



## ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

# Oxytocin

**Scope (Staff):** All WNHS Staff

**Scope (Area):** Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

### Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Administration](#)

[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)

### Restrictions

[Formulary: Unrestricted](#)

### Medication Class

Oxytocic (synthetic pituitary hormone)

### Presentation

**Ampoule:** 10unit/mL

Combination Product:

**Ampoule:** Oxytocin 5unit Ergometrine 500microg per 1mL (Refer to KEMH Adult Medication Guideline: [Syntometrine](#))

### Storage

Protect from light.

Store at 2 - 8°C (Refrigerate. Do not freeze)\*

*\*May be stored for up to 30 days, at or below 25°C. If stock is removed from the refrigerator, ensure the date of removal is clearly written on the blue and white stickers (7b) provided by pharmacy.*

## Dose and Administration

### **Prophylaxis and Treatment of Postpartum Haemorrhage:**

Refer to: KEMH O&G Restricted Area Clinical Practice Guideline: [Postpartum Complications](#)  
(*Intranet access only*)

Refer to: KEMH Community Midwifery Program Clinical Practice Guideline: [Primary Postpartum Haemorrhage \(PPH\) at Home \(CMP\)](#) (*Intranet access only*)

### **Induction of Labour:**

Refer to: KEMH O&G Restricted Area Clinical Practice Guideline: [Induction of Labour](#) (*Intranet access only*)

### **Pharmacological management of uterine tone at caesarean birth:**

Refer to: KEMH O&G Clinical Practice Guideline: [Caesarean birth](#)

### **Active management of the third stage of labour:**

Refer to: KEMH O&G Clinical Practice Guideline: [Labour: Third stage](#)

### **Retained Placenta:**

Refer to: KEMH O&G Clinical Practice Guideline: [Labour: Third stage: Retained Placenta](#)

## Monitoring

When using an infusion, monitor fluid balance to prevent water intoxication.

## Pregnancy

**1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:** Consider alternative

**2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:** Consider alternative

**3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:** Monitoring required

## Breastfeeding

Safe to use

## Comments

Do not use ampoules that have been out of the fridge for more than 30 days or if the date of removal from the fridge is unknown.

## Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

### WNHS O&G Clinical Practice Guidelines (in addition to those listed above):

- [Blood Products and Transfusion: Refusal](#)
- [Bladder Management](#)
- [Birth After Previous Caesarean Section](#)
- [Fetal Heart Rate Monitoring](#)
- [Pregnancy care: Mid-trimester pregnancy loss \(including abortion\)](#) (*Restricted Area Guideline – Intranet access only*)
- [Multiple Pregnancy](#)
- [Labour: Partogram](#)
- [Fetal Compromise / Distress \(Acute\)](#)
- [Rupture of Membranes- Spontaneous](#) (Pre-viability, Preterm and Term)
- [Cardiac Disease](#)
- [Labour: First Stage: Management of Delay](#)
- [Labour: Second Stage: Management of Delay](#)
- [Abnormalities of lie / presentation](#)
- [Body Mass Index \(BMI\) >40: Management of a Woman with](#)

### WNHS Medicines Management Guidelines:

Structured Administration & Supply Arrangement (SASA): [Oxytocin](#)

[Prescribing by Eligible Private Practicing Midwives \(EPPM\) with a Scheduled Medicines Endorsement](#)

## References









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The Royal Women's Hospital. Oxytocin. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2020 [cited 2021 Mar 24]. Available from: <https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/>

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