

Differential Diagnosis of Puerperal Psychosis

Organic

Vascular - cerebral venous thrombosis, postpartum cerebral angiopathy

Infectious - sepsis from Group B strep, pneumonia, urosepsis, septic retained placenta etc, viral encephalitis

Trauma - head injury, postpartum pituitary necrosis (Sheehan's syndrome)

Autoimmune - postpartum autoimmune thyroid syndrome, antiphospholipid syndrome, cerebral SLE, autoimmune encephalitis

Metabolic - hyponatremia, hypercalcemia, Wernicke's-Korsakoff encephalopathy (hyperemesis gravidarum etc), eclampsia, OTC deficiency or other causes of hyperammonemia

Neoplastic - cerebral metastases, paraneoplastic phenomena

Frontal lobe or temporal lobe **epilepsy**

Substances

Think alcohol withdrawal, alcoholic hallucinosis, methamphetamine psychosis, benzodiazepine withdrawal, antipsychotic withdrawal, lithium withdrawal, lithium intoxication, neuroleptic malignant syndrome, serotonin syndrome, anticholinergic toxidrome

Psychosis

psychotic mania, psychotic depression, brief psychotic disorder, schizophrenia

Neurosis

PTSD with prominent dissociation ("traumatic hallucinosis")

Personality Disorder

decompensated borderline personality disorder, decompensated narcissistic personality disorder