

Two Cases of Severe Post-Partum Hæmorrhage Treated Successively by Saline Arterial Solution. In November, 1892, I was called to attend Mrs. S., in her third confinement. She lived about four miles out of town. On my arrival at her house, I found her in a dying condition. The child had been born, the placenta had come away, and flowing had followed until the woman had fainted and was almost completely exsanguinated. She was pulseless, semi-unconscious, muttering, with pupils dilated, features pinched, skin cold and bathed in perspiration, breathing rapid and gasping; in short, she presented all the symptoms of great loss of blood. I lowered her head, raised the foot of the bed, and placed the pillows under her feet and legs to keep them well up, and not thinking it advisable at this moment to lose the time necessary to bandage her legs. I gave her full doses of ergot, whiskey, and morphine hypodermically, removed a large number of clots from the vagina and uterus, irrigated the uterus with very hot water, filled the rectum with the same, and applied hot water bottles to the body. The uterus

contracted, but the pulse did not return, the pupils remained dilated, the breathing grew worse, and death seemed at hand. The patient was so weak that I did not consider that the saline solution thrown into the cellular tissue would be of much if any value, and the time required for venous transfusion put it out of the question, so that to me there seemed to be nothing left but to try Dr. R. H. M. Dawbarn's method of arterial infusion. I had a small fountain syringe, also my hypodermic, with me, but no catheter. I hastily prepared the saline solution, making it very hot, considerably hotter than I could tolerate on my hand. I nearly filled the fountain syringe with the solution and placed it on a nail above the bed. I then felt for the femoral artery, which I could barely detect. I passed my hypodermic needle slowly and carefully into the tissues over the artery, watching intently for the arterial fluid, which soon appeared in the needle, when I cautiously placed the end of the rubber tubing over the needle, and had my only assistant (a neighbor woman, who fortunately was endowed with a fair share of common-sense as well as a goodly amount of courage) tie it firmly

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