

CLASS: B

PROTOCOL USED IN: OB/GYN & Childbirth Emergencies

PHARMACOLOGY AND ACTIONS:

- A. Hormone which increases electrical and contractile activity in uterine smooth muscle.
- B. Can initiate or enhance rhythmic contractions of the uterus.
- C. Exhibits rapid onset with a very short half-life, rapid inactivation and excretion.

INDICATIONS:

Control of post-partum hemorrhage

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

Rule out multiple fetuses before administration

SIDE EFFECTS AND NOTES:

- A. Administration should follow delivery of placenta.
- B. In large doses, oxytocin exhibits a transient, but marked vasodilating effect and reflex tachycardia.
- C. Cardiac dysrhythmias may be precipitated or aggravated by oxytocin.
- D. Fundal massage and nursing can stimulate natural release of pitocin from mother's pituitary gland.

ADULT DOSING:

10 USP units (10mg) IM. Contact Medical Control.

PEDIATRIC: not recommended in pediatric patients.