Box 2. Order Set for Severe Intrapartum or Postpartum Hypertension Initial First-Line Management With Hydralazine

- Notify physician if systolic blood pressure (BP) is greater than or equal to 160 mm Hg or if diastolic BP is greater than or equal to 110 mm Hg.
- Institute fetal surveillance if undelivered and fetus is viable.
- If severe BP elevations persist for 15 minutes or more, administer hydralazine (5 mg or 10 mg intravenously [IV] over 2 minutes).
- Repeat BP measurement in 20 minutes and record results.
- If either BP threshold is still exceeded, administer hydralazine (10 mg IV over 2 minutes). If BP is below threshold, continue to monitor BP closely.
- Repeat BP measurement in 20 minutes and record results.
- If either BP threshold is still exceeded, administer labetalol (20 mg IV over 2 minutes). If BP is below threshold, continue to monitor BP closely.
- Repeat BP measurement in 10 minutes and record results.
- If either BP threshold is still exceeded, administer labetalol (40 mg IV over 2 minutes) and obtain emergency consultation from maternal-fetal medicine, internal medicine, anesthesia, or critical care subspecialists.
- Give additional antihypertensive medication per specific order.
- Once the aforementioned BP thresholds are achieved, repeat BP measurement every 10 minutes for 1 hour, then every 15 minutes for 1 hour, then every 30 minutes for 1 hour, and then every hour for 4 hours.
- Institute additional BP timing per specific order.

*Please note there may be adverse effects and contraindications.