# Uterotonic Agents for Postpartum Hemorrhage

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| **Oxytocin** (Pitocin®) | 10 units/ml           | IV      | Continuous infusion | • Nausea, vomiting  
• Water intoxication with prolonged IV administration  
• High doses - ↓ BP, ↑ HR | • Hypersensitivity to the drug                                                | Room temp         |
|                       | 20-50 milliunits/min  |         |           |                                |                                                                                   |                  |
|                       | • Dilute 20-40 units in 1000 ml NS or LR  
• Titrate to uterine tone |         |           |                                |                                                                                   |                  |
| **Carboprost** (Hemabate®) | 15-methyl prostaglandin F2α | 0.25 mg | IM IMM  
(Do not give IV) | Q 15-90 min  
Not to exceed 8 doses | • Nausea, vomiting  
• Diarrhea  
• Fever  
• Headache  
• Chills/shivering  
• Hypertension  
• Bronchoconstriction | • Active cardiac, pulmonary, renal or hepatic disease  
• Asthma  
• Hypertension  
• Hypersensitivity to the drug | Refrigerate         |
|                       | 0.25 mg               |         |           |                                |                                                                                   |                  |
| **Methylergonovine** (Methergine®) | 0.2 mg/ml | 0.2 mg | IM  
(Do not give IV) | Q 2-4 hr  
(If no response to first dose, response unlikely to additional doses) | • Nausea, vomiting  
• Hypertension – especially with too rapid administration; patients with preeclampsia or pre-existing hypertension may be more sensitive to these effects  
• Hypotension | • Hypertension  
• Heart disease  
• Hypersensitivity to the drug  
• Caution if recent administration of vasoconstrictive agents (e.g., ephedrine) | Refrigerate  
Protect from light |
|                       | 0.2 mg                |         |           |                                |                                                                                   |                  |
| **Misoprostol** (Cytotec®) | 100 mcg and 200 mcg tablets | Prevention: 200-400 mcg  
Treatment: 800-1000 mcg | PO/SL/PR  
PR | X1 | • Nausea, vomiting  
• Diarrhea  
• Shivering  
• Fever  
• Headache | • Hypersensitivity to the drug                                               | Room temp         |
|                       |                       |         |           |                                |                                                                                   |                  |