

Uterotonic Medications

Agent	Dose	Route	Dosing Frequency	Side Effects	Contraindications
Oxytocin® (Pitocin)	10-40 units per 1000ml, rate titrated to uterine tone -Mixed in NS or LR; avoid dextrose soln	<u>First Line:</u> IV infusion <u>Second Line:</u> - 10 Units IM - 5 Units IVP over 3 min.	Continuous Use pre-mixed solutions unless an emergency (JC, 2008)	Usually none - N/V - Water Intoxication (hyponatremia) w/ prolonged IV use ↓BP & ↑HR w/ high dose or IVP	Hypersensitivity to drug
Methylergonovine (Methergine®)	0.2 mg/mL	IM (not given IV)	Every 2-4 hours; If no response after 1 st dose, it is unlikely that add'l doses will benefit	Hypertension Seizure &/or HA N/V hypotension	Hypertension; Preeclampsia, CV disease, Hx. of migraines, Hypersensitivity to drug
Carboprost 15-methyl PG F2a (Hemabate®)	250 mcg (0.25 mg)	IM or intramyometrial **May be fatal if given IV	Every 15-90 min. Not to exceed 8 Doses of 0.25mg in 24hrs. (= 2mg)	N/V/D, chills, HA, flushing, hypertension Bronchospasm Fever (transient)	Caution in women w/ hepatic disease, asthma , HTN, active cardiac or Pulmonary disease
Misoprostol (Cytotec®)	800-1000 mcg Available in 100 & 200mcg tablets	PR (per rectum) Second Line PO High oral doses have been assoc. w/ life-threatening hyperpyrexia); no max. dose estab.	Single Dose At least 2hrs. between 1 st & 2 nd dose	N/V/D Fever (transient) Shivering, HA	Rare Known allergy to prostaglandin or hypersensitivity to drug.

