

FORMULARY

Oxytocin (Pitocin)

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| Class of Drug | Exogenous hormone, oxytocic. |
| Mechanism of Action | Increases the sodium permeability of uterine myofibrils, stimulating the contraction of uterine smooth muscle. |
| Indications | Reduction of post-partum bleeding after expulsion of placenta. |
| Contraindications | Hypersensitivity to drug or components. Normal labor Hypertonic patterns of labor are noted or when vaginal delivery is contraindicated. |
| Adverse Effects | Hypertension, seizures, hypotension, tachycardia, dysrhythmia, GI distress, titanic contractions, abruption placenta, impaired uterine blood flow, uterine rupture. |
| Precautions | Magnesium should be on hand to relax the uterus in the event of uterine tetany. |
| Dosing/Administration | Post-partum hemorrhage: Mix 10-40 mg/1000 mL and administer at 20-40 milliunits/min IV infusion. Alternative: 10 units IM after placental expulsion |
| Pregnancy Category | Class X Highly unsafe – risk of use outweighs any possible benefit |