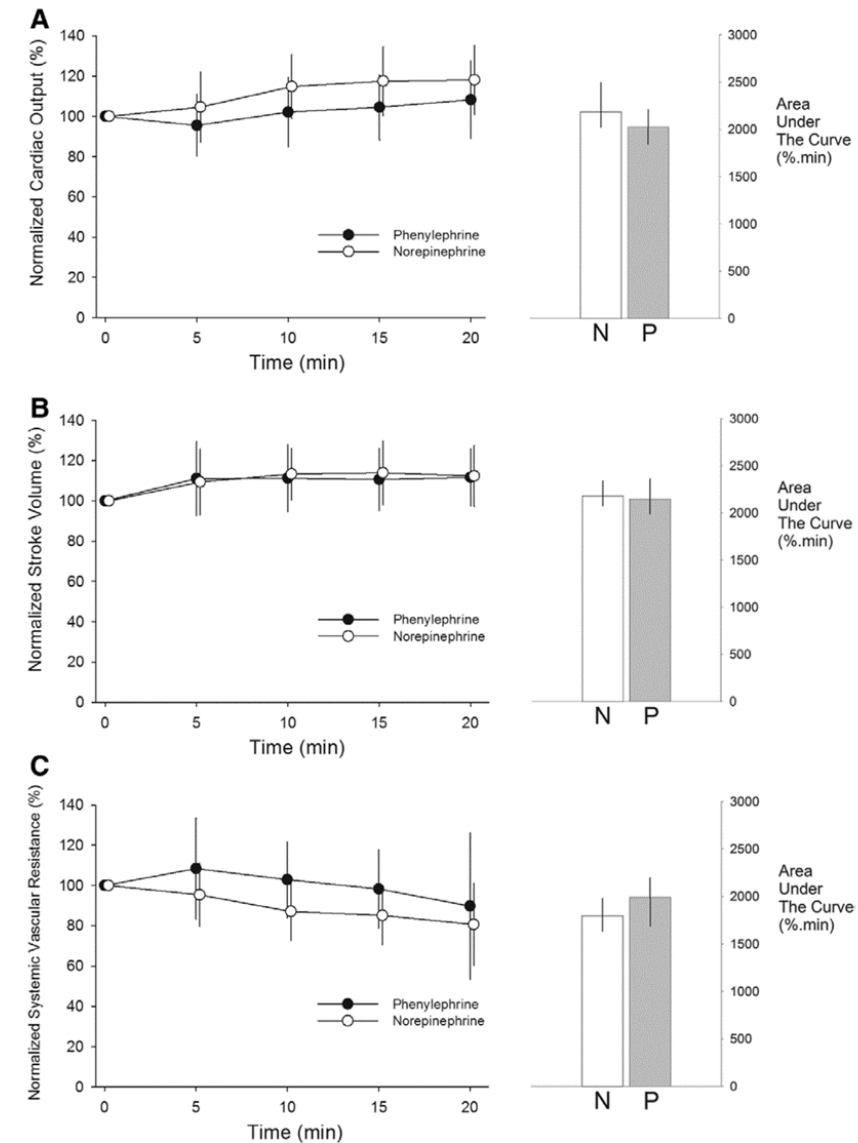
Warwick D. Ngan Kee, M.B.Ch.B., M.D., F.A.N.Z.C.A., F.H.K.A.M.,  
Shara W. Y. Lee, B.Sc.(Hons.), M.Sc., Ph.D., Floria F. Ng, R.N., B.A.Sc.,  
Perpetua E. Tan, B.Sc., M.Phil., Kim S. Khaw, M.B.B.S., M.D., F.R.C.A., F.H.K.A.M.





# Peripheral Noradrenaline

- CO higher in Norad group vs Phenylephrine –  $p < 0.001$
- SV same in both groups  $p = 0.44$
- SVR lower in Norad group vs Phenylephrine –  $p < 0.001$



# Peripheral Noradrenaline

Umbilical venous blood gases - Median [IQR]:

Noradrenaline pH 7.35 [7.34-7.37]; Oxygen content 12.7 [11.3-14.4] ml/dl

Phenylephrine pH 7.34 [7.32-7.36]; Oxygen content 11.8 [9.6-13.7] ml/dl

p=0.031

p=0.047



# Peripheral Noradrenaline - Review


*“Phenylephrine is recommended for the management of hypotension after spinal anaesthesia in women undergoing caesarean section. Noradrenaline, an adrenergic agonist with weak  $\beta$ -adrenergic activity, has been reported to have a more favourable haemodynamic profile than phenylephrine.”*

- 13 RCTs identified.
- Two trials found a significantly lower incidence of bradycardia.
- Cardiac output was significantly higher after noradrenaline in two studies.
- Secondary outcomes including nausea, vomiting and Apgar scores at 1 and 5 min, no studies found significant differences

*“The evidence so far is too limited to support an advantage of noradrenaline over phenylephrine.”*

Review Article

## A systematic review of phenylephrine vs. noradrenaline for the management of hypotension associated with neuraxial anaesthesia in women undergoing caesarean section

M. Heesen  N. Hilber, K. Rijs, R. Rossaint, T. Girard, F.J. Mercier, M. Klimek

First published: 03 February 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/anae.14976> | Citations: 18

Anaesthesia Jun 2020; 75(6): 800-808

# Peripheral Noradrenaline - More Recent Studies

- 126 patients, HR, SBP, IONV, Apgars, UVBGs
  - *“A dilute solution of norepinephrine infusion is comparably efficacious to the current gold standard vasopressor phenylephrine in maintaining blood pressure following spinal anaesthesia for caesarean delivery, with a significantly lower incidence of bradycardia.”*
- Goel et. al. Indian Journal of Anaesthesia: August 2021 - Volume 65 - Issue 8 - p 600-605
- 200 patients, CO, SBP, HR, IONV
  - *“The study advocates the use of intermittent boluses of norepinephrine in the effective management of spinal-induced hypotension during cesarean section. Although the hemodynamic variables are stable with the usage of intravenous boluses of noradrenaline and phenylephrine, the number of doses of vasopressor use was found to be significantly more with the use of phenylephrine. In the noradrenaline group, the episodes of bradycardia are significantly less as compared to the phenylephrine group”*

Tiwari et. al. Cureus 2022 Jul 23;14(7)

> Cureus. 2022 Jul 23;14(7):e27166. doi: 10.7759/cureus.27166. eCollection 2022 Jul.

## A Prospective Randomized Study Comparing the Bolus Doses of Norepinephrine and Phenylephrine for the Treatment of Spinal Induced Hypotension in Cesarean Section

J P Tiwari<sup>1</sup>, Sarv J Verma<sup>1</sup>, Abhishek K Singh<sup>1</sup>

### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Comparison of norepinephrine and phenylephrine infusions for maintenance of haemodynamics following subarachnoid block in lower segment caesarean section

Goel, Kanika; Luthra, Neeru<sup>1</sup>; Goyal, Namrata<sup>1</sup>; Grewal, Anju<sup>1</sup>; Taneja, Ashima<sup>2</sup>

Author Information

Indian Journal of Anaesthesia: August 2021 - Volume 65 - Issue 8 - p 600-605  
doi: 10.4103/ija.ija\_185\_21



## Peripheral Noradrenaline - Safety

7 studies, 1382 ICU patients, Nadr, PE, DA, Ma

- 3.4% extravasation
- Mean duration 22 hrs

*“There were no reported episodes of tissue necrosis or limb ischaemia. All extravasation events were successfully managed conservatively or with vasodilatory medications.”*

14385 surgical patients, Netherlands, 2012-2016

- 0.035% (5 patients) extravasation
- 0 related complications

➤ Emerg Med Australas. 2020 Apr;32(2):220-227. doi: 10.1111/1742-6723.13406. Epub 2019 Nov 7.

### Safety of peripheral administration of vasopressor medications: A systematic review

David H Tian<sup>1</sup>, Claire Smyth<sup>1</sup>, Gerben Keijzers<sup>2 3 4</sup>, Stephen Pj Macdonald<sup>5 6</sup>, Sandra Peake<sup>7 8 9</sup>, Andrew Udy<sup>8 10</sup>, Anthony Delaney<sup>1 8 11 12</sup>

Observational Study ➤ Anesth Analg. 2020 Oct;131(4):1060-1065.

doi: 10.1213/ANE.0000000000004445.

### Risk of Major Complications After Perioperative Norepinephrine Infusion Through Peripheral Intravenous Lines in a Multicenter Study

Carlo Pancaro<sup>1</sup>, Nirav Shah<sup>1</sup>, Wietze Pasma<sup>2</sup>, Leif Saager<sup>1</sup>, Ruth Cassidy<sup>1</sup>, Wilton van Klei<sup>2</sup>, Fabian Kooij<sup>3</sup>, Dave Vittali<sup>3</sup>, Markus W Hollmann<sup>3</sup>, Sachin Kheterpal<sup>1</sup>, Philipp Lirk<sup>4</sup>

# Peripheral Noradrenaline

## Should I switch to Noradrenaline?

Yes - if no risk of dilution error

If you currently use phenylephrine - they are essentially interchangeable

If you use it regularly or have a crib sheet to check the dilution

And if you don't mind someone coming into your theatre questioning why you are giving noradrenaline peripherally

Beware current lack of fetal outcome data (though early studies promising)

Neosynephrine - \$142.07 1ml

Noradrenaline BNM - \$45.00 4ml



# Peripheral Noradrenaline - NWH Setup



- Draw up exactly 0.7mL of 4mg/4mL Noradrenaline (in a 1mL syringe)=700mcg
- Inject this into 100ml Saline bag without aspirating/flushing the 1mL syringe
- Shake bag well
- This is 7mcg/mL Noradrenaline
- Treat exactly as 100mcg/mL phenylephrine
  - Start at 20mL/hr when CSF seen
  - Double/halve rate as required
  - Bolus 0.5mL-1mL if needed
  - Wean over 5 mins after baby delivered e.g. 20-12-4-off
- Ensure you have a non-arterial IV cannula ideally with good fluid flush running with the drug



M Drake Sept 2020

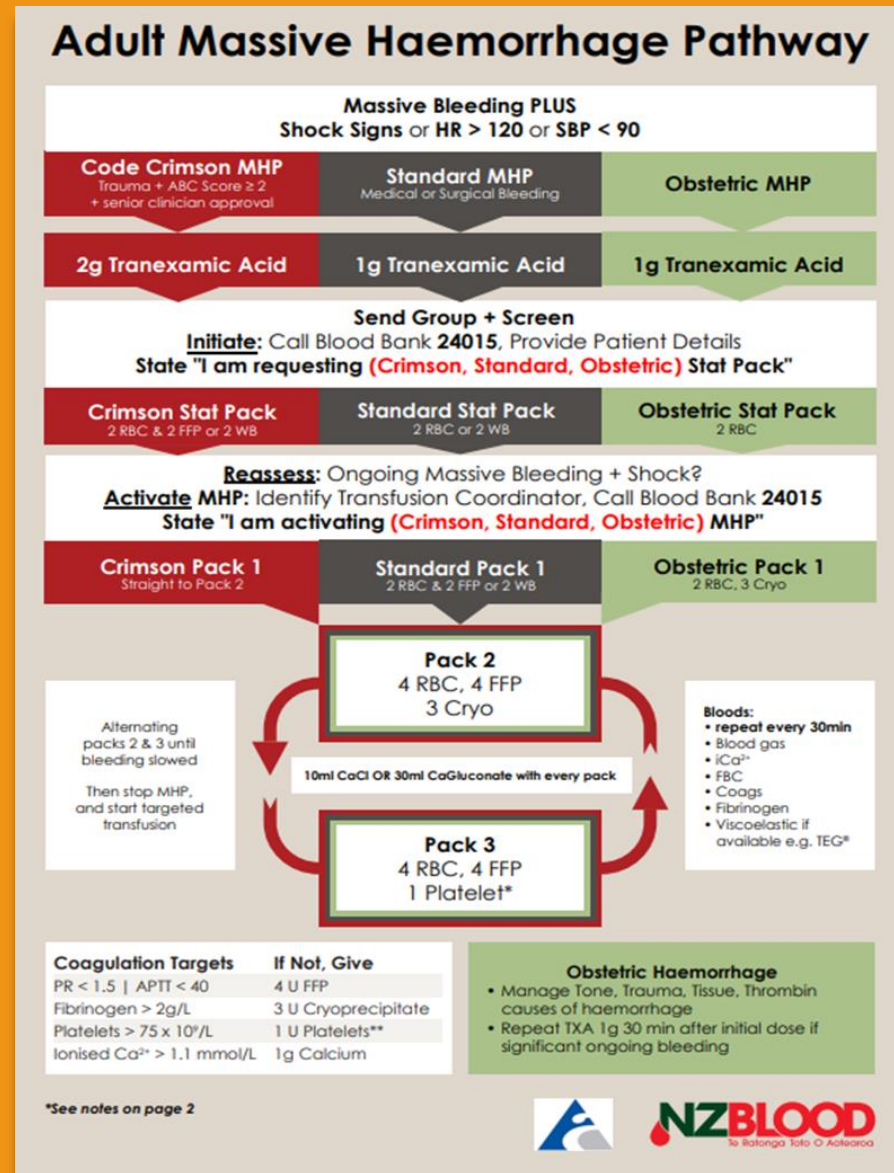
# Massive Haemorrhage Pathway - MHP

- Adult Massive Haemorrhage Pathway (MHP) is a bundle of care with aims to stop the bleeding, mobilise resources, and early transfer to definitive care
- There is emphasis on **stopping bleeding**
- There is a focus on **communication**
- **Standardising adjuncts of care**
- Replaces the MTP nationwide



# Massive Haemorrhage Pathway - MHP

Code Crimson Pathway (trauma)  
Standard Pathway  
Obstetric Pathway



# Massive Haemorrhage Pathway - Obstetric Pathway

Obstetric patients with massive bleeding have important differences in their bleeding, coagulation state and physiology and the MHP obstetric pathway reflects this.



## Obstetric Pathway

### Obstetric MHP

1g Tranexamic Acid

Send Cross Match  
Call Blood Bank and request

Obstetric Stat Pack  
2 RBC

Reassess: Ongoing Bleeding + Shock - Call  
Activate Massive Haemorrhage Protocol

Obstetric Pack 1  
2 RBC, 3 Cryo

### Obstetric Haemorrhage

- Manage Tone, Trauma, Tissue, Thrombin causes of haemorrhage
- Repeat TXA 1g 30 min after initial dose if significant ongoing bleeding
- A 1g bolus of TXA as a **slow IV bolus**.
  - Every 15 minute delay in TXA administration decreases the benefit by 10%.
- **Give stat pack then review before calling MHP**
- Coagulation deficits are uncommon initially in PPH
- **Fibrinogen replacement and avoidance of early FFP**
- During a PPH, fibrinogen **falls** before other coagulation factors. The concentration of fibrinogen in FFP is **low** (1-3g/L) so **early** use of FFP can **dilute** the recipient's fibrinogen levels.
- **Unnecessary** use of FFP can lead to complications
  - e.g TRALI, TACO<sup>6</sup>



# Massive Haemorrhage Pathway - TXA

2g Tranexamic Acid

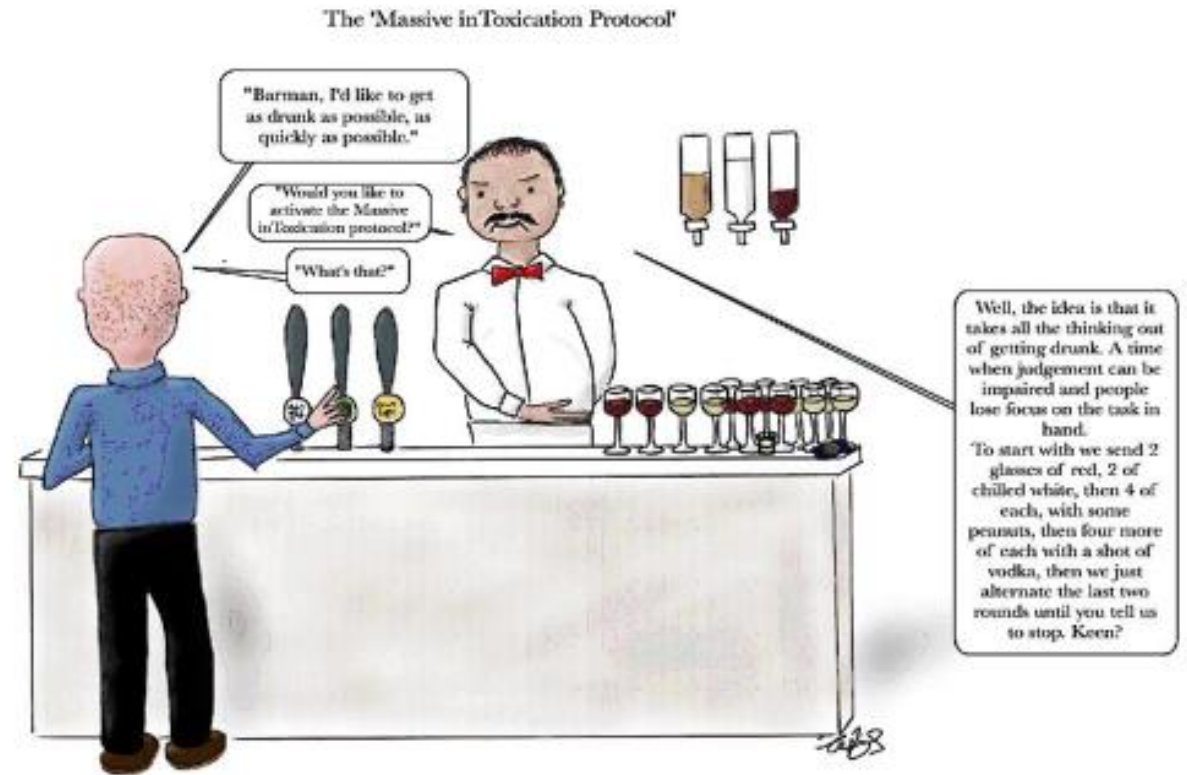
1g Tranexamic Acid

1g Tranexamic Acid

## Tranexamic Acid (TXA)

- TXA is an anti-fibrinolytic. It is now recommended for all major haemorrhage
  - 1g slow IV push for massive obstetric haemorrhage & standard pathway
  - 2g slow IV push recommended for code crimson (trauma) pathway
- **Early modulation** of the fibrinolytic system is important in major bleeding.
  - This may be given in divided doses of 1g or as a single 2g dose.
- The **greatest** benefit comes when TXA is administered **within 1 hour** of trauma but definitely within 3 hours <sup>3</sup>.
- The recommendation is to change to a **slow push bolus** rather than an infusion.

# Massive Intoxication Pathway



By Dr. Martin Bailey (Taranaki)



# BadgerNet





# BadgerNet

Trying to use the COW





# Questions

- Sustainability - Marty
- Pain Clinics - Colin and Fran
- IV Iron - Liz, Justine, Jay
- Noradrenaline - Matt
- MHP - Liz, Justine, Jay
- Badgernet - Emily and Matt



“Have you guys got food? I love food.” *Loki*