



TRANEXAMIC ACID FOR THE PREVENTION OF POSTPARTUM BLEEDING IN  
WOMEN WITH ANAEMIA: AN INTERNATIONAL, RANDOMISED, DOUBLE-  
BLIND, PLACEBO CONTROLLED TRIAL

## CLINICAL TRIAL PROTOCOL

Protocol Number:	ISRCTN62396133
NCT (clinicaltrials.gov)	NCT03475342

	NUMBER	DATE	DETAILS
FINAL VERSION	1.0	26/02/2018	First approved version
AMENDMENT	1.1	31/05/2018	Time frame for baseline haemoglobin and time of randomisation clarified. Indication for blood transfusion removed as secondary outcome
AMENDMENT	1.2	10/07/2018	Randomisation and primary outcome clarified.
AMENDMENT	1.3	9/07/2021	Trial end date extended. Steering committee members' details, contact details and sites list updated.
AMENDMENT	2.0	30/06/2022	Sample size increased and trial end date extended, steering committee members' details, contact details and sites list updated.

This protocol describes the procedures for enrolling participants into the WOMAN-2 trial. It does not provide guidance on patient management. Although it was drafted with care, corrections or amendments may be necessary. These will be circulated to investigators in the trial as applicable. Questions about the WOMAN-2 trial should be referred to the Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). The trial will follow the principles outlined in the International Conference on Harmonisation Good Clinical Practice (ICH GCP) guidelines, the trial protocol and applicable local regulations.



## PROTOCOL SUMMARY

<b>FULL TITLE OF STUDY</b>	Tranexamic acid for the prevention of postpartum bleeding in women with anaemia: an international, randomised, double-blind, placebo controlled trial.		
<b>SHORT TITLE</b>	World Maternal Antifibrinolytic Trial-2		
<b>TRIAL ACRONYM</b>	WOMAN-2		
<b>PROTOCOL NUMBER</b>	ISRCTN62396133	<b>LSHTM ETHICS REF</b>	15194
		<b>CLINICALTRIALS.GOV</b>	NCT03475342
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	<p>Postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) is responsible for about 100,000 maternal deaths every year, most of which occur in low and middle income countries. Tranexamic acid (TXA) reduces bleeding by inhibiting the enzymatic breakdown of fibrin blood clots. TXA decreases blood loss in surgery and reduces death due to bleeding after trauma. When given within three hours of birth, TXA reduces deaths due to bleeding in women with PPH. However, for many women, treatment of PPH is too late to prevent death. Over one-third of pregnant women in the world are anaemic and many are severely anaemic. These women have an increased risk of PPH and suffer more severe outcomes if PPH occurs. There is an urgent need to identify a safe and effective way to reduce postpartum bleeding in anaemic women.</p>		
<b>AIM:</b>	To determine the effect of TXA on postpartum bleeding in women with moderate or severe anaemia.		
<b>PRIMARY OUTCOME:</b>	Proportion of women with a clinical diagnosis of primary PPH. The cause of PPH will be described.		
<b>SECONDARY OUTCOMES:</b>	Maternal health and wellbeing (fatigue, headache, dizziness, palpitations, breathlessness, exercise tolerance, ability to care for her baby, health related quality of life, breastfeeding). Maternal blood loss and its consequences (estimated blood loss, haemoglobin, haemodynamic instability, blood transfusion, signs of shock, use of interventions to control bleeding). Other health outcomes (death by cause, vascular occlusive events, organ dysfunction, sepsis, side effects, time spent in higher level facility, length of hospital stay, and status of baby/ies).		
<b>TRIAL DESIGN:</b>	A randomised, double-blind, placebo controlled trial.		
<b>POPULATION:</b>	Women with moderate or severe anaemia who give birth vaginally.		
<b>DIAGNOSIS AND INCLUSION/EXCLUSION CRITERIA:</b>	Women with moderate or severe anaemia who have given birth vaginally and the responsible clinician is substantially uncertain as to whether or not to use TXA will be included. Women who experience postpartum haemorrhage before the umbilical cord is cut or clamped, are known to be allergic to TXA or its excipients, and women who are not legally adult unless their participation is approved by a guardian, will be excluded.		
<b>TRIAL TREATMENT, REFERENCE THERAPY, DOSE AND MODE OF ADMINISTRATION AND RESTRICTIONS:</b>	One gram of TXA or matching placebo (sodium chloride 0.9%) by intravenous injection immediately (within 15 minutes) after the umbilical cord is cut or clamped. Women will receive all clinically indicated prophylaxis for PPH. In the event PPH develops after randomisation, there is no need to withhold any treatment.		
<b>SETTING:</b>	The trial will be conducted in hospitals where anaemia in pregnancy is common in Africa and Asia.		
<b>DURATION OF TREATMENT AND PARTICIPATION:</b>	The trial treatment will be given as a slow intravenous injection immediately after cutting or clamping the umbilical cord and no later than 15 minutes after. Trial participation ends at discharge, death or 42 days after randomisation, whichever occurs first.		
<b>CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION:</b>	All women randomly allocated to receive TXA with those allocated to placebo, whether or not they received the allocated treatment (intention to treat analysis), will be compared.		
<b>CLINICAL PHASE</b>	3		
<b>OVERALL TRIAL START</b>	01/11/2017	<b>OVERALL END OF TRIAL</b>	31/10/2024

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	BACKGROUND	5
1.2	RATIONALE FOR TRIAL	6
1.3	SAFETY OF TRANEXAMIC ACID	7
<b>2.0</b>	<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>TRIAL DESIGN</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	OVERVIEW	8
3.2	TRIAL OVERVIEW	8
3.3	SETTING	9
3.4	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS NEEDED	9
3.5	IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATING INVESTIGATORS AND TRIAL SITES	9
3.6	ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS	10
3.7	INFORMATION GIVING AND CONSENT PROCEDURE	10
3.8	SCREENING AND ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES	11
3.9	RANDOMISATION	12
3.10	TRIAL TREATMENT	12
3.11	UN-BLINDING	16
3.12	OUTCOME MEASURES	16
3.13	DATA MANAGEMENT	17
3.14	FOLLOW-UP AND OUTCOME ASSESSMENT	18
3.15	SAFETY REPORTING	20
3.16	WITHDRAWAL CRITERIA	22
3.17	DEFINITION OF END OF TRIAL	22
3.18	MONITORING	23
3.19	TRIAL CLOSURE	24
3.20	STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSIS	24
<b>4.0</b>	<b>REGULATORY ISSUES</b>	<b>25</b>
4.1	APPROVALS	25
4.2	CONFIDENTIALITY	25
4.3	INDEMNITY	25
4.4	SPONSOR	25
4.5	FUNDING	25
4.6	AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS	26
<b>5.0</b>	<b>TRIAL MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>26</b>
5.1	TRIAL MANAGEMENT GROUP	26
5.2	NATIONAL COORDINATION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTRY	26
5.3	PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT	27

<b>5.4</b>	<b>INDEPENDENT DATA MONITORING COMMITTEE (DMC)</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>PUBLICATION POLICY</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>9.1</b>	<b>APPENDIX 1 – CONTACT DETAILS</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>9.2</b>	<b>APPENDIX 2 - CONSENT PROCEDURE OVERVIEW</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>9.3</b>	<b>APPENDIX 3 – BRIEF STUDY INFORMATION SHEET</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>9.4</b>	<b>APPENDIX 4 – PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>9.5</b>	<b>APPENDIX 5 – SAFETY REPORTING PROCEDURE</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>9.6</b>	<b>APPENDIX 6 – SCHEDULE OF EVENTS</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>9.7</b>	<b>APPENDIX 7 – LIST OF PARTICIPATING SITES</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>9.8</b>	<b>APPENDIX 8 – DATA MONITORING COMMITTEE</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>9.9</b>	<b>APPENDIX 9 – TRIAL STEERING COMMITTEE</b>	<b>47</b>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) is a leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity. PPH follows 6% to 10% of all births and accounts for around 100,000 maternal deaths every year.<sup>1-3</sup> Ninety-nine percent of deaths are in low and middle income countries (LMICs).<sup>4</sup> Many women who survive experience severe morbidity. Some women need surgery to control the bleeding (e.g. exploratory laparotomy, uterine artery ligation, brace sutures) and many require a hysterectomy, thus removing the possibility of having more children. Severe morbidity due to PPH interferes with breastfeeding and bonding.<sup>5</sup> PPH is a frightening experience and some women develop post-traumatic stress disorder.<sup>6</sup>

Many women with PPH are given a blood transfusion. However, blood is a scarce and costly resource in LMICs and access to safe blood is limited. The blood donation rate in Africa is 5 per 1000 population compared to 47 per 1000 population in the USA and it is estimated that 35 of the 40 sub-Saharan countries collect less than half of the donor blood required to meet their population needs.<sup>7</sup> Even when blood is available, because of problems with screening, recipients are at risk of blood borne infections and adverse transfusion reactions are common.

Anaemia is a cause and consequence of PPH. A cohort study in Assam, India found that women with moderate or severe anaemia had a greatly increased risk of PPH.<sup>8</sup> Women with moderate anaemia had a 50% increased risk of PPH, whereas those with severe anaemia had a ten-fold increased risk. The reasons for the increased risk is unclear but some researchers think that anaemic women are more susceptible to uterine atony due to impaired oxygen transport to the uterus. Anaemic women experience worse outcomes after PPH. An international survey of 275,000 women found that severe maternal outcomes after PPH were nearly three times more common in anaemic than in non-anaemic women.<sup>9</sup> Even moderate bleeding can be life threatening in anaemic women. Excessive bleeding after childbirth worsens maternal anaemia, raising the possibility of a vicious circle of bleeding and adverse outcomes. Fatigue due to anaemia limits a mother's wellbeing and her ability to care for her children.<sup>10</sup> Despite efforts to prevent anaemia, many women labour with low haemoglobin levels. Worldwide, over one-third of pregnant women are anaemic and many are severely anaemic.<sup>11</sup> The prevalence is highest in countries in central and West Africa as well as in South Asia where about half of pregnant woman are anaemic and it poses a severe public health problem.<sup>11, 12</sup> There is an urgent need to find an effective way to reduce postpartum bleeding in anaemic women.

Tranexamic acid (TXA) is a synthetic analogue of the amino acid lysine, which inhibits fibrinolysis by blocking the lysine binding sites on plasminogen. TXA reduces surgical bleeding and death due to bleeding in trauma patients. The WOMAN trial assessed the effects of TXA in 20,060 women with PPH.<sup>13</sup> TXA significantly reduced death due to bleeding with no adverse effects. When given within three hours of birth, TXA reduced death due to bleeding by nearly one-third (RR=0.69, 95% CI 0.52 to 0.91; P=0.008). However, for many women, treatment is too late to prevent death from PPH. Most PPH deaths occur in the first hours after giving birth and women with anaemia are at increased risk. Whilst there have

been some trials of TXA for the prevention of PPH, most have serious flaws and very few collected data on maternal wellbeing. There is very little reliable evidence about the effectiveness and safety of TXA for preventing postpartum bleeding, especially in high risk anaemic women.

The WOMAN-2 trial will determine the effects of TXA in women with moderate or severe anaemia who give birth vaginally. For pregnant women, the WHO defines moderate anaemia as haemoglobin levels of 70-99 g/L and severe anaemia as haemoglobin levels lower than 70 g/L.<sup>14</sup> Women with anaemia are at increased risk of PPH and experience worse outcomes should PPH occur. By including women with moderate or severe anaemia, participating women have the potential to benefit from the trial treatment. Results from clinical trials of TXA in elective surgery show that TXA reduces blood loss by about one third irrespective of baseline blood loss.<sup>15</sup> In other words, TXA treatment seems to move the entire distribution of bleeding towards reduced blood loss. If this is also the case in postpartum anaemic women, then trial participants have the potential to benefit whether or not they experience PPH, since even moderate or mild blood loss can have adverse health consequences in anaemic women.

Around 15,000 women with moderate or severe anaemia giving birth in hospitals primarily in Africa and Asia will be randomly allocated to receive TXA or matching placebo after the umbilical cord is cut or clamped. Although there is no evidence of any adverse effects on the baby, by randomising women after cutting or clamping the umbilical cord, any risk associated with placental transfer of the trial treatment to the baby is removed. The umbilical cord will be cut or clamped in the usual way and the timing will not be affected by the trial. TXA passes into breast milk in very low concentrations and so an antifibrinolytic effect in the baby is highly unlikely.

### **1.1.1 How does tranexamic acid prevent excessive blood loss?**

The ability to form a blood clot depends on fibrinogen levels. In both trauma and PPH, a low serum fibrinogen is a strong predictor of life-threatening bleeding. Fibrinogen declines rapidly during bleeding due to its consumption in fibrin clot formation. However, fibrinolysis due to the activation of plasmin by tissue plasminogen activator worsens fibrinogen depletion by breaking down clots. Tissue plasminogen activator mediated fibrinogenolysis also depletes fibrinogen levels. Early TXA administration has the potential to prevent excessive blood loss by interrupting the vicious circle of fibrinolysis and fibrinogen depletion. Women with anaemia are at increased risk of bleeding soon after delivery. If they can be treated with TXA before their fibrinogen levels fall, severe postpartum bleeding and its consequences may be prevented.

## **1.2 RATIONALE FOR TRIAL**

For some women the treatment of PPH is too late to prevent death and severe morbidity. Despite efforts to increase the availability of antenatal care, many women are anaemic at the time of giving birth and blood for transfusion is often unavailable. There is an urgent need to reduce postpartum bleeding and its adverse impacts on mothers, especially in anaemic women in LMICs. Knowing that TXA reduces deaths due to bleeding after PPH provides reason to believe that it might also prevent PPH. However, the evidence to date is insufficient to support the prophylactic use of TXA in routine clinical

practice. Most of the available trials of TXA for preventing PPH are small and unreliable, and few collect information on maternal health and wellbeing.<sup>16, 17</sup> One exception is the TRAAP trial<sup>18</sup> which enrolled 4079 women who were giving birth vaginally in French hospitals. Women were randomised to receive 1 g TXA or matching placebo within two minutes after delivery. Although women who received TXA were less likely to experience a blood loss of  $\geq 500$  mL (the primary end point) the difference was not statistically significant (RR=0.83, 95% CI 0.68 to 1.01; P=0.07). Fewer women in the TXA group received additional uterotonics (RR=0.75, 95% 0.61 to 0.92; P=0.006) however, there were no statistically significant differences in transfusion, change in haemoglobin or surgical intervention. The WOMAN-2 trial will provide reliable evidence on the effects of TXA when used to prevent PPH in anaemic women in LMICs. Although there was no increase in thrombotic events with TXA in the WOMAN or TRAPP trials, the administration of TXA to all women who give birth vaginally may be inappropriate. There is an increased risk of venous thrombosis in the postpartum period<sup>19</sup> and maternal anaemia is an established risk factor.<sup>20</sup> Treating all mothers would involve treating all women when only a proportion would benefit. However, in anaemic women the benefits could outweigh any harms so that a trial is justified. Inclusion in the trial will be limited to women giving birth vaginally. For women who give birth by caesarean section, especially for placenta abnormalities, the interval between cord clamping and PPH onset is short, often a matter of minutes, so the potential of TXA to prevent coagulopathy and PPH is limited.

### 1.3 SAFETY OF TRANEXAMIC ACID

TXA is a widely used treatment with a good safety profile. Although on pathophysiological grounds we might expect an increased risk of thrombosis with antifibrinolytic drugs, randomised trials including over 50,000 participants show no increased risk. High doses of TXA (doses from 7.5 g up to 20 g) have been associated with seizures in cardiac surgery but there was no increase in seizures in the CRASH-2 or WOMAN trials, which used a 1-2 g dose. TXA passes into breast milk in very low concentrations, approximately one hundredth of the concentration in maternal blood. An antifibrinolytic effect in the breast-fed infant is highly unlikely at this low concentration.<sup>21, 22</sup> No adverse events in breastfed babies were found in the WOMAN trial. Because TXA will be given after cutting or clamping the umbilical cord, there will be no risk of placental transfer to the baby. Nevertheless, we will collect data on nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, maternal thrombotic events, seizures and thromboembolic events in breastfed babies, in all participants as outcomes. These outcome events will not be reported using the adverse event reporting procedure. See Section 3.10.6 for detailed information on potential side effects.

## 2.0 OBJECTIVES

To determine the effects of TXA on postpartum bleeding and other health outcomes in women with moderate or severe anaemia.

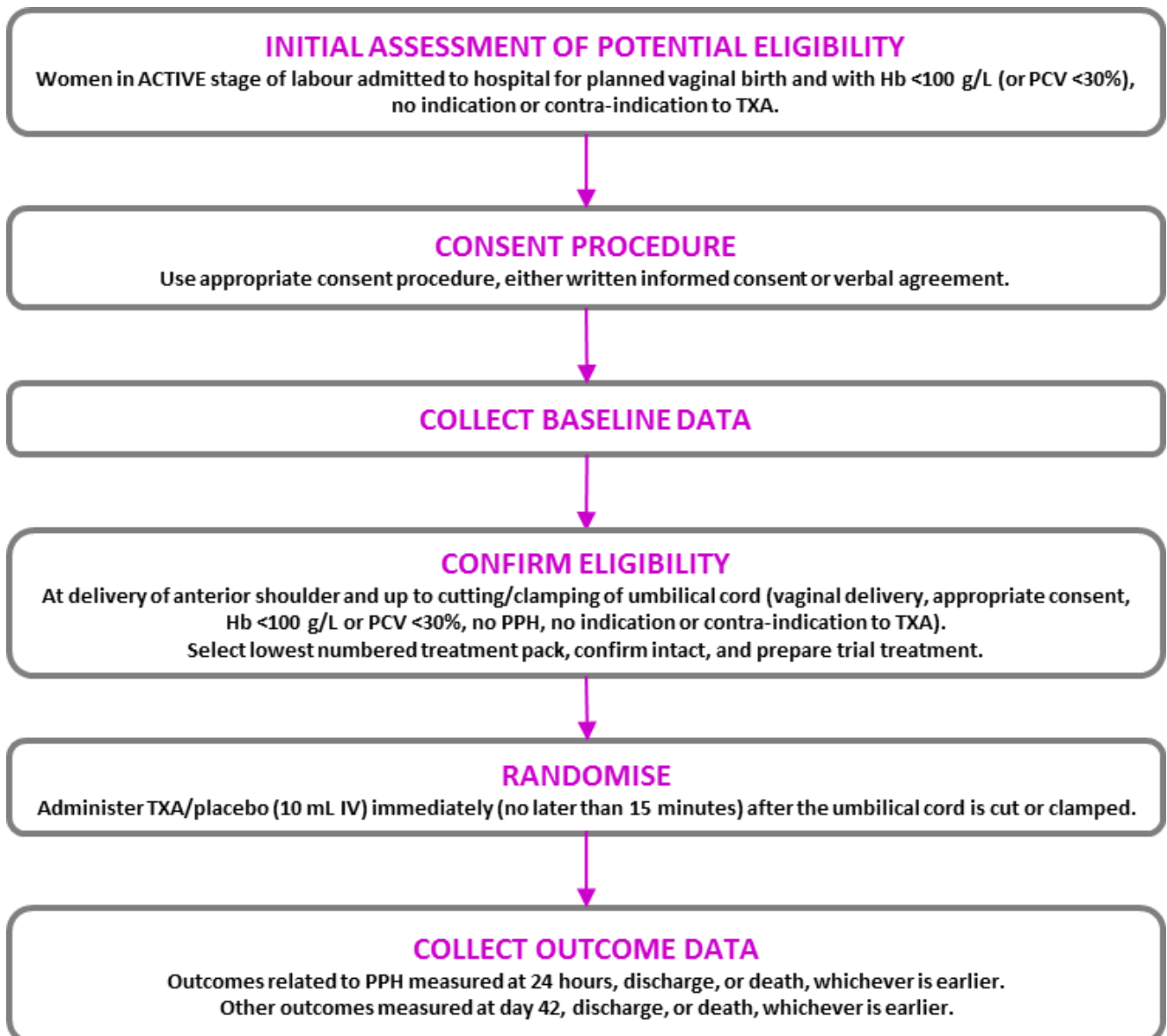


## 3.0 TRIAL DESIGN

### 3.1 OVERVIEW

The WOMAN-2 trial is a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of the effects of TXA in women with moderate or severe anaemia who are giving birth vaginally. Fifteen thousand women with moderate or severe anaemia who are giving birth in hospitals will be randomised to receive 1 g of TXA or matching placebo (sodium chloride 0.9%) by intravenous injection immediately and no later than 15 minutes after the umbilical cord is cut or clamped.

### 3.2 TRIAL OVERVIEW



### 3.3 SETTING

Women from hospitals where anaemia in pregnancy is common, primarily Africa and Asia will be enrolled. All participating hospitals will have the facilities to provide comprehensive essential obstetric care as defined by the World Health Organization.

### 3.4 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

For the purpose of the sample size calculation, a baseline risk of PPH of 10% was assumed. A trial with 10,000 women would have over 90% power (two sided alpha=5%) to detect a clinically important 25% reduction from 10% to 7.5% in PPH. The sample size estimate is based on two key assumptions (1) the baseline event rate and (2) the size of the treatment effect. The primary endpoint is PPH. The prevalence of PPH is estimated at 6% world-wide but 10% in Africa and Asia. If the event rate is 10% then the trial has 99% power. However, if the event rates is lower, the study will have less power. For example if the 6% estimate applies, the trial would have just over 90% power. Planning for the possibility that the event rate may be lower than anticipated is a sensible precaution. It is also possible that the treatment effect is not as large as predicted. Although a 25% reduction would be clinically important, a more modest reduction would also be worthwhile. The additional power also reduces the chance that a more modest treatment effect will be missed. Experience from the WOMAN trial shows that loss to follow-up will be minimal (less than 1%) and will not influence trial power.

#### **Rationale for increasing the sample size from 10,000 to 15,000 women in Version 2.0**

Since the start of the WOMAN-2 trial, there have been two more large trials of TXA for the prevention of PPH that each included over 1,000 women<sup>40,42</sup>. Like the TRAAP trial<sup>18,41</sup>, each of these trials had over 4,000 participants and the results of the three trials suggest that the treatment effect, although still clinically important, is more modest than first estimated. The three trials show that it would be more reasonable to expect a 15% (i.e.,  $1-0.85=0.15$  or 15%) reduction in risk of PPH with TXA. Nevertheless, if such a simple and widely practicable treatment reduced the risk of PPH by 15% this would have major global health implications, preventing millions of PPH cases each year world-wide. We also know a lot more about the event rate. If we assume that TXA reduces the risk of PPH by 15%, we can estimate the placebo group event rate from the overall event rate (treatment and placebo combined) seen in the trial. As of May 2022, the trial has recruited 8542 women and we expect a placebo event rate of 9% by the end of the WOMAN-2 trial. However, a study with 10,000 women and a placebo group event rate of 9% would have only 69% power to detect a 15% treatment benefit. This means there is a 31% chance that we might miss a real 15% PPH reduction. Because PPH is such an important maternal health problem for which TXA would offer an inexpensive and widely practicable solution, we feel that a 31% risk of missing a real treatment benefit is too high. A study with 15,000 women and a placebo group event rate of 9% would have 85% power to detect a 15% treatment benefit.

### 3.5 IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATING INVESTIGATORS AND TRIAL SITES

Participating investigators and trial sites will be identified from the international network of obstetricians that was established during the WOMAN trial and includes hospitals where anaemia in pregnancy is common. Before the trial can start at any site, all relevant regulatory and ethics approvals

must be in place and the site principal investigator must agree to conduct the trial according to the Protocol, Good Clinical Practice guidelines and all the relevant regulations.

## **3.6 ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS**

### **3.6.1 Inclusion criteria**

Women with moderate or severe anaemia (haemoglobin level <100 g/L or packed cell volume <30%), who have given birth vaginally and for who the responsible clinician is substantially uncertain whether to use TXA.

### **3.6.2 Exclusion criteria**

- Women who are not legally adult (<18 years) and permission not provided by a guardian.
- Women with a known allergy to TXA or its excipients.
- Women who develop PPH before umbilical cord is clamped/cut.

## **3.7 INFORMATION GIVING AND CONSENT PROCEDURE**

Wall posters and brief information leaflets (Appendix 3) will be used to inform pregnant women attending antenatal clinics and labour wards about the trial. Information may also be provided in videos. Eligible women with moderate or severe anaemia will be invited to take part in the trial. If women are in the active stage of labour and able to give fully informed consent, written consent will be obtained. However, many women arrive at hospital in the second stage of labour. Because these women are more likely to be anaemic and more likely to have a PPH it will be important to include these women in the trial. However, they may not have the physical or mental capacity to give fully informed consent due to the pain of labour, poor health or the urgency of the situation. In these cases, a clinician will assess the capacity of the woman and the most appropriate consent procedure will be used for her. An overview of the consent procedure is provided in Appendix 2.

The consent procedure will be adapted depending on the clinical situation and the capacity of each woman. The consent process used will be documented in the participant's medical records.

### **3.7.1 Potentially eligible woman identified in active labour:**

A member of the site trial team will approach the woman with the agreement of the primary carer. She will be given information about the trial (Appendix 4) and the trial will be discussed in a language she understands. The team member will explain the purpose of the trial, that it does not involve any change to her birth plan, and that she will receive all the usual interventions for preventing PPH and any other care she needs. The team member will explain that her participation is voluntary and that if she does not want to take part that we will respect her views and that her decision will not affect her care. If she wants to take part, the team member will obtain written consent (Appendix 4). If she is unable to read or write, the information sheet will be read to her and she will mark the consent form with a cross or

thumbprint. In this case, an impartial witness must provide a signature confirming the mark. A copy of the information sheet and consent form will be given to the woman. If a woman is in active labour and her capacity to consent is impaired, for example by analgesia or pain, consent will be obtained as described in the following section.

### **3.7.2 Potentially eligible woman identified in the second stage of labour:**

Many women in LMICs arrive at hospital in the second stage of labour. A study in Nigeria found that over one quarter of women arrived at the labour ward in the second stage.<sup>23</sup> Furthermore, women who arrived in the second stage were more often anaemic and at greater risk of PPH. However, many of these women will be unable to give fully informed consent due to pain, medication or the urgency of the situation. Fully informed consent will be obtained if her physical and mental capacity allows. If in the view of the responsible clinician a woman is unable to give fully informed consent, information to her level of capacity will be given and her verbal agreement obtained in the presence of an impartial witness. If an accompanying person (e.g. her partner or other family members) is present, their views will be considered but the opinion of the woman will prevail. Where verbal agreement has been obtained, a woman can be enrolled into the study. Fully informed consent for ongoing trial participation will be sought from the woman as soon as possible after she regains her full capacity.

**Women under 18 years old:** If a woman is under 18 years of age, her consent will be witnessed by a guardian who should be an appropriate responsible adult (e.g. her parents, husband, partner or other family member) who will countersign the consent form.

**Withdrawal of consent:** If the woman withdraws a previously given informed consent, refuses to consent for continuation in the trial, or if the woman dies and no written consent is available, her data will be handled as follows:

- Data collected to the point of withdrawal of consent will be used as part of the intention to treat analysis.
- In the event a woman dies and full consent is not available, data will be collected as per protocol as the woman would have given her agreement to take part in the trial. The relevant Ethics Committee will be informed.

## **3.8 SCREENING AND ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES**

**Routine clinical screening:** Many pregnant women are likely to arrive to give birth at a participating hospital without antenatal care, or with low compliance with treatments for anaemia. It is important for her clinical care that her haemoglobin (Hb) or Packed Cell Volume (PCV) value is known before giving birth. If no test has been done on admission to give birth, women planning to give birth vaginally will be offered a standard point of care haemoglobin assessment (HemoCue®) on arrival at hospital. Pregnant women will be informed about the purpose of the test before it is performed and they will have the right to accept or decline in line with any clinical care being offered. The test will be provided free of charge. Information on patients screened will be recorded on a Screening Log.

Women with a moderate or severe anaemia (haemoglobin level <100 g/L or PCV <30%) will be offered the opportunity to participate in the WOMAN-2 trial. Information will be given and consent obtained in line with Section 3.7.

**Baseline screening and eligibility confirmation:** Following completion of the appropriate informed consent procedure, data on demographics, anthropometry, clinical signs, pregnancy and medical history, risk factors for postpartum haemorrhage, about the birth, about the baby/ies and baseline treatment plan for the anaemia, will be collected in the Case Report Form (CRF) Booklet. Some data will be collected before a woman gives birth which will assess potential eligibility. Final eligibility will be confirmed at delivery of the baby's anterior shoulder up to when the cord is clamped or cut. This is because some women who plan to deliver vaginally and have provided consent may need a caesarean section or may develop PPH before the cord is cut or clamped which will make them ineligible for the trial.

### 3.9 RANDOMISATION

An IT coding expert supported by a statistician who are not involved in the conduct of the trial will prepare the randomisation codes. They will give a copy to the Sponsor's representative, who is also not associated with the conduct of the trial, for manual back-up. The IT coding expert will also send the codes to the trial drug manufacturer so that treatment packs can be prepared in accordance with the randomisation list. Trial staff (coordinating centres and sites) and patients will not have access to the randomisation codes until final database lock or unless un-blinding of an individual patient is requested.

Women who are eligible for inclusion will be randomised to receive active (tranexamic acid) or placebo (sodium chloride 0.9%) by intravenous injection.

Once eligibility has been confirmed at delivery of the baby's anterior shoulder and up to when the cord is clamped/cut, the next lowest consecutively numbered pack will be taken from a box of 20 treatment packs. The participant is considered randomised to the trial once administration of the trial treatment has started. Each site will keep a log of women they randomise to the trial. Site investigators will need to explain any out-of-sequence use of the trial treatment.

### 3.10 TRIAL TREATMENT

#### 3.10.1 Name and description of investigational medicinal product

Tranexamic acid (TXA) is a synthetic derivative of the amino acid lysine that exerts an antifibrinolytic effect through the reversible blockade of lysine binding sites on plasminogen molecules. TXA is sold under a variety of trade names for the treatment of bleeding due to general or local fibrinolysis in adults and children from one year of age.<sup>24</sup> We will compare TXA with matching placebo (sodium chloride 0.9%).

### 3.10.2 Drug administration and dosage schedule

A single dose of 1 gram of TXA or placebo (sodium chloride 0.9%) by intravenous injection will be given immediately after the umbilical cord is cut or clamped, and no more than 15 minutes later. There should be no delay in administering the trial medication after the umbilical cord is cut or clamped. Each treatment pack contains two ampoules each containing 500 mg (5 mL) of TXA or placebo (5 mL), and one sterile 10 mL syringe and 21G needle. Appropriately qualified staff will prepare the treatment to be administered by drawing up the contents of both ampoules into the 10 mL syringe using the 21G needle provided. Before administration, the expiry date will be checked and the randomisation number confirmed. The contents of both ampoules (total volume 10 mL) will be administered as a slow intravenous injection at rate of about 1 mL/minute using standard local intravenous administration procedure.

In the event of multiple births, the trial drug will be given after cutting or clamping the umbilical cord of the last baby.

### 3.10.3 Known drug reactions and interaction with other therapies

TXA should not be mixed with other medicinal products.

### 3.10.4 Trial restrictions and the use of concomitant medication

Women should receive all clinically indicated treatments. There is no restriction on the use of concomitant medication. Many women will develop PPH and these women should be treated in the usual way, which may include TXA. If any contra-indication to the trial treatment develops after randomisation, the trial treatment should be stopped.

### 3.10.5 Assessment of compliance

Trial team members at each site will record the date and time of trial treatment administration. If the trial treatment is not given, or is given outside of the prescribed time period, a reason will be required.

### 3.10.6 Risks and benefits

TXA reduces the risk of death due to bleeding in women with PPH. The WOMAN trial randomised 20,060 women with PPH to receive TXA or placebo.<sup>25</sup> The results show that TXA significantly reduces death due to bleeding (RR=0.81, 95% CI 0.65 to 1.00), particularly when given within three hours of giving birth (RR=0.69, 95% CI 0.52 to 0.91). There is also evidence from randomised trials that TXA improves outcomes in traumatic and surgical bleeding. The CRASH-2 trial of TXA in 20,211 bleeding trauma patients showed that TXA reduces death due to bleeding when given soon after injury.<sup>26, 27</sup> Treatment within three hours of injury reduced the risk of death due to bleeding by around 30% (RR=0.72, 95% CI

0.63 to 0.83). In surgery, a systematic review of 129 randomised trials found that TXA reduces the probability of receiving a blood transfusion by 38% (RR=0.62, 95% CI 0.58 to 0.68) and average blood loss by 34% (RR=0.66, 95% CI 0.65 to 0.67).<sup>15, 28</sup> There was no increased risk in adverse events with TXA in either the WOMAN trial, the CRASH-2 trial or the surgical systematic review.

TXA is widely used and well tolerated. Potential side-effects reported by manufacturers to be associated with use of TXA according to frequency are:<sup>29</sup>

- Common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ): diarrhoea, vomiting and nausea
- Uncommon ( $\geq 1/1000$  to  $< 1/100$ ): dermatitis allergic
- Rare: hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis; convulsions; visual disturbances including impaired colour vision; malaise with hypotension (generally following a too fast intravenous injection); arterial or venous thrombosis.

There is some evidence from cohort studies in cardiac surgery patients that high doses of TXA are associated with seizures.<sup>30-32</sup> The doses used in these studies (6-20 g) were substantially higher than the dose that will be used in the WOMAN-2 trial (1 g). There was no increased risk of seizures with TXA in the two large trials involving over 40,000 participants that used 1-2 g of TXA (WOMAN and CRASH-2 trials).

Women in the postpartum period have an increased risk of thromboembolic events compared with non-pregnant women. Although the absolute risk of venous thrombosis is low at around 2 per 1,000 woman-years, women in the postpartum period are four times more likely to suffer a venous thrombosis than non-pregnant women of the same age.<sup>33</sup> Although on mechanistic grounds TXA has the potential to increase the risk of venous thrombosis, randomised trials provide no evidence of any increased risk of venous thrombosis with TXA. In the WOMAN trial, the risk of venous thrombosis did not differ significantly between groups (Table 1). Because severe bleeding is a strong risk factor for vascular occlusive events and TXA reduces bleeding, it is possible that TXA reduces (rather than increases) the risk of thrombosis.<sup>34</sup>

**Table 1: Effect of tranexamic acid on thromboembolic events in the WOMAN trial<sup>13</sup>**

	TXA (n=10,033)	Placebo (n=9985)	RR (95% CI)	P value
<b>Any thromboembolic event</b>	30 (0.3%)	34 (0.3%)	0.88 (0.54 to 1.43)	0.603
<b>Venous events</b>	20 (0.2%)	25 (0.3%)	0.80 (0.44 to 1.43)	0.446
<b>DVT</b>	3 (0.03%)	7 (0.07%)	0.43 (0.11 to 1.65)	0.203
<b>PE</b>	17 (0.2%)	20 (0.2%)	0.85 (0.44 to 1.61)	0.611
<b>Arterial events</b>	10 (0.1%)	9 (0.09%)	1.11 (0.45 to 2.72)	0.827
<b>Myocardial infarction</b>	2 (0.02%)	3 (0.03%)	0.66 (0.11 to 3.97)	0.651
<b>Stroke</b>	8 (0.08%)	6 (0.06%)	1.33 (0.46 to 3.82)	0.599

TXA is excreted in the urine unchanged with 90% of the dose excreted in the 12 hours after administration. Plasma concentrations are higher in renal insufficiency and with repeated dosing there is a risk of accumulation. However, because a single dose of 1 g is used in the WOMAN-2 trial, there will



be no risk of accumulation. Unpublished data from the manufacturer indicates that TXA passes into breast milk at a concentration of approximately one hundredth of the concentration in the maternal blood and an antifibrinolytic effect in the infant is unlikely.<sup>21, 22</sup> There was no increase in adverse effects in infants of mothers who received TXA in the WOMAN trial. Observational studies of TXA use during breastfeeding also found no adverse effects.<sup>35</sup>

### **3.10.7 Investigator's Brochure (IB)**

Information about TXA and the manufacture of the placebo will be detailed in an Investigator's Brochure (IB). The IB will be reviewed annually. Any studies that provide reliable information on the safety and efficacy of TXA that would help investigators to assess the risks and benefits of TXA use, will be included. Additionally, information on updates from relevant manufacturers of TXA will be included. Information relevant to the safety and wellbeing of the participants or the scientific value of the trial will be communicated to investigators, Data Monitoring Committee, ethics committees and regulatory authorities.

### **3.10.8 Preparation and labelling of medication to be used in the trial**

TXA which has Marketing Authorisation in the United Kingdom will be purchased from the open market. Marketing Authorisation guarantees that drug manufacture and release complies with Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP). A GMP certified manufacturer will prepare the matching placebo (sodium chloride 0.9%). Ampoules and packaging will be identical in appearance for both TXA and placebo. A clinical trial supply company will carry out the blinding process and first-stage Qualified Person release. The blinding process involves replacing the manufacturer's label with the clinical trial label that has the randomisation number (used as pack identification). Other label text will be identical for TXA and placebo and complies with requirements for clinical trials. Checks on a random sample of drug packs to check the blinding will be carried out to compare known TXA with blinded samples to confirm which ones are TXA. The samples will then be un-blinded to assure accuracy of the labelling.

### **3.10.9 Drug storage and supply**

When a site is ready to start, a box containing 20 trial treatment packs will be sent by the CTU or the in-country Coordinating Centre. Thereafter, site stock level will depend on the site's average recruitment rate. Each time a participant is randomised and the randomisation data are entered in the trial database, one pack from the site's stock will be automatically deducted. When stock reaches the site's minimum level, the CTU or in-country Coordinating Centre will send another box (or boxes). Sites will need to send screening and entry data to the CTU as soon as possible after randomisation (ideally within 24 hours). Sites will have to report all used trial treatments packs and those that are lost or damaged, to the CTU on a Drug Accountability Log.

At each site, the trial treatment packs will be stored securely, but in a place where they are accessible to the trial team for randomisation at all times. Although TXA is heat stable, it will be stored in a dry place where it is protected from excessive heat and freezing.

The expiry date of the trial treatment pack will be printed on the ampoule label, the treatment pack and the drug box. When a batch of treatment packs is close to expiry, the Principal Investigator (PI)/trial pharmacist/delegate will be asked to arrange destruction of affected packs and record this on a Drug Destruction Form (DDF). When a site is to be closed, the PI/trial pharmacist/delegate will arrange destruction of all unused packs and return a completed DDF to the CTU to confirm disposal.



### 3.11 UN-BLINDING

In general, there should be no need to un-blind the allocated intervention. Un-blinding should occur only in those rare cases when the clinician believes that a participant's management depends importantly upon knowledge of whether the participant received TXA or placebo. If a woman in the trial develops PPH, she should receive all clinically indicated treatments. There should be no need to un-blind before initiating treatment with TXA. Even if a woman received 1 g of TXA immediately after giving birth, TXA has a large therapeutic index and a second 1 g dose is well within the dosing range. In those few cases when urgent un-blinding is necessary, a 24-hour telephone service is provided by the CTU. The caller will receive a voice message, text message or email informing them whether the woman received TXA or placebo. The investigator should complete an un-blinding request/report form within five working days of un-blinding. If a Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction (SUSAR) is reported (see Section 3.15), un-blinding may be needed for reporting to Regulatory Agencies and Ethics Committees.

### 3.12 OUTCOME MEASURES

Once randomised, we will collect follow-up data even if the trial treatment is not completed. Data will be collected within the first 24 hours after administration of the trial treatment and final outcome data will be collected when a woman is discharged from the randomising hospital, at death or 42 days post randomisation, whichever occurs first. In the event a woman is discharged or dies within 24 hours, all outcomes will be assessed at the same time. Adverse events will be collected from administration of the trial medication up to day 42.

#### Primary outcome:

The primary outcome is a clinical diagnosis of primary PPH. This may be an estimated blood loss of more than 500 mL or any blood loss sufficient to compromise haemodynamic stability within 24 hours of administration of trial medication. Haemodynamic instability is based on clinical judgement and assessed using clinical signs (low systolic blood pressure, tachycardia, reduced urine output). The cause of PPH will be described.

#### Secondary outcomes:

Maternal blood loss and its consequences:

- Postpartum blood loss (clinical estimation)
- Haemoglobin
- Haemodynamic instability
- Shock index
- Receipt of blood transfusion
- Use of interventions to control postpartum bleeding (medical and surgical)

Maternal health and well-being:

- Symptoms of anaemia (e.g. fatigue, headache, dizziness, palpitations, breathlessness)
- Exercise tolerance (short 6-minute walk test)
- Quality of Life (overall wellbeing, ability to care for herself and her baby, breastfeeding)

Other health outcomes:

- Vascular occlusive events (pulmonary embolism (PE), deep vein thrombosis (DVT), stroke, myocardial infarction (MI)).
- Organ dysfunction
- Sepsis
- Expected side effects (nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, seizure)
- Adverse events
- Death (cause and time to death will be described)
- Length of hospital stay
- Admission to and time spent in higher level facility
- Status of baby/ies and any thromboembolic events

### **3.13 DATA MANAGEMENT**

#### **3.13.1 Source Data**

Source documents include, but are not limited to, hospital records (from which medical history, previous and concurrent medication, clinical outcomes and adverse events may be summarised onto the CRFs), clinical and office log books, laboratory and pharmacy records, diaries and correspondence. CRF entries will be considered source data if the CRF is the site of the original recording (e.g. quality of life questionnaire, 6-minute walk test, breathlessness score). Trial data will be kept confidential and stored securely. On all trial-specific documents, other than the consent form, the participant will be referred to by the trial participant screening ID number and not by name.

#### **3.13.2 Access to Source Data**

Direct access will be granted by participating sites to authorised representatives from the Sponsor, host institution and the regulatory authorities to permit trial-related monitoring, audits and inspections.

#### **3.13.3 Data Recording and Record Keeping**

All trial data will be entered on to paper CRFs and then entered onto the trial database by authorised site staff. The participants will be identified by a unique trial specific number. The name and any other identifying detail will not be included in trial data electronic file used for analysis or publication. An Investigator's Site File (ISF) containing the essential documents for the trial will be provided by the CTU. The ISF must be updated by the trial site throughout the course of the trial.

#### **3.13.4 Participant Confidentiality**

The trial staff will ensure that participants' confidentiality is maintained. Participants will be identified only by a participant screening ID number on all trial documents and any electronic database, with the exception of the paper CRF which remains at participating sites, where participant initials may be added. All documents will be stored securely and only accessible by trial staff and authorised personnel. The trial will comply with relevant Data Protection regulations including the UK General Data Protection Regulation.

### 3.13.5 Serious Breaches and Protocol Deviations

A serious breach is defined as “a breach of GCP or the trial protocol which is likely to affect to a significant degree (a) the safety or physical or mental integrity of the subjects of the trial; or (b) the scientific value of the trial”.

In the event that a serious breach is suspected, the site must inform the CTU within 1 working day. The CTU will report all serious breaches to the relevant REC committees, regulatory authorities within the timeline required by each participating country.

A protocol deviation is a departure from the approved protocol’s procedures made with or without prior approval. Such departures may be major or minor/administrative in nature. All deviations must be reported to the CTU within 24 hours of it becoming known to the trial team.

## 3.14 FOLLOW-UP AND OUTCOME ASSESSMENT

Trial follow-up ends at hospital discharge, death or 42 days post-randomisation, whichever comes first. However, adverse event reporting will continue up to day 42. Date and time of assessments will be recorded.

### 3.14.1 Primary outcome

The primary outcome will be a clinical diagnosis of PPH within 24 hours of administration of the trial treatment or at discharge from hospital, whichever is earlier. This may be an estimated blood loss of more than 500 mL or any blood loss sufficient to compromise haemodynamic stability within 24 hours of delivery. Haemodynamic instability is based on clinical judgement and assessed using clinical signs (e.g. low systolic blood pressure, tachycardia, reduced urine output). The cause of PPH will be described.

### 3.14.2 Secondary outcomes

The following secondary outcomes will be assessed at 24 hours after administration of trial treatment or discharge from hospital, whichever is earlier.

- Postpartum blood loss: clinical estimation of blood loss since administration of trial treatment.
- Haemoglobin: using HemoCue® point of care test.
- Haemodynamic instability (within 24 hours of administration of trial medication): presence of haemodynamic instability based on clinical signs e.g. low blood pressure, tachycardia, reduced urine output requiring intervention (e.g. intravenous fluid).
- Shock index - heart rate/systolic blood pressure: The lowest recorded systolic blood pressure and the corresponding heart rate.

The following outcomes will be assessed at death, discharge from hospital or 42 days, whichever is earlier.

- Quality of life: the following parameters will be measured by questionnaire, overall wellbeing, ability to care for herself and her baby, and breastfeeding.

- Symptoms of anaemia: the following parameters will be assessed by questionnaire, fatigue, headache, dizziness, palpitations, breathlessness, flaring of the alae nasi.
- Expected side effects of trial medication: the following side effects will be recorded, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea.
- Exercise tolerance: assessed using the 6-minute walk test.<sup>36</sup>
- Blood transfusion: number of units given (units started before administration of trial medication will not be included). Information on type of transfusion will be collected.
- Use of interventions to control primary postpartum haemorrhage (medical and surgical): including uterotonics, removal of placenta/placenta fragments, intrauterine balloon tamponade, bimanual uterine compression, external aortic compression, non-pneumatic anti-shock garments, uterine artery embolisation, uterine compression suture, hysterectomy and laparotomy to control bleeding.
- Vascular occlusive events: including pulmonary embolism (PE), deep vein thrombosis (DVT), stroke and myocardial infarction (MI).
  - PE: diagnosis will be confirmed by radiological examination.
  - DVT: diagnosis will be confirmed by ultrasound or radiological examination.
  - Stroke: defined as ‘a new focal neurological deficit with signs and symptoms lasting more than 24 hours’.
  - MI: diagnosis in the presence of one of the following: (i) ECG showing unequivocal pathological Q waves and/or ST segment elevation or depression in serial recordings; (ii) history of typical or atypical angina pectoris, together with equivocal changes on the ECG and elevated enzymes; (iii) history of typical angina pectoris and elevated enzymes with no changes on the ECG or not available; (iv) fatal cases, whether sudden or not, with naked-eye appearances of fresh MI and/or recent coronary occlusion at necropsy (antemortem thrombus, haemorrhage into an atheromatous plaque or embolism)
- Organ dysfunction:
  - Cardiovascular dysfunction - shock, cardiac arrest (absence of pulse/ heart beat and loss of consciousness), use of continuous vasoactive drugs, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, severe hypoperfusion (lactate >5 mmol/l or >45 mg/dl), severe acidosis (pH <7.1).
  - Respiratory dysfunction - acute cyanosis, gasping, severe tachypnea (respiratory rate >40 breaths per minute), severe bradypnea (respiratory rate <6 breaths per minute), intubation and ventilation not related to anaesthesia, severe hypoxemia (O<sub>2</sub> saturation <90% for ≥60 min or PAO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub> <200).
  - Renal dysfunction - Oliguria non-responsive to fluids or diuretics, dialysis for acute renal failure, severe acute azotemia (creatinine ≥300 μmol/mL or ≥3.5 mg/dL).
  - Coagulation/ haematologic dysfunction - Failure to form clots, massive transfusion of blood or red cells (≥5 units), severe acute thrombocytopenia (<50,000 platelets/mL).
  - Hepatic dysfunction - jaundice in the presence of eclampsia, severe acute hyperbilirubinemia (bilirubin >100 μmol/L or >6.0 mg/dL).
  - Neurologic dysfunction - prolonged unconsciousness (lasting ≥12 hours)/coma (including metabolic coma), stroke, uncontrollable fits/status epilepticus, total paralysis.
- Sepsis: diagnosis is based on the presence of both infection and a systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS). SIRS requires two or more of the following: a) temperature <36°C or >38°C (b) heart rate >90 beats/min (c) respiratory rate >20 breaths/min (d) white blood cell count <4x10<sup>9</sup>/L (<4000/mm<sup>3</sup>) or >12x10<sup>9</sup>/L (>12,000/mm<sup>3</sup>)
- In-hospital death: cause and time of death will be described.
- Length of hospital stay.

- Admission to and time spent in higher level facility: higher level facilities include High Dependency and Intensive Care Units.
- Status of baby/ies: the status (dead/alive)
- Any thromboembolic events in breastfed babies (may include any venous or arterial thrombosis (thrombosis of limb artery/deep veins, renal artery/veins, pulmonary embolism, hepatic veins, caval veins, intracardiac thrombosis, portal vein, mesenteric veins/artery, cerebral veins, retinal vein, ischemic stroke, arteries, aorta, myocardial infarction, microvascular thrombosis from purpura fulminans or disseminated intravascular coagulation).
- Adverse events: see section 3.15.

### 3.15 SAFETY REPORTING

Outcome events recorded on the CRF Booklet up to death, discharge or day 42 (whichever is sooner) will not be included in the definitions detailed in Section 3.15.1. These outcome events include PPH, anaemia, vascular occlusive events, organ dysfunction, sepsis, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and seizure.

The CTU will present data on these outcome events to the independent Data Monitoring Committee for regular review. These outcome events will not be reported using the Adverse Events reporting procedure. However, all other medical events fulfilling the Adverse Event definition will be reported up to 42 days after administration of trial treatment (See Section 3.15.3 for reporting procedure). In the event a woman is discharged before 42 days, adverse events to be reported after discharge will also include all outcome events.

At discharge, participants will be given an ‘alert card’ that identifies them as a WOMAN-2 participant, and asked to present this card to anyone providing medical care after discharge, up to day 42. Instructions to ensure the adverse events reporting procedures for the trial are followed will be detailed on the card.

#### 3.15.1 Definitions

Term	Definition
Adverse Event (AE)	Any untoward medical occurrence in a participant to whom a medicinal product has been administered, including occurrences which are not necessarily caused by or related to that product. An AE can therefore be any unfavourable and unintended sign (including an abnormal laboratory finding), symptom, or disease temporally associated with the use of an investigational medicinal product (IMP).
Adverse Reaction (AR)	Any untoward and unintended response in a participant to an investigational medicinal product which is related to any dose administered to that participant. The phrase “response to an investigational medicinal product” means that a causal relationship between a trial medication and an AE is at least a reasonable possibility, i.e. the relationship cannot be ruled out.
Serious Adverse Event (SAE)	A serious adverse event is any untoward medical occurrence that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• results in death;</li> <li>• is life-threatening;</li> <li>• requires inpatient hospitalisation or prolongation of existing hospitalisation;</li> <li>• results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>other ‘important medical events’ may also be considered serious if they jeopardise the participant or require an intervention to prevent one of the above consequences.</li> </ul>
Serious Adverse Reaction (SAR)	An adverse event that is both serious and, in the opinion of the reporting investigator, believed with reasonable probability to be due to the trial treatments, based on the information provided.
Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction (SUSAR)	A serious adverse reaction, the nature and severity of which is not consistent with the information about the medicinal product in question set out in the Investigator’s Brochure (IB).

### 3.15.2 Causality

When completing the Adverse Event reporting form, the site PI or medical delegate will assign a causality using the definitions in the table below.

Relationship	Description
Suspected to be related	There is evidence to suggest a causal relationship with administration of the trial treatment and the influence of other factors is unlikely.
Not suspected to be related	There is little or no evidence to suggest there is a causal relationship (e.g. the event did not occur within a reasonable time after administration of the trial treatment). There is another reasonable explanation for the event (e.g. the participant’s clinical condition, other concomitant treatment).

If there is any doubt about the causality, the site PI or medical delegate will inform the CTU. In the case of discrepant views on causality between the investigator and others, all parties will discuss the case. In the event that no agreement is made, both points of view are to be recorded and reported onwards as required.

### 3.15.3 Reporting procedures

*Adverse Reactions (ARs)/Adverse Events (AEs):* Adverse Event Reporting Forms will be provided in the CRF Booklet. Site Investigators will report non serious ARs and AEs using these.

*Serious Adverse Reactions (SARs)/Serious Adverse Events (SAEs):* Adverse Events and Adverse Reactions which fulfill the serious criteria will be reported to the CTU within 24 hours of the Principal Investigator (PI) or delegate becoming aware of the event using the Adverse Event Reporting Form. The form will be completed and submitted to the CTU with as much detail of the event that is available at that time. If awaiting further details, a follow up report will be submitted promptly upon receipt of any additional information (but no later than five working days of becoming aware of the event). The site PI or medical delegate must record the event with an assessment of seriousness, causality and expectedness. Events relating to a pre-existing condition or any planned hospitalisations for elective treatment of a pre-existing condition will not be reported as SAEs.

*Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reactions:* All SAEs assigned by the Site PI or medical delegate as suspected to be related to the trial treatment and which are unexpected, will be classified as SUSARs and will be subject to expedited reporting to each participating Regulatory Authority, Ethics Committees and the Sponsor within seven working days of being reported to the CTU.

In the case of a suspected, unexpected, serious adverse reactions (SUSAR), the staff at the site will:

1. Contact the CTU immediately by phone or email to inform them of the event and obtain guidance on the reporting procedure if needed.
2. Submit an Adverse Event Report, completed with all available information (signed and dated) within 24 hours, together with relevant treatment forms and anonymised copies of all relevant clinical investigations.
3. Submit any additional information promptly upon request.

Emergency contact details for advice on reporting SAEs and SUSARs can be found in the Investigator's Study File.

Adverse Event Reporting Forms are submitted in the following ways:

- Directly via the trial database (see Investigator's Study File for full details)
- Fax: +44 (0)20 7299 4663
- Email: woman2.data@lshtm.ac.uk

AEs considered related to the trial medication as judged by a site investigator or the CTU will be followed either until resolution, or the event is considered stable.

#### **3.15.4 Adverse Event Reporting to Relevant Authorities**

All SUSARs will be reported by the CTU or Sponsor Representative to the relevant Regulatory Authority and REC and other parties as applicable. For fatal and life-threatening SUSARS, this will be done no later than seven calendar days after the CTU is first made aware of the reaction. Any additional relevant information will be reported within eight calendar days of the initial report. All other SUSARs will be reported within 15 calendar days. Treatment codes will be un-blinded for specific participants if required. Site Principal Investigators will be informed of all SUSARs for all studies using TXA sponsored by LSHTM, whether or not the event occurred in the WOMAN-2 trial.

All other Adverse Events will be reported as requested by the Relevant Authorities.

#### **3.16 WITHDRAWAL CRITERIA**

The trial ends for a participant at death or at day 42 whichever occurs first. A participant can leave the trial at any time. A participant may provide the research team with the reason(s) for leaving the study, but is not required to do so. The trial team will inform the participant to return if she has any medical concerns. If a participant decides to withdraw from the trial, data collected up to the point of withdrawal will be used as part of the intention-to-treat analysis, but no other data will be collected unless the woman gives her permission to do so. In all cases, her wishes will be respected.

#### **3.17 DEFINITION OF END OF TRIAL**

The end of trial will be day 42 of the last participant randomised.



## 3.18 MONITORING

### 3.18.1 Risk assessment

Data on side effects that might be associated with anaemia, postpartum bleeding or TXA use will be collected and will be presented to the independent data monitoring committee. The trial involves seeking consent, giving the trial drug using a routine clinical procedure, collecting outcome information (mostly from the hospital notes), a haemoglobin estimation, timed walk test, and a quality of life questionnaire. Prior to discharge the woman's haemoglobin concentration will be measured using a point of care test (HemoCue®). This involves a pinprick blood sample and takes only a few minutes. This test will provide clinically useful information for the patient and treating doctors.

The timed walk assesses the woman's functional exercise capacity. The test measures the distance that a woman can walk on a flat, hard surface in a period of six minutes. A chair will be placed along the walking area so she can rest during the test if she chooses to. The results should give a good indication of the woman's ability to carry out her daily physical activities. The test is safe in patients with cardiopulmonary disease and in frail older populations. The test will not be done if there is a history of unstable angina or myocardial infarction in the past month but these conditions will be extremely rare in postpartum women. Apart from the trial drug, all other clinical care will be as per usual practice. For these reasons, the risk of harm or injury (whether physical, psychological, social or economic) from participating in the trial is assessed to be low.

The outcome questionnaire will ask participants about their mental and physical wellbeing, and breastfeeding. It is possible that these questions may bring up feelings for participants such as discomfort, worry, or sadness. Trial staff will be trained to ask the questions in a sensitive manner and to look for signs of discomfort in participants. If the trial team member detects discomfort in any participant, they will ask permission to continue. If the trial team member has any concerns about the wellbeing of the participant, s/he should refer her back to the treating clinician for further assessment and ongoing care.

### 3.18.2 Central monitoring

The trial will be conducted in accordance with the current approved protocol, GCP, relevant regulations guidance provided in the Investigator's Study File and the trial's standard operating procedures.

A detailed monitoring plan will be developed. In summary, the CTU will closely monitor the trial to ensure the rights, safety, and wellbeing of the trial participants and to ensure the accuracy of the data. All coordinating centres and site trial teams will be trained in the trial procedures and provide extensive guidance. Central monitoring methods will be used by the CTU. A sample of consent forms from all sites will be monitored at the CTU to make sure they are properly completed. In addition, data management and statistical checks of data (central statistical monitoring) will be done to ensure trial participants meet the inclusion criteria and trial treatment is administered in line with the protocol. Event rates for primary and secondary outcomes will be monitored. Sites with higher or lower than expected event rates will be selected for further monitoring. Quantitative variables (systolic blood pressure (SBP), heart rate (HR), respiratory rate, and blood loss) will be monitored to check the accuracy of the data. For example, the coefficient of variation for the data at each site will be examined and those where there is any reason for concern will be selected for further monitoring.



### 3.18.3 Monitoring at local site

Onsite monitoring will be carried out at any site flagged as high risk on central statistical monitoring and other central monitoring procedures. Source data verification will be done on at least 10% of the trial data. Additionally, site self-monitoring will be carried out where needed. This will involve the PI/delegate at site monitoring themselves against a standardised checklist. LSHTM CTU will require investigators and their institutions to provide access to source data and all trial related documents for monitoring, audits, ethics committee review and regulatory inspection. All trial-related and source documents including medical records, original consent forms and original CRFs must be kept safely. Investigators must plan in advance of the trial start where the trial-related documents will be stored and how they will be accessed. All documents must be made available when required for monitoring/audit/inspection during the course of the trial and for up to five years after the end of the overall trial.

### 3.19 TRIAL CLOSURE

Trial closure will happen in the following circumstances:

- Routine - in preparation for the completion of a trial.
- Unscheduled - as a result of failure to obtain continuation funding, Data Monitoring Committee request and Trial Steering Committee agreeing based on negative or positive findings, findings in other studies that impact on this trial, or other unforeseen events (e.g. safety concerns, civil unrest, etc).

### 3.20 STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSIS

A detailed Statistical Analysis Plan will be drafted and agreed with the DMC for their ongoing review and will be finalised before the trial database is locked for final analysis.

#### 3.20.1 Main analysis

Analyses will be on an 'intention-to-treat' basis. Data will be analysed by randomised group, irrespective of whether they received the intervention. Demographic and other baseline characteristics will be tabulated. Descriptive statistics for continuous variables will include the mean, standard deviation, median, range, and the number of observations. Categorical variables will be presented as numbers, and as percentages of those participants who had the assessment. All statistics will be presented by treatment group. Effect measures will be relative risk and absolute risk reduction. Precision will be quantified using 95% confidence intervals. Planned subgroup analyses include analyses based on the severity of anaemia (moderate versus severe) and type of labour (induced or augmented versus spontaneous). In a large trial such as WOMAN-2, baseline characteristics of participants that may influence the outcome are expected to be evenly distributed between the treatment and placebo groups, so that any difference in outcome can be attributed to the intervention. However, it is still possible that a chance imbalance in important prognostic factors could influence the results. To investigate this possibility, an analysis of the effect of treatment that is adjusted for baseline risk will be conducted. A prognostic model will be built based on pre-specified baseline variables and use it to estimate the predicted risk of the outcome at baseline. Checks will be made to ensure that there are sufficient patients in the severe anaemia subgroup by limiting recruitment to these patients if necessary. For subgroups, relative risks and confidence intervals with two-sided p-values will be reported. Test of homogeneity of effect across the subgroups will be done and a p-value reported.

Unless there is evidence against the null hypothesis of homogeneity of effects the overall RR will be taken as the most reliable guide to the approximate RR in all subgroups.

## **4.0 REGULATORY ISSUES**

### **4.1 APPROVALS**

Approval from the LSHTM Research Ethics Committee has been obtained. Approval will be obtained from the relevant Research Ethics Committees and Regulatory Authority of each participating country. Where site approvals is needed, this will be obtained before the trial starts.

### **4.2 CONFIDENTIALITY**

Any identifiable data obtained by the CTU will be stored securely and confidentiality protected in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2018. Local investigators will collect consent, baseline, outcome and adverse event data and will send them to the CTU. Investigators will transmit data to the CTU by entering them into the online trial database. Investigators will be given a unique username, password and PIN to access the database. The CTU will securely store copies of consent forms sent for monitoring and these will be destroyed at trial closure. Original copies of CRFs, consent forms and source data will be kept securely at each participating site. These must be archived securely for five years after the overall end of the trial. Only people authorised by the Project Director/Project Manager will have access to the WOMAN-2 trial database. The trial database will be accessed through a complex password system which includes password ageing mechanism (i.e. passwords will be changed every 90 days).

### **4.3 INDEMNITY**

LSHTM accepts responsibility attached to its sponsorship of the trial and, as such, would be responsible for claims for any non-negligent harm suffered by anyone as a result of participating in this trial. The indemnity is renewed on an annual basis and LSHTM assures that it will continue renewal of the indemnity for the duration of this trial.

### **4.4 SPONSOR**

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) will act as the Sponsor for this trial.

### **4.5 FUNDING**

Wellcome and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are funding this study. Women will not be paid for taking part as there is no special travelling or time off work needed. A small practical gift as a thank you will be given to women who participate. The monetary value of the gift will not exceed three British pounds. Where a woman returns to hospital for any adverse event associated with the trial, her travel costs will be reimbursed. Trial sites will be reimbursed for staff time and consumable costs associated with the conduct of the trial. An agreement with each site will be in place prior to the start of the trial.

## 4.6 AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

The trial is subject to audit by the LSHTM under their legal obligation as Sponsor. Additionally, inspections can be carried out by relevant Research Ethics Committees and other regulatory authorities to ensure adherence to the protocol, Good Clinical Practice and relevant regulations.

## 5.0 TRIAL MANAGEMENT

### 5.1 TRIAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

A Trial Management Group (TMG) will be responsible for overseeing the progress of the trial. The day-to-day management of the trial will be coordinated through the LSHTM CTU. The TMG will consist of the Protocol Committee members plus a trial manager, data manager and trial administrator.

The CTU will act on behalf of the Sponsor and will be responsible to the TMG to ensure that all of the Sponsor's responsibilities are carried out. The responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- report to the Trial Steering Committee;
- maintain the Trial Master File;
- identify trial sites;
- assess suitability of trial sites;
- confirm all approvals are in place before enrolment of participants and release of the trial treatment;
- provide training about the trial, including site initiation;
- provide study materials;
- data management;
- 24-hour advice and un-blinding service;
- give collaborators regular information about the progress of the study;
- respond to any questions (e.g. from collaborators) about the trial;
- monitoring of the trial;
- ensure data security and quality and observe data protection laws;
- safety reporting;
- ensure trial is conducted in accordance with the ICH GCP;
- statistical analysis;
- publication of trial results.

### 5.2 NATIONAL COORDINATION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTRY

A national coordinating investigator will be identified for each participating country. They will be responsible for ensuring that all national approvals including those from regulatory agencies, ethics committees and relevant import licences are in place before the trial can start in their country. Additionally, they will support the LSHTM CTU with ensuring recruitment is on target, safety reporting to all relevant agencies, and site training and monitoring as required.

### 5.3 PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT

The Protocol Committee consists of the following investigators who will be responsible for the development of and agreeing the final protocol. Subsequent changes to the final Protocol will require the agreement of the Trial Steering Committee.

- Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, St. George's University of London, UK
- Imelda Bates, Professor, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, UK
- Rizwana Chaudhri, Professor, Rawalpindi Medical College, Pakistan (National Coordinating Investigator, Pakistan)
- Bukola Fawole, Professor, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria (National Coordinating Investigator, Nigeria)
- Katharine Ker, Assistant Professor, Clinical Trials Unit, LSHTM, London, UK
- Ian Roberts, Professor, Clinical Trials Unit, LSHTM, London, UK (Co-lead Investigator)
- Haleema Shakur-Still, Professor, Clinical Trials Unit, LSHTM, London, UK (Co-Lead Investigator)

### 5.4 INDEPENDENT DATA MONITORING COMMITTEE (DMC)

The primary responsibility for monitoring the safety of participants in the trial lies with the Sponsor. This is overseen by an independent DMC appointed to support the safety monitoring. The composition of the DMC is provided in Appendix 8.

The DMC will review on a regular basis accumulating data from the ongoing trial and advise the TSC regarding the continuing safety of current participants and those yet to be recruited, as well as reviewing the validity and scientific merit of the trial.

The DMC composition, name, title and address of the chairman and of each member, will be given in the DMC Charter which will be in line with that proposed by the DAMOCLES Study Group.<sup>37</sup> Membership includes expertise in the relevant field of study, statistics and research study design.

The DMC Charter includes, but is not limited to, defining:

- the schedule and format of the DMC meetings;
- the format for presentation of data;
- the method and timing of providing interim reports;
- stopping rules.

The DMC is independent from the Sponsor, ethics committees, regulatory agencies, investigators, steering committee membership, clinical care of the trial participants, and any other capacity related to trial operations. The DMC has the responsibility for deciding whether, while randomisation is in progress, the un-blinded results (or the un-blinded results for a particular subgroup) should be revealed to the TSC. The DMC Charter states that they will do this if, and only if, two conditions are satisfied: (1) the results provide proof beyond reasonable doubt that treatment is on balance either definitely harmful or definitely favourable for all, or for a particular category of, participants in terms of the major outcome; (2) the results, if revealed, would be expected to substantially change the prescribing patterns of clinicians who are already familiar with any other trial results that exist. Exact criteria for 'proof beyond reasonable doubt' are not, and cannot be, specified by a purely mathematical stopping rule,

but they are strongly influenced by such rules. The DMC Charter is in agreement with the Peto-Haybittle<sup>38, 39</sup> stopping rule whereby an interim analysis of major endpoint would generally need to involve a difference between treatment and control of at least three standard errors to justify premature disclosure. An interim subgroup analysis would, of course, have to be even more extreme to justify disclosure. This rule has the advantage that the exact number and timing of interim analyses need not be pre-specified. In summary, the stopping rules require extreme differences to justify premature disclosure and involve an appropriate combination of mathematical stopping rules and scientific judgment.

## 5.5 TRIAL STEERING COMMITTEE (TSC)

The TSC will include independent individuals and members from the TMG. The composition of the TSC is provided in Appendix 9. The role of the TSC is to provide supervision of the trial and to advise the Sponsor. In particular, the TSC will concentrate on the progress of the trial, adherence to the Protocol, participant safety, and consideration of new information. The TSC must be in agreement with the final Protocol and, throughout the trial, will take responsibility for:

- major decisions such as a need to change the Protocol for any reason;
- monitoring and supervising the progress of the trial;
- reviewing relevant information from other sources;
- considering recommendations from the DMC;
- informing and advising the TMG on all aspects of the trial.

The TSC includes an experienced obstetrician, clinical trialists, lead investigators, clinical representative from a low- and middle-income country (LMIC), and a lay representative. Face-to-face meetings or teleconferences will be held at regular intervals determined by need, but no less than once a year. A TSC Charter, which will detail how it will conduct its business, will be agreed at the first meeting.

## 5.6 SITE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Coordination within each participating hospital will be through a Site Principal Investigator whose responsibility will be detailed in an agreement in advance of starting the trial and will include:

- personally supervise the study at site;
- before and if needed during the trial, obtain all appropriate approval/ favourable opinion
- delegate trial related responsibilities only to suitably trained and qualified personnel;
- document delegation of duties to appropriately qualified persons;
- train relevant medical, midwifery and nursing staff to ensure that they remain aware of the state of the current knowledge, the trial and its procedures (there are wall charts, pocket summaries, training films, and PowerPoint presentations to assist with this);
- agree to comply with the final trial Protocol and any relevant amendments;
- ensure that all potentially eligible women are considered promptly for the trial;
- ensure consent is obtained in line with local approved procedures;
- ensure that the data are collected and completed and transmitted to the CTU in a timely manner;
- ensure all adverse events are reported promptly to the CTU;
- ensure the Investigator's Study File is up-to-date and complete;
- account for trial treatments at their site;

- ensure the trial is conducted in accordance with ICH GCP and fulfils all national and local regulatory requirements;
- allow access to source data, including participants' medical records for monitoring, audit and inspection;
- be responsible for archiving all original trial documents including medical records, investigator's study file, consent forms and data forms for at least five years after the end of the trial.

## 6.0 PUBLICATION POLICY

All publications and presentations relating to the study will be authorised by the Lead Investigators. Publications will only contain anonymised data. We aim to publish the main results of the WOMAN-2 trial in a peer-reviewed journal under a CC-BY Licence. This license will ensure the publication is freely available and can be distributed by others as long as they give credit to the original creation. All publications will follow the CONSORT statement. Links to publications will be made in all applicable trial registers. The results will be disseminated via the media, trial website and relevant maternal health organisations.

The main publication of the trial results will be in the name of the Trial Collaborative Group (WOMAN-2 trial collaborators). The LSHTM CTU is committed to sharing its clinical study data for additional, ethical research with justified scientific objectives. Until all planned analyses are completed by the LSHTM CTU, data will be shared through a controlled access approach whereby researchers can make formal applications for data sharing. Afterwards, totally anonymised data will be shared via the LSHTM CTU data sharing platform at [freebird.lshtm.ac.uk](http://freebird.lshtm.ac.uk).

## 7.0 GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

AE	Adverse Event
APPT	Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time
AR	Adverse Reaction
CONSORT	Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials
CRF	Case Report Form
CTU	Clinical Trials Unit
DAL	Drug Accountability Log
DDF	Drug Destruction Form
dL	Decilitre
DMC	Data Monitoring Committee
DVT	Deep Vein Thrombosis
g	gram
GCP	Good Clinical Practice
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
Hb	Haemoglobin
HPLC	High Performance Liquid Chromatography
HRQoL	Health Related Quality of Life
IB	Investigator's Brochure
ICH GCP	International Conference on Harmonisation of Good Clinical Practice
ICMJE	International Committee for Medical Journal Editors
IEC	Independent Ethics Committee
IMP	Investigational Medicinal Product
IRB	Institutional Review Board
kg	Kilogram
L	Litre
LMIC	Low & Middle Income Countries
LSHTM	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
mg	Milligram
min	minute
mL	Millilitre
PCV	Packed Cell Volume
PI	Principal Investigator
PPH	Postpartum Haemorrhage

PSF	Product Specification File
PT	Prothrombin Time
QC	Quality Control
QP	Qualified Person
REC	Research Ethics Committee
ROTEM®	Rotational thromboelastometry
RR	Relative Risk
SAE	Serious Adverse Event
SAP	Statistical Analysis Plan
SAR	Serious Adverse Reaction
SmPC	Summary of Product Characteristics
SUSAR	Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction
TMG	Trial Management Group
TPA	Tissue Plasminogen Activator
TSC	Trial Steering Committee
TXA	Tranexamic Acid
UK	United Kingdom
WHO	World Health Organization



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## 9.0 APPENDICES

### 9.1 APPENDIX 1 – CONTACT DETAILS

<p><b>CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT - LSHTM</b></p> <p>WOMAN-2 Trial Clinical Trials Unit London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine Keppel Street, London. WC1E 7HT, UK Tel +44(0)20 7299 4684 Fax +44(0)20 7299 4663 Email: <a href="mailto:woman2@lshtm.ac.uk">woman2@lshtm.ac.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://woman2trial.lshtm.ac.uk">woman2trial.lshtm.ac.uk</a></p>	<p><b>CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT – PAKISTAN</b></p> <p>GIHDSTMU-LSHTM Research Collaboration Centre Global Institute of Human Development Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, STMU Campus Shifa International Hospital Pitras Bukhari Road, Sector H-8/4 Islamabad, Pakistan Email: <a href="mailto:pakistan.woman2@lshtm-ctu.org">pakistan.woman2@lshtm-ctu.org</a></p>
<p><b>CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT – NIGERIA</b></p> <p>COMUI-LSHTM Research Collaboration Centre College of Medicine University of Ibadan Queen Elizabeth Road Ibadan, Nigeria Email: <a href="mailto:nigeria.woman2@lshtm-ctu.org">nigeria.woman2@lshtm-ctu.org</a></p>	<p><b>ZAMBIA</b></p> <p>Professor Bellington Vwalika (National Coordinator) Chair Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology University Teaching Hospital/ University of Zambia Lusaka Zambia</p>
	<p><b>TANZANIA</b></p> <p>MUHAS-LSHTM Research Collaboration Centre Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology School of Medicine, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) United Nations Road, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Email: <a href="mailto:tanzania.woman2@lshtm-ctu.org">tanzania.woman2@lshtm-ctu.org</a></p>
<p><b>SPONSOR</b></p> <p>The London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine is the main research sponsor for this study. For further information regarding the sponsorship conditions, please contact:</p> <p>Research Governance and Integrity Office London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine Keppel Street. London WC1E 7HT, UK Email: <a href="mailto:RGIO@lshtm.ac.uk">RGIO@lshtm.ac.uk</a></p>	<p><b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE CONTACT</b></p> <p>This emergency number is to be used only in the event urgent unblinding of the trial treatment or if advice for reporting an adverse event is needed:</p> <p>+44(0)7768 707500</p>

### 9.2 APPENDIX 2 - CONSENT PROCEDURE OVERVIEW

Woman in active labour, plans to give birth vaginally with Hb <10 g /dL. No indication or contraindication to TXA

YES

Willing to be considered for inclusion in the trial and fully competent to give valid informed consent?

YES

- Full information given to woman and written informed consent obtained by researcher
- Baseline data collected
- Eligibility confirmed
- Woman randomised and treatment administered immediately after eligibility confirmed

YES

Willing to be considered for inclusion in the trial but unable to give fully informed consent?

YES

- Brief verbal information given to woman
- Verbal agreement obtained by researcher in the presence of an independent witness
- Baseline data collected
- Eligibility confirmed
- Woman randomised and treatment administered immediately after eligibility confirmed
- When women regains capacity, obtain written consent for continuing in the study

IF UNWILLING, DO NOT INCLUDE

**If woman is <18 years old:**

- Consent must be witnessed by an appropriate responsible person who must also sign the consent form

**If woman is unable to read or write:**

- Explain the trial in the presence of an independent witness
- Obtain mark (e.g. thumbprint) from woman
- Independent witness must sign the form

**In all cases:**

- Researcher obtaining consent must sign the consent form
- File original consent form in Investigator's Site File
- Give copy of signed form to woman
- File one signed copy in the woman's medical notes
- Consent process used should be documented in woman's medical notes

## 9.3 APPENDIX 3 – BRIEF STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

### THE WOMAN-2 TRIAL

This hospital is involved in a research study to try and find ways of preventing severe bleeding in anaemic women after they have given birth.

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet.

#### **What is the WOMAN-2 study?**

The WOMAN-2 trial is a research study to see whether using a drug called tranexamic acid will stop women with anaemia from developing severe bleeding after having a baby (postpartum haemorrhage). This study will involve about 15,000 women giving birth in hospitals in Africa and Asia.

#### **What is postpartum haemorrhage?**

Most women who give birth have no problems during or after the delivery of their baby. Following every birth there will be a small amount of bleeding from the mother – this is normal and usually nothing to worry about. However, occasionally after the baby is born there is much more bleeding. This extra bleeding is called postpartum haemorrhage (PPH). When this happens the doctors, nurses and midwives will do everything they can to stop the bleeding, because if too much blood is lost the mother may become very unwell.

Low levels of iron in the blood (a condition known as anaemia) is common among pregnant women. Having anaemia increases the chances of having a PPH and women with anaemia who have a PPH tend to suffer more afterwards than women without anaemia. For this reason, we want to find a way to reduce the chances of women with anaemia from having severe bleeding after childbirth.

There are treatments that can be given to women to prevent PPH but some women will still have severe bleeding despite this. Also, there are treatments to help control PPH when it starts. But it is not always possible to give these treatments quickly enough to stop some women from becoming very unwell. It would be better if we could find a way of preventing PPH from happening in the first place.

#### **What is tranexamic acid?**

Tranexamic acid (TXA) is a drug that reduces bleeding. It is not a new drug and it is widely used to reduce bleeding after operations and to treat bleeding after injury. It is also one of the treatments that can be given to women with PPH to reduce bleeding.

#### **What does the study involve?**

When you are about to have your baby, you may be asked to take part in the study. You will only be asked if you plan to have a vaginal birth and if your blood test shows that you have anaemia. The study involves you agreeing to take part and if you agree, you will receive an injection of either the TXA or a placebo (a dummy drug) directly into a vein, immediately after your baby is born and the umbilical cord is cut or clamped. We will collect information on whether or not you develop a PPH and your progress while in hospital. Before you leave hospital, we will ask you some questions about how you and your baby are. We will also ask you to do a walking test, to see how far you can walk in six minutes.

Being part of this study will not interfere with any other treatment or with how you plan to have your baby. If there is time before you give birth and you are able to absorb the full information about the trial, we will provide this to you and ask you to sign a consent form.

Otherwise, we will tell you that this is a research study, that you do not have to take part if you do not wish to and that if you say no it will not interfere with any care you receive from this hospital. We will explain the information contained above and you can ask any questions and if you say yes, we will start the study by collecting some information from your medical records to make sure you are suitable. If you are suitable, the study drug will be given to you. We will collect information from your medical records afterwards on how you are doing. Immediately you are well enough, we will give you the full study information and get your full consent to continue the study.

If you want more information about the study, the study coordinators at this hospital can be contacted on:

Name

Address

Phone

Email

The study is organised by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (University of London) and is supervised in [Country] by xxxx. You can also contact them directly for information about the trial.

Name of NCC

Address

Phone

Email



Tranexamic acid for the prevention of postpartum bleeding in women with anaemia: an international, randomised, double-blind, placebo controlled trial.

## STUDY INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS



### We invite you to take part in a research study called WOMAN-2

- Before you decide to take part or not, we would like you to know why the study is being done and what it will involve.
- Please read this information. You can talk to others about the study if you wish.
- You can ask the doctor or midwife looking after you as many questions about the study as you like before deciding to take part or not.
- It is up to you to decide to take part in this study or not. If you choose not to take part, your doctors and midwives will give you the usual care given at this hospital.

### Contents

1. What is the study for?
2. Why are you asking me to take part?
3. What will happen if I take part?
4. How long will I be in the study?
5. Will I benefit from taking part?
6. Could I be harmed by taking part?
7. Can I change my mind about taking part?
8. What happens afterwards?
9. What information do we keep private?
10. Who is doing this study?
11. Who has reviewed the study?
12. What if there is a problem?
13. What else do I need to know?



## 1. What is the study for?

This study will find out if giving women a drug called tranexamic acid, can reduce how much they bleed after giving birth. It is very common to bleed after giving birth and for most women it does not cause any problems. But some women lose a lot of blood which can make them very unwell. Some women also have a condition called anaemia, which means that their blood does not work as well as it should. It is very important that women who have anaemia do not bleed too much after giving birth, as even small amounts of bleeding can make them very unwell.

There is a drug called tranexamic acid that can help bleeding to stop. Giving tranexamic acid to women who already have a large bleed after giving birth, helps them to recover. But it would be better if we could stop women from having a large bleed in the first place, especially if they have anaemia. So we want to find out if giving tranexamic acid to women who have anaemia, straight after they have given birth, stops them from bleeding too much.

We hope that tranexamic acid will reduce the amount of blood women lose and so they will feel better than women who receive the dummy drug, but we don't yet know if it will. This is why we are doing the study.

## 2. Why are you asking me to take part?

We are asking you to take part because you are expected to have a vaginal birth and you have anaemia. We are giving this information to you and asking you to take part now, so that if you agree the study team at this hospital can include you in the study. If after you have agreed to take part, your doctor thinks that it would be better for you to have an operation to have your baby (called a caesarean section) you will not be included in the study.

### You will not be able to take part if:

- You do not deliver your baby vaginally
- You are less than 18 years old and your guardian has said you cannot be in the study or you do not have a guardian available
- You are allergic to the study drug or what it is mixed with
- You develop severe bleeding before the umbilical cord is clamped or cut
- Your doctor thinks tranexamic acid would not be good for your health
- Your doctor thinks you should receive tranexamic acid as it would be good for your health

About 15,000 women across Africa and Asia will be taking part in this study. It is up to you to decide if you wish to take part or not.

## 3. What will happen if I take part?

Taking part in the study will not change how you give birth and you will get all the usual care given to women giving birth in your hospital.

We will ask you to fill in a form to say that you are willing to take part. A person from the study team at your hospital will then write down some information about you and your labour. As soon as your baby is born and the umbilical cord is cut, you will be given an injection of either tranexamic acid or placebo (a dummy drug). Which of the two injections each woman is given is decided randomly and each has an equal chance receiving either injection. The study drug and the placebo look the same, so the women and their doctors will not know which drug they were given.

The day after you give birth, we will collect some information from your medical notes. We will also take a very small sample of blood from your finger to check your anaemia. Before you leave hospital, we will ask you some



questions about how you and your baby are. We will also ask you to do a walking test, to see how far you can walk in six minutes. You can decide at the time if you feel able to do this test or not. You can stop or rest at any time during the test. It will take about 30 minutes to answer these questions and do the walking test.

#### **4. How long will I be in this study?**

You will be in the study until you leave hospital, or for six weeks after you had your baby, whichever is sooner. If after leaving hospital and within six weeks of giving birth, you become ill, please let the doctor named on this form know.

#### **5. What are the benefits of taking part in this study?**

We do not know if taking part in this study will help you. What we learn from this study will help doctors care for woman at risk of having a large bleed after giving birth in the future.

#### **6. Could I be harmed by taking part?**

Tranexamic acid is not a new drug and it is often used to treat people with other types of bleeding, such as when having an operation or after being injured in an accident. Other studies suggest that it doesn't have any serious side effects. Sometimes it can cause nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea. A very small amount of tranexamic acid can pass into breast milk. Other studies have not found any harmful effects in babies who were breastfed by mothers who were given tranexamic acid. Your doctor will watch you and your baby, and give you the best available care if there are any problems. They will also tell the people running the study if there are any problems.

To check you anaemia we will need to take a small sample of blood from your finger. You may feel discomfort or pain when your finger is pricked.

Before you leave the hospital, we will ask you questions about how you are feeling. These questions may bring up some upsetting feelings for you. If you don't want to answer any of the questions, you do not have to. If you notice that you feel sad or worried, we will ask your doctor to see you to help decide the best way to help you.

#### **7. Can I change my mind about taking part?**

Yes. You can stop taking part in the study, at any time. You just need to say something like, *"I've decided I don't want to be in this study now"*. Your doctor and the hospital staff will still care for you in the usual way. If you have any medical problems after you stop taking part, we ask that you still tell us about them.

#### **8. What happens afterwards?**

We will give you a card with the contact details of the study doctor at this hospital. Please keep this card safe. If after you leave hospital you become ill within six weeks of having your baby, please contact the study doctor listed on the card. Also, please show this card to anyone who treats you for any illness.

If you would like to have a copy of the final results of this study, please let the study doctor know and s/he will make sure you receive a copy when the results are published.

You can also visit the study website to keep up to date with the progress of the study: [\[insert website\]](#)

## 9. What information do we keep private?

We will keep all information collected about you and your baby private and stored securely. The only people allowed to look at the information will be the staff who are running the trial at the London Coordinating Centre and the Coordinating Centre in your country [Name], as well as the regulatory authorities who check that the study is being carried out correctly. The London Coordinating Centre may want to collect or copy some study information which will have your name on it such as the signed Consent Form. These will be destroyed or your personal details removed immediately after use.

We will publish the study results in medical journals so that other doctors and midwives can learn from them. We will not include your personal information in any study reports, so you will not be able to be identified. The study team may share data from the study with other researchers and the public, but your personal information will not be included.

## 10. Who is doing this study? Who can I contact about any questions, or if I have a problem?

The study is run by a team of researchers at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (University of London) in the United Kingdom.

If you have any questions or concerns about the study, you should ask to speak with the study team who will do their best to answer your questions. You can contact the doctor in charge of the trial at this hospital at:

Name	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

If you wish to complain formally, you can do this through the hospital's complaints procedure. Please ask the study doctors or midwives for details.

## 11. Who has reviewed the study?

To look after your interests, this study has been carefully checked by an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee [Name]. They agreed that it is okay for us to do this study.

## 12. What if there is a problem?

If something goes wrong and you are harmed during the study, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine would be responsible for claims for any non-negligent harm.

## 13. What else do I need to know?

The study is organised by London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (University of London, UK) and funded by the Wellcome Trust (UK) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (USA). None of these institutions are the makers of tranexamic acid.

If you agree to take part, you will sign a separate consent form. We will give you a copy of your consent form and this information sheet.

The study treatment is free. It will not cost you any money to take part in this study.

If you return to hospital for any medical problem associated with the study, we will pay your travel costs.

# CONSENT FORM

## THE WOMAN-2 TRIAL

**Title of research:** Tranexamic acid for the prevention of postpartum bleeding in women with anaemia: an international, randomised, double-blind, placebo controlled trial

Site ID Number		Name of Site Principal Investigator	
Participant Hospital ID number		Screening ID Number	
Name of Participant			

### STATEMENT OF PERSON GIVING CONSENT:

1. I confirm that I have read/have had read to me the information sheet for the above study and it was in a language I understand.
2. I have discussed with the doctor to my satisfaction and I have had the opportunity to ask questions.
3. I understand that my participation is voluntary. I have been given enough information about the research study to judge that I want to take part in it.
4. I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason and without my medical care or legal rights being affected.
5. I understand that I will be given a copy of this consent form and the additional information sheet to keep for myself.
6. I understand that sections of my medical notes and those of my baby/ies may be looked at by responsible individuals involved in the study. I give permission for these individuals to have access to these records.
7. I understand that my data (with all personal information removed) will be made freely available for researchers.
8. I give permission for a copy of this consent form, which contains my personal information, to be made available to the Trial Coordinating Centre in London for monitoring purposes only.
9. I agree to take part in the above study, the WOMAN-2 trial.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of woman

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature / Thumbprint or other mark (if unable to sign)

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of witness/guardian

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

*(A witness is needed if a patient cannot read or write and a Guardian signature is needed if a participant is less than 18 years old)*

### STATEMENT OF PERSON OBTAINING INFORMED CONSENT:

I have fully explained this research to this participant and have given sufficient information, including about risks and benefits, to make an informed decision.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

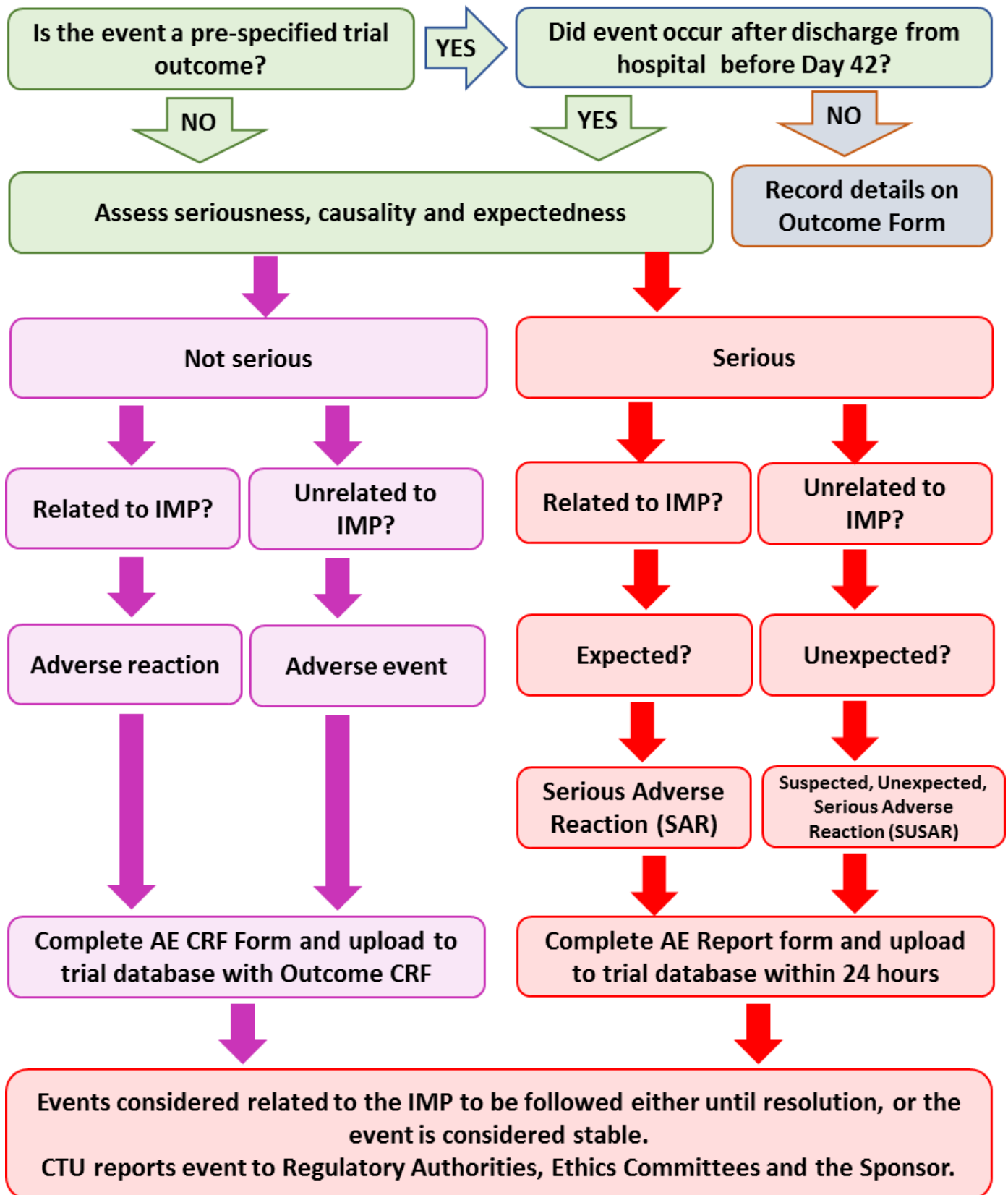
\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

9.5 APPENDIX 5 – SAFETY REPORTING PROCEDURE



9.6 APPENDIX 6 – SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

	ROUTINE ANTENATAL CLINIC VISITS	ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL IN ACTIVE LABOUR	VAGINAL DELIVERY OF THE BABY'S ANTERIOR SHOULDER UP TO CUTTING/ CLAMPING OF UMBILICAL CORD	IMMEDIATELY AFTER CUTTING/ CLAMPING OF UMBILICAL CORD AND NO LATER THAN 15 MINUTES AFTER	24 HOURS AFTER RANDOMISATION OR DEATH OR DISCHARGE (WHICHEVER EARLIEST)	42 DAYS AFTER RANDOMISATION OR DEATH OR DISCHARGE (WHICHEVER EARLIEST)	DAY 42 AFTER RANDOMISATION
Trial information available	X						
Medical records checked for potential eligibility before approaching participant		X					
Carry out consent process		X					
Collect baseline data		X	X				
Confirm eligibility and complete baseline data collection			X				
Randomise				X			
Give trial treatment (1g TXA or placebo)				X			
Collect outcome data					X		
Collect outcome data						X	
Provide alert card							
Monitor and report adverse events							

## 9.7 APPENDIX 7 – LIST OF PARTICIPATING SITES

### Nigeria

Site Name	Principal Investigator
Adeoyo Maternity Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo State	Dr Oladipo Aremu
Ilorin General Hospital	Dr Mojisola Mobolaji-Ojibara
Mother & Child Hospital, Akure, Ondo State	Dr Olorunfemi Owa
Muhammad Abdullahi Wase Specialist Hospital, Kano State	Dr Iman Usman Haruna
State Hospital, Oyo	Dr Oyewole Tunde Aremu

### Pakistan

Site Name	Investigator
Ayub A Teaching Hospital	Aziz-Un-Nisa Abaisi (Prof)
Ayub B Teaching Hospital	Ruqqia Sultana(Prof)
Ayub C Teaching Hospital	Shehla Noor (Prof)
Aziz Bhatti Shaheed Teaching Hospital	Shahida Husain Tarar (Prof)
Bahawalpur Victoria Hospital Units 1 & 2	Sohail Mahmood Chaudhary (Prof)
Bahawalpur Victoria Hospital Units 1 & 2	Shakeela Yasmin (Prof)
Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Hospital	Humera Noreen (Ass.Prof)
Bolan Medical Centre Unit 1 and 2	Naila Ehsan (Prof)
Bolan Medical Centre Unit 1 and 2	Aisha Siddiq (Prof)
Bolan Medical Centre Unit 3 and 4	Uzma Afridi (Prof)
Bolan Medical Centre Unit 3 and 4	Najma Ghaffar (Prof)
Chandka SMBBMU Sheikh Zaid Woman Hospital Unit 1	Shahida Magsi (Prof)
Chandka SMBBMU Sheikh Zaid Woman Hospital Unit 2 and 3	Shaista Hifaz Abro (Prof)
Chandka SMBBMU Sheikh Zaid Woman Hospital Unit 2 and 3	Fouzia Kashif (Prof)
Civil Hospital Karachi Units 1	Fouzia Perveen (Prof)
Civil Hospital Karachi Units 3	Nusrat Shah (Prof)
Federal Government Polyclinic	Naila Israr (Prof)
Holy Family Hospital Unit 1	Rizwana Chaudhri (Prof)
Holy Family Hospital Unit 2	Nabeela Waheed (Prof)
Jinnah Hospital Lahore	Arif Tajammul (Prof)
Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre Unit 1/ward 8 and Unit 2/ward 9	Haleema Yasmin (Prof)
Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre Unit 1/ward 8 and Unit 2/ward 9	Khadija Bano (Prof)
Koohi Goth Hospital Karachi	Mubushra Samina (Brigadier)
MCH PIMS Unit 1	Syeda Batool Mazhar (Prof)
MCH PIMS Unit 2	Saera Afghan (Prof)
Military Hospital	Shehla Baqai (Prof)
Nishtar Hospital Unit 1	Hajira Masood (Prof)
Nishtar Hospital Unit 2	Mehnaz Khakwani (Prof)
Nishtar Hospital Unit 3	Shahid Irshad Rao (Prof)

Services Hospital Unit 1	Rubina Sohail (Prof)
Services Hospital Unit 2	Tayyiba Wasim (Prof)
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital Units 1 - 4	Shamsa Humayun (Prof)
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital Units 1 - 4	Noreen Akmal (Prof)
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital Units 1 - 4	Zohra Khanum (Prof)
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital Units 1 - 4	Shamila Ijaz Munir (Prof)
Lahore General Hospital Unit 1	Sardar Muhammad Al Fareed Zafar (Prof)
Lahore General Hospital Unit 2	Prof Faiqa Saleem Baig (Prof)
Lahore General Hospital Unit 3	Mehe-Un-Nisa (Prof)
KEMU Lady Wallington Unit 1	Ayesha Malik (Prof)
KEMU Lady Wallington Unit 2	Uzma Hussain (Prof)
KEMU Lady Wallington Unit 3	Amna Zia Eusaph (Prof)
KEMU Lady Aitchison Unit 4	Dr Farah Yousaf (Prof)
KEMU Lady Aitchison Unit 5	Malika Masood (Prof)

## Tanzania

Site Name	Principal Investigator
Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital	Dr France John Rwegoshora
Dodoma Regional Referral Hospital	Dr Enid Chiwanga
Muhimbili National Hospital, Dar es Salaam	Dr Vincent Tarimo
Mount Meru Regional Referral Hospital, Arusha	Dr Francis Ngimwichi Joseph
Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital	Dr Luzango Evarist Maembe

## Zambia

Site Name	Principal Investigator
Women and Newborn Hospital, University Teaching Hospitals	Dr Mwansa Ketty Lubeya

## 9.8 APPENDIX 8 – DATA MONITORING COMMITTEE

### Membership:

NAME	AFFILIATION	EXPERTISE
Jane Armitage (Chair)	National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (NPEU) Nuffield Department of Population Health University of Oxford UK	Professor of Clinical Trials and Epidemiology & Honorary Consultant in Public Health Medicine.

Olufemi T. Oladapo	Department of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization. Geneva	Maternal, perinatal, and newborn health research and public health expert.
Maria Quigley	National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (NPEU) Nuffield Department of Population Health University of Oxford UK	Professor of Statistical Epidemiology

## 9.9 APPENDIX 9 – TRIAL STEERING COMMITTEE

### Membership:

NAME	AFFILIATION	EXPERTISE
France Donnay (Chair)	Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans. Kings College London.	Professor; Independent consultant, with a focus on women's health policies, programs and practices.
Racheal Phiri	Ministry of Local Government, Zambia	Patient Representative/ Advocate
Tina Lavender	Department of International Public Health, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Pembroke Place, UK	Professor of Maternal and Newborn Health
Ghazala Mahmud	Fazaia Medical College, Islamabad. Pakistan	Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Ian Roberts	Clinical Trials Unit, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK	Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health; randomised controlled trials; conduct of large scale international trials
Haleema Shakur-Still	Clinical Trials Unit, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK	Professor of Global Health Clinical Trials; randomised controlled trials; conduct of large-scale international trials
Sari Watson (Observer)	Wellcome, 215 Euston Road, London. NW1 2BE	Grant oversight on behalf of the Funder