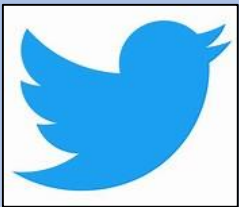


# Bleeding in Early Pregnancy & Threatened Miscarriage

For the reluctant obstetrician...



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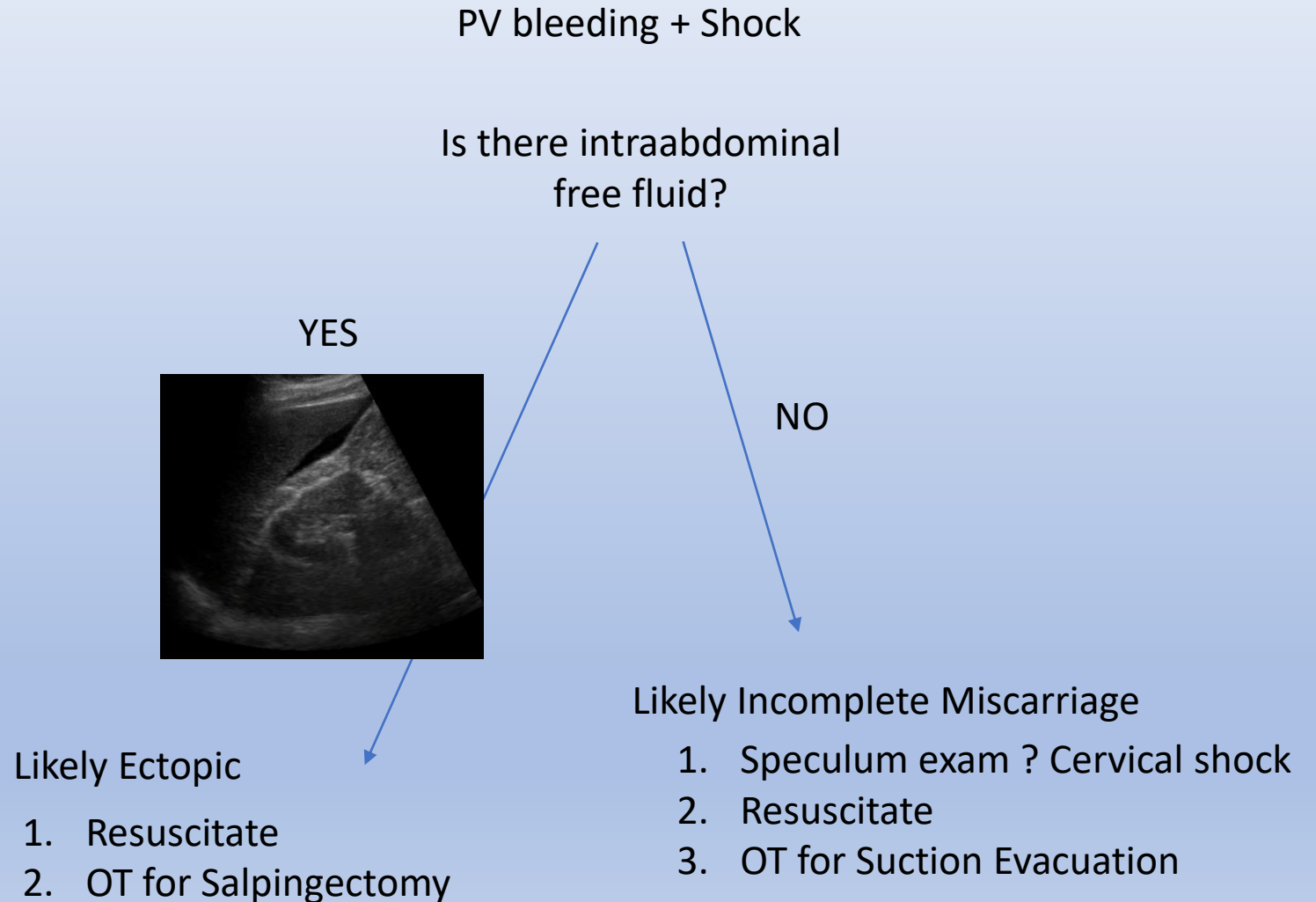
# Bleeding in Early Pregnancy

- Very common presentation to the ED

Pregnancy-related Causes	Other Causes
Viable IUP (threatened miscarriage) Failed IUP <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Incomplete</li><li>• Complete</li><li>• Missed</li></ul> Ectopic Pregnancy Pregnancy of Unknown Location	Genital tract lesions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cervical ectropion</li><li>• Cervicitis</li><li>• Cervical cancer</li><li>• Vaginitis</li></ul> Etc

# PV Bleeding + Shock

- DDx
  - Ectopic Pregnancy
  - Miscarriage
    - Hypovolaemic shock
    - Cervical shock



# Assessment of Stable Patient

- Hx
- Exam
  - Vitals
  - Abdominal exam
  - PV/speculum:
    - Cervical changes/excitation
    - Evidence of adnexal mass/tenderness
    - Removal of cervical products
- Ix
  - Bloods: Hb / Group & Hold / BhCG
  - TV Ultrasound
    - Location of pregnancy
    - Viability



# Role of BhCG

1. Diagnose or exclude pregnancy
2. Discriminatory Zone
  - This was initially about diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy, but evidence is mixed/inconsistent
    - >1500 – TV ultrasound
    - >6000 – TA ultrasound - now potentially useful to predict US findings
3. Serial BhCG measurement for PUL
4. Follow up of BhCG to zero following GTD / failed pregnancy



# Threatened Miscarriage

- Common presentation to the ED
- Definition = PV bleeding + viable IUP
- Easily and rapidly diagnosed by PoCUS
- Subsequent miscarriage rate 10-25%

## Progestogen

- 7 placebo-controlled trials, 696 patients
- RR 0.57 (95%CI 0.38-0.85) for PO progestogen
- Not used commonly at this stage



**Cochrane  
Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

**Progestogen for treating threatened miscarriage (Review)**

Wahabi HA, Fayed AA, Esmail SA, Bahkali KH

# Subchorionic Haematoma

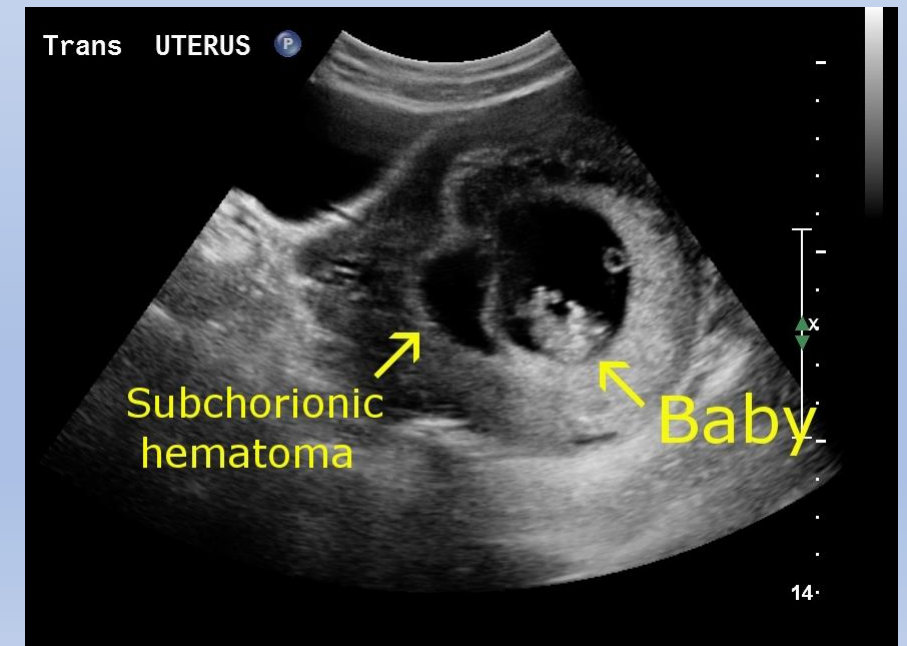
- Perigestational haemorrhage
- Fluid collects between uterine wall and chorionic membrane
- Common cause of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester bleeding

## Effect on Pregnancy

- Increased early pregnancy loss
- Evidence mixed regarding effect of size on risk

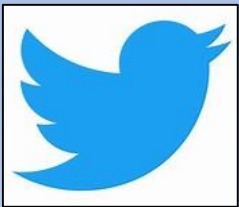
## Effect on Late Pregnancy

- Increase placental abruption
- No other clear associations with pre-eclampsia, SGA, PTL



# Bleeding in Early Pregnancy & Threatened Miscarriage

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