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## RETAINED PLACENTA MANAGEMENT

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### Definition

Failure of placental delivery within 60 minutes after delivery of the fetus, complicates 2% of births

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### Risk Factors

- Previous retained placenta
  - Previous injury or surgery to the uterus
  - Preterm delivery
  - Induced labor
  - Multiparity
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### Causes

- Constriction ring-reforming cervix
  - Full bladder
  - Uterine abnormality
  - Morbid adherence of the placenta:
    - Placenta Accreta
    - Placenta Increta
    - Placenta Percreta
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### Management Details

If the placenta is undelivered after 30 minutes consider:

- Emptying bladder
  - Breastfeeding or nipple stimulation
  - Change of position – encourage an upright position
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## Management Details, Continued

### If bleeding: Immediately:

- Inform Obstetric Registrar/ Clinical Charge Midwife
- Insert large bore IV (16g)
- send group and hold urgently, ring and inform blood bank of urgency, request blood to be available for theatre within 30 minutes
- send Full blood count
- Commence /continue syntocinon infusion 20units in a litre rate 250 mls per hour
- Measure and accurately record blood loss
- Prepare and complete appropriate documentation for theatre
- Transfer patient to theatre for manual removal of placenta (acuity one if ongoing bleeding)
  - Complications of Manual Removal of a Retained Placenta:
    - Perforation of uterus
    - Retained products
    - Infection
- Antibiotics : Augmentin 1.2 g IV or Cefoxitin 1 g IV
- Vital signs, fundus, blood loss and fluid balance are observed and documented as clinically indicated.
- Women whose blood group is RH negative are recommended to have a Kleihauer test with appropriate Anti-D dose.

If not bleeding ensure the above steps are completed within 1 hour of diagnosis of retained placenta

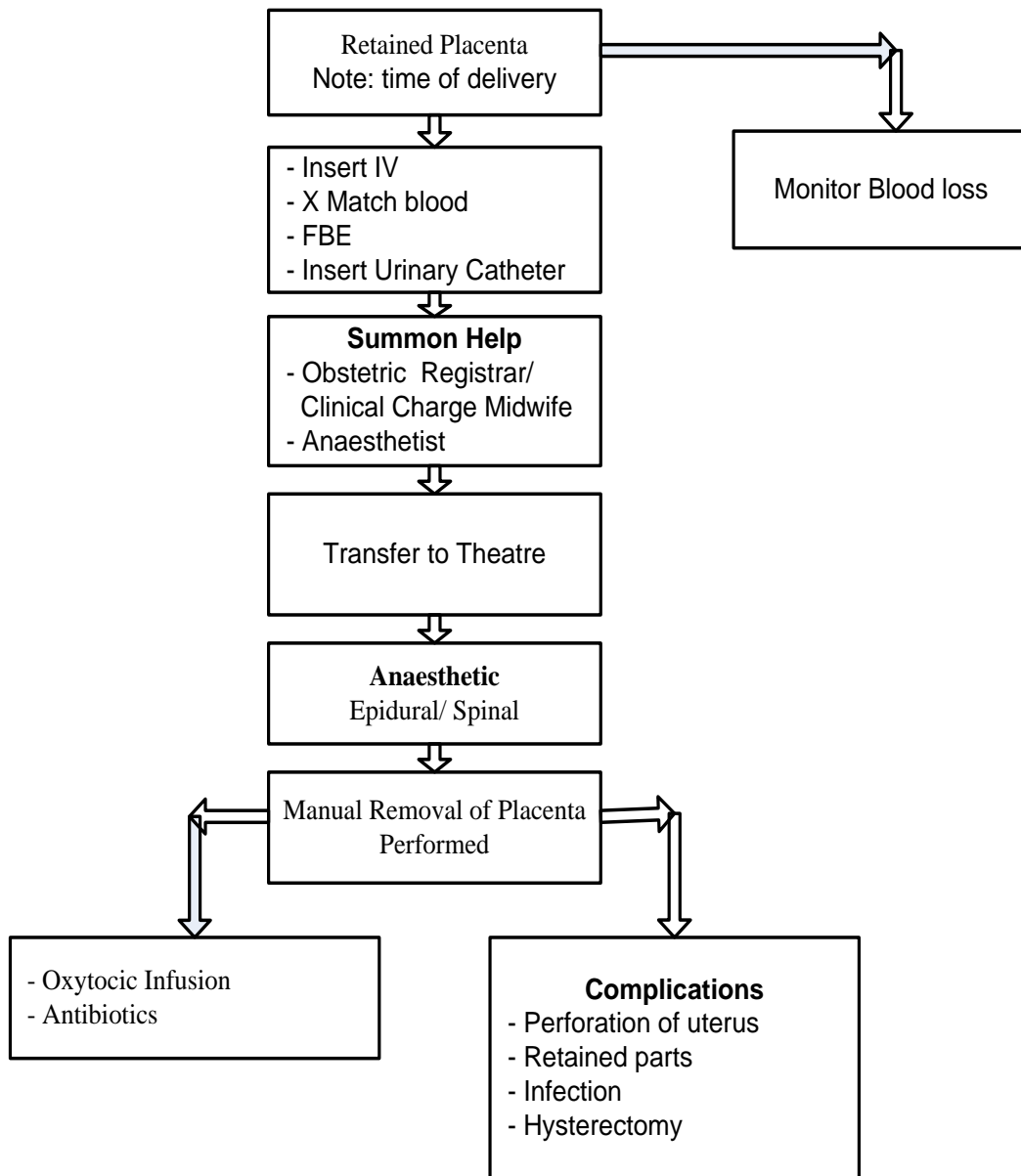
See [Postpartum Haemorrhage](#) guideline

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## Complications of a Retained Placenta

- Uterine inversion
  - Shock (hypovolemic)
  - Postpartum hemorrhage
  - Puerperal Sepsis
  - Subinvolution
  - Hysterectomy
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# Management of Retained Placenta Flowchart



## References

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