

Primary postpartum haemorrhage

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Glossary Item

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[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 20/12/2016

Definition: Primary postpartum haemorrhage, a form of obstetric haemorrhage, is excessive bleeding from the genital tract after childbirth, occurring within 24 hours of birth.

A blood loss of 500 ml is the usual minimum amount for identification of postpartum haemorrhage however a woman's haemodynamic instability is also taken into account, meaning that a smaller blood loss may be significant in a severely compromised woman. A loss of 1,000 ml or more is considered major or severe although definitions of severity vary.

Secondary postpartum haemorrhage is excessive bleeding from the genital tract after childbirth occurring between 24 hours and 6 weeks postpartum.

Source and reference attributes

Reference documents: Medforth J, Battersby S & Evans M 2011. Oxford Handbook of Midwifery. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Queensland Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guidelines Program 2009.
Queensland maternity and neonatal clinical guideline: primary postpartum haemorrhage.

Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) 2011. Management of postpartum haemorrhage (PPH): College statement C-Obs 43

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) 2009. Prevention and management of postpartum haemorrhage: Green-top guideline no. 52.

Relational attributes

**Metadata items which use
this glossary item:**

[Female—blood transfusion due to primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[Female—blood transfusion due to primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[Female—blood transfusion due to primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

[Female—blood transfusion due to primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Female—estimated blood loss indicating primary postpartum haemorrhage](#)
[Health](#), Standard 07/03/2014

[Female—estimated blood loss indicating primary postpartum haemorrhage, estimated blood loss volume category code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Female—estimated blood loss indicating primary postpartum haemorrhage, estimated blood loss volume category code N](#)
[Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020

[Female—estimated blood loss indicating primary postpartum haemorrhage, estimated blood loss volume category, code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016

[Female—primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator](#)
[Health](#), Standard 07/03/2014

[Female—primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Health](#), Standard 02/08/2017

[Female—primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

[Perinatal DSS 2014-15](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 13/11/2014

[Perinatal DSS 2015-16](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 04/09/2015

[Perinatal NBEDS 2016-17](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016

[Perinatal NBEDS 2017-18](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

[Perinatal NBEDS 2018-19](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

[Perinatal NBEDS 2019–20](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

[Perinatal NBEDS 2020–21](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Perinatal NBEDS 2021–22](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[Perinatal NBEDS 2022–23](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 09/12/2022

[Perinatal NBEDS 2023–24](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[Perinatal NBEDS 2024–25](#)
[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023

[Primary postpartum haemorrhage indicator](#)
[Health](#), Standard 07/03/2014