

RESULTS

The basic characteristics of the two groups namely age, gestational age, tribe, level of occupation and pre-delivery haemoglobin concentration were similar, $PV > 0.05$ for all (detail in table 1).

Misoprostol group had a significantly lower blood loss after delivery than oxytocin group (306.557 ± 176.44 VS 349.37 ± 135.50 ; RD -12.251 [CI -22.528, -1.575] PV 0.012). No difference in proportion of parturient that had postpartum haemorrhage between the Misoprostol and Oxytocin groups (RR 0.952 [CI 0.543-1.671] PV 0.865). Mean change in maternal admission and 24hours postpartum haemoglobin concentration was similar between the two groups (RD -40 [CI -69.105, -0.819] PV 0.066). No significant difference in mean duration of third stage of labour between the misoprostol and oxytocin groups (RD -7.229 9[CI -26.857, 15.062] PV 0.503). Need for additional oxytocic was similar between the two groups (RR 1.143[CI 0.671-1.947] PV 0.623). Nausea, shivering and mean rise in temperature were significantly higher among the misoprostol than oxytocin parturient, while occurrence of vomiting and diarrhea was similar ($PV < 0.05$). No case of retained placenta was recorded in either of the two groups (PV 1.000). The detail is in table 2

Table 1. Baseline characteristics

characteristics	Misoprostol gp n= 130 (%)	Oxytocin gp n = 130 (%)	X ²	pV
Mean Age (yrs)	25.79 \pm 2.91	25.76 \pm 3.06	0.083t	0.934
Mean Gestational age	38.93 \pm 1.18	38.88 \pm 1.35	0.294t	0.793
Tribe				
Nupe	108(83.1)	108(83.1)	6.431Y	0.169
Yoruba	9(6.9)	14(10.8)		
Hausa	4(3.1)	0(0)		
Igbo	0(0)	4(3.1)		
others	9(6.9)	4(3.1)		
Level of Occupation				
Unemployed	56(43.1)	61(46.9)	7.785	0.100
Artisan	21(16.2)	25(19.2)		

Trader / Farmer	15(11.5)	23(17.7)		
Civil servant	27(20.8)	17(13.1)		
others	11(8.5)	4(3.1)		
Mean Pre-delivery Haemoglobin concentration	10.75 ± 0.88	10.79 ± 0.81	-0.368	0.713

Table 2 Outcome measures

Outcome variable	Misoprostol Gp B	Oxytocin Gp A	Relative difference % (95% CI)	Relative risk (95% CI)	pV
A. Primary outcome measure					
Blood loss after delivery	306.57 ± 176.44	349.37 ± 135.50	-12.251 (-22.528, -1.575)	-	0.012*
PPH (>500ml)	20(15.4)	21(16.2)	-	0.952(0.543-1.671)	0.865
B. secondary outcome measures					
Mean Change in maternal admission and 24hrs Postpartum Haemoglobin concentration	0.18 ± 0.40	0.30 ± 0.68	-40 (-69.105, -0.819)	-	0.066
Mean Duration of third stage of labour	3.85 ± 3.36	4.15 ± 4.02	-7.229 (-26.857, 15.062)	-	0.503
Need for the use of additional oxytocic	24(18.5)	21(16.2)	-	1.143(0.671 – 1.947)	0.623
Side effects					
Nausea	9(6.9)	0(0)	-	19.000(1.117 – 323.104)	0.0417*

vomiting	4(3.1)	0(0)	-	9.000(0.489 – 165.499)	0.139
Shivering	40(30.8)	0(0)	-	81.000(5.033 -1303.529)	0.002*
Diarrhea	2(1.5)	0(0)	-	5.000(0.242 – 103.150)	0.297
Mean Rise in temperature	0.87 ± 0.53	0.26 ± 0.35	234.615 (157.034, 330.994)	-	<0.001*
Retained placenta	0(0)	0(0)		1.000(0.020 – 50.024)	1.000

Participants Flow Diagram

