Emergency management of maternal collapse and arrest (BLS)

Modified Basic Life Support algorithm for in-hospital obstetric emergencies at more than 22-24 weeks gestation

Collapsed / sick pregnant woman

Shout for help and assess patient

Signs of life?

NO

Call Obstetric Emergency Team

Establish lateral tilt

CPR 30:2

Oxygen and airway adjuncts
Consider early intubation

Apply pads / monitor
Defibrillate if appropriate

Advanced Life Support
when Obstetric Emergency Team arrives

YES

Assess ABCDE

Recognise and treat causes
Oxygen, monitoring, IV access
Establish left lateral tilt

Call Obstetric Emergency Team if appropriate

Handover to Obstetric Emergency Team

Deliver baby within 5 minutes of ongoing arrest

Update in Anaesthesia 2009. Available at www.update.anaesthesiologists.org/category/emergency-algorithms/
Adapted from the Resuscitation Council (UK) - www.resus.org.uk