**Box 1**

## Hypertensive disorders in pregnancy: definitions

### Hypertension

Hypertension is defined as a systolic blood pressure (SBP) ≥ 140 mmHg, or diastolic blood pressure (DBP) ≥ 90 mmHg. Severe hypertension is defined as SBP ≥ 160 mmHg or DBP ≥ 110 mmHg. Hypertension in pregnancy can be divided into chronic and gestational hypertension. Both of these are associated with increased risk of pre-eclampsia and HELLP syndrome.

### Chronic hypertension

Chronic hypertension refers to hypertension that is present either at the antenatal booking visit or develops in the first 20 weeks. It includes women who have had hypertension (primary or secondary) diagnosed before pregnancy and are taking medication for this.

### Gestational hypertension

Gestational hypertension refers to hypertension that develops after 20 weeks' gestation.

### Pre-eclampsia

Pre-eclampsia is defined as new onset of hypertension after 20 weeks' gestation and the coexistence of either proteinuria, maternal organ dysfunction (renal, liver, neurological or haematological complications), or uteroplacental dysfunction (e.g. fetal growth restriction).

### HELLP syndrome

HELLP syndrome is a triad of haemolysis, elevated liver enzymes and low platelet count; 10-20% of cases of pre-eclampsia are estimated to progress to HELLP syndrome.[4]