

# Uterotonic Agents for Postpartum Hemorrhage

Drug	Dose	Route	Frequency	Side effects	Contraindications	Storage
<b>Oxytocin</b> (Pitocin®) 10 units/ml	20-50 milliunits/min  • Dilute 20-40 units in 1000 ml NS or LR • Titrate to uterine tone	IV	Continuous infusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>• Water intoxication with prolonged IV administration</li> <li>• High doses - ↓ BP, ↑ HR</li> </ul>	• Hypersensitivity to the drug	• Room temp
<b>Carboprost</b> (Hemabate®) 15-methyl prostaglandin F <sub>2α</sub> 0.25 mg/ml	0.25 mg	IM IMM  <b>(Do not give IV)</b>	Q 15-90 min Not to exceed 8 doses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Chills/shivering</li> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Bronchoconstriction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active cardiac, pulmonary, renal or hepatic disease</li> <li>• Asthma</li> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Hypersensitivity to the drug</li> </ul>	• Refrigerate
<b>Methylergonovine</b> (Methergine®) 0.2 mg/ml	0.2 mg	IM  <b>(Do not give IV)</b>	Q 2-4 hr  (If no response to first dose, response unlikely to additional doses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>• Hypertension – especially with too rapid administration; patients with preeclampsia or pre-existing hypertension may be more sensitive to these effects</li> <li>• Hypotension</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Heart disease</li> <li>• Hypersensitivity to the drug</li> <li>• Caution if recent administration of vasoconstrictive agents (e.g., ephedrine)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refrigerate</li> <li>• Protect from light</li> </ul>
<b>Misoprostol</b> (Cytotec®) 100 mcg and 200 mcg tablets	Prevention: 200-400 mcg  Treatment: 800-1000 mcg	PO/SL/PR  PR	X1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Shivering</li> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Headache</li> </ul>	• Hypersensitivity to the drug	• Room temp