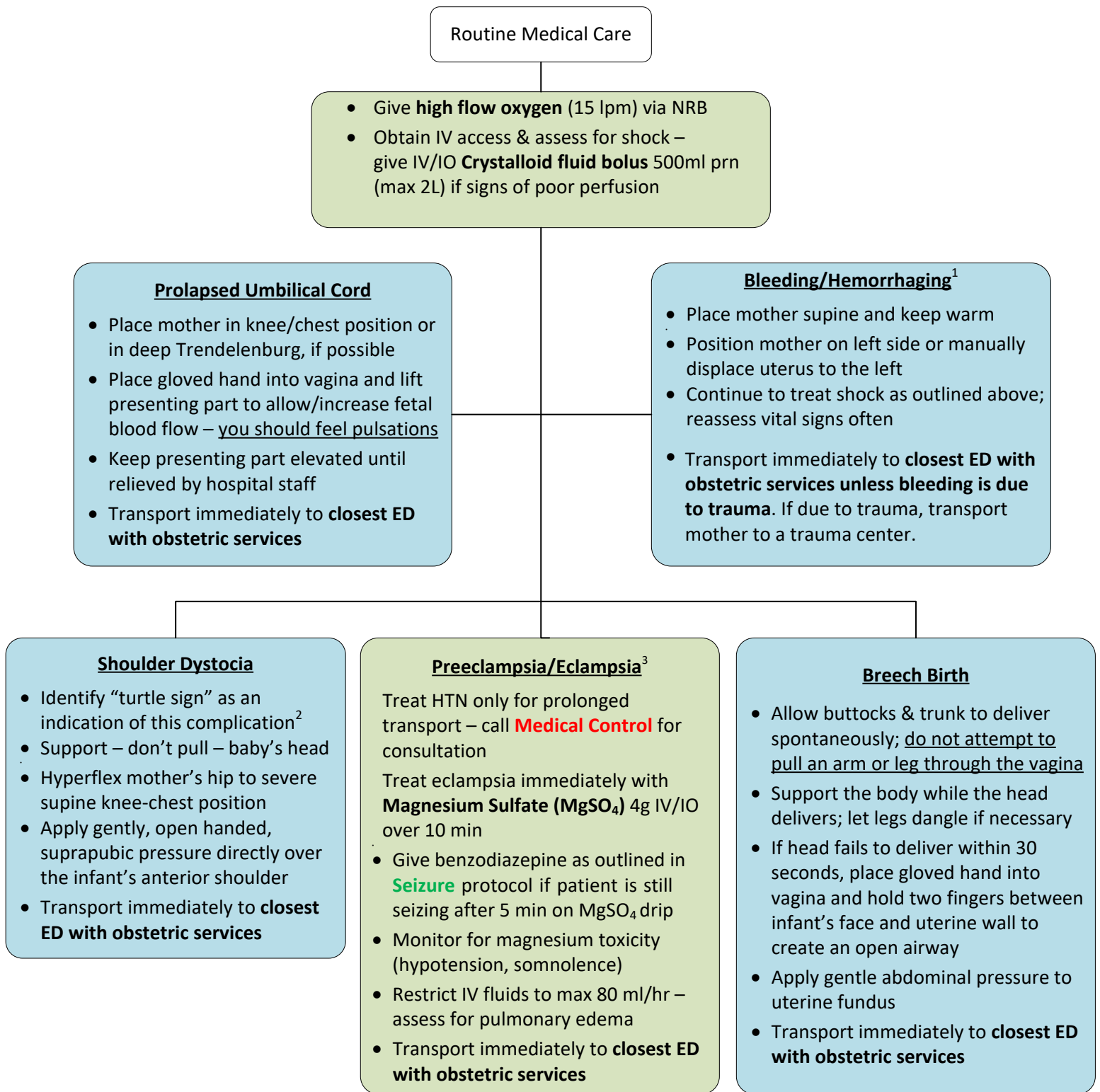


Obstetric Complications



¹ *Abruptio placentae* occurs when there is premature separation of the placenta from the uterine wall - bleeding is usually painful. Bleeding may be minimal to none if blood is trapped behind the placenta and unable to exit the uterus. *Placenta previa* occurs when the placenta is completely or partially blocking the cervical os – bleeding is usually painless. Mothers with prenatal care are usually aware of this diagnosis – obtain a thorough history.

² Turtle Sign - infant’s head will retract back into the vaginal canal after it has been delivered, like a turtle sticking its head out of its shell.

³ Signs of Preeclampsia: Hypertension (SBP > 160 or DBP > 110), headache, confusion, visual changes, pulmonary edema, upper abdominal (RUQ or epigastric) pain. Eclampsia = preeclampsia + seizures. Either may occur from 20 weeks gestation up to six weeks post-partum.

Chadwick