

The Enhanced Recovery after surgery (ERAS) Society Guidelines for Enhanced recovery after cesarean section (ERACS)

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Objectives:

1. Brief orientation of the ERAS concept in general
2. Explanation of how ERAS concept was used only for Major Surgical procedures, and how myself and other enthusiastic colleagues determined to apply the ERAS concept in other non- Major Surgical procedures, as cesarean section is one of the most commonly performed surgical procedures worldwide , it was chosen as an excellent example of how to implement ERAS in hospitals.
3. ERACS similar to ERAS is divided into :
 - i. Preoperative components
 - ii. Intra- operative components
 - iii. Post- operative components

A full explanation of all relevant ERACS components will be given during the lecture .

Conclusions :

4. In U.K. a response rate of 81% was achieved with 96% of those who responded supporting the concept of enhanced recovery. Only 4% of units routinely discharged their patients on day one. There were a number of practices consistent with enhanced recovery. Postoperative pain was controlled by regular paracetamol (97%) and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (100% when not contraindicated), with oral opioids (68%) being used for breakthrough pain. Over 70% of units allowed minimal interruption of Perioperative oral

intake and 72% of units mobilized their patients within 12h of surgery or when the neuraxial block had worn off. In contrast, a minority of units monitored patient temperature in theatre (27%) or used active warming (18%), and 28% routinely removed the urinary catheter within 12h of surgery or when the neuraxial block had worn off. Regarding neonatal recovery, only 23% reported using delayed cord clamping and 53% used skin-to-skin contact in theatre.

5. Most obstetric units support the concept of enhanced recovery following caesarean section and many could introduce a programme for elective surgery with relatively small changes in patient care. Specific questions on elements described in other obstetric ERAS protocols for CD included preoperative patient preparation, type of anesthesia and temperature monitoring used for CD, maternal/neonatal contact, and time to discharge. ERAS protocols are used in 24% of surveyed hospitals, 84% admit the patient the day before elective CDs, 87% use a maternal bowel preparation morning on the day of CD, and 80% administer maternal deep venous thrombosis prophylaxis. Only 33% remove IV in the first postoperative day, and 89% of women do not eat solid food until the day following their CD.

6.

The guidelines of the ERAS Society for ERACS provide an evidence based, standardized, multidisciplinary, and Teamwork protocol for the peri-operative care given to ladies under going for CSs.

Adoption of ERAS protocols following CD might benefit patients and the health-care system.

These guidelines avoid the marked worldwide variations in the peri-operative care given for ladies undergoing Cesarean Section, improve significantly the quality of care given to them, and at the same times achieve a significant cost reduction through a reduction in the length of hospital stay and in complications rate.

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