

OXYTOCIN

Any medication questions? Pharmacy counseling available at 866-206-7936.

MECHANISM OF ACTION: Oxytocin is a nano peptide hormone that is secreted by the posterior pituitary. Oxytocin produces a wide range of effects both peripherally and locally in the brain. It is released in large amounts in females during childbirth, nipple stimulation, and breastfeeding. Oxytocin is released by males and females during skin to skin contact, sexual arousal, and orgasm/ejaculation. Oxytocin causes dilation of vascular smooth muscle, thus increasing renal, coronary, and cerebral blood flow. Blood pressure usually remains unaffected, but with the administration of very large doses or high concentration solutions blood pressure may decrease transiently. This transient decrease in blood pressure leads to reflex tachycardia and an increase in cardiac output; any fall in blood pressure is usually followed by a small, but sustained, increase in blood pressure.

INTERACTIONS: Do not take this medicine with any of the following medications:

- Ephedra, Ma Huang

This medicine may also interact with the following medications:

- dinoprostone, prostaglandin E2
- medicines for blood pressure
- medicines used for sleep during surgery
- other medicines to contract the uterus

This list may not describe all possible interactions. Give your health care provider a list of all the medicines, herbs, non-prescription drugs, or dietary supplements that you use. Also tell them if you smoke, drink alcohol, or use illegal drugs. Some items may interact with your medicine

ADVERSE REACTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS: Nausea and vomiting have been noted with oxytocin.

Side effects that you should report to your doctor or health care professional as soon as possible:

- allergic reactions like skin rash, itching or hives, swelling of the face, lips, or tongue
- breathing problems
- excessive or continuing vaginal bleeding
- fast, irregular heartbeat
- feeling faint or lightheaded, falls
- high blood pressure
- seizures
- unusual bleeding or bruising
- unusual swelling, sudden weight gain

Side effects that usually do not require medical attention (report to your doctor or health care professional if they continue or are bothersome):

- headache
- nausea and vomiting.

This list may not include all possible adverse reactions or side effects. Call your health care provider immediately if you are experiencing any signs of an allergic reaction: skin rash, itching or hives, swelling of the face, lips, or tongue, blue tint to skin, chest tightness, pain, difficulty breathing, wheezing, dizziness, red, a swollen painful area/areas on the leg.

MISSED DOSE: If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose. Take your next dose at the regular time. Do not double the dose to catch up.

STORAGE: Refrigerate or store at controlled room temperature and away from light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medications away from children and pets.