

Drug Class Review Monograph – GPI Class 29 – Oxytocics

Review Time Frame: 05/2016 – 04/2017

Previous Class Review: N/A

Background:

Oxytocic drugs are used for induction or augmentation of labor and include the following:

- Synthetic oxytocin: elicits the same response produced by endogenous oxytocin, increasing amplitude and frequency of uterine contractions.
- Ergot alkaloids (e.g., methylergonovine): increase the strength, duration, and frequency of uterine contractions and decrease uterine bleeding.
- Prostaglandins (e.g., carboprost, dinoprostone): stimulate uterine contractions similar to those seen during natural labor when administered as an abortifacient, relaxes the smooth muscle of the cervix, and promotes cervical ripening allowing dilation and passage of the fetus through the birth canal when administered for labor induction.

New treatment guideline recommendations:

- None identified

Newly approved drugs:

- None identified

Newly approved formulations:

- None identified

Newly approved generics:

- None identified

Discontinued drugs:

- None identified

FDA Safety Alerts/black box warnings:

- None identified

Pipeline alerts:

Agents pending FDA approval include:

- None identified

References:

1. Wing DA. Induction of labor. In: UpToDate, Waltham, MA: Walters Kluwer Health; 2016. Available at UpToDate.com. Accessed April 2016.
2. Dinoprostone. Lexi-Drugs. Lexicomp. Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. Hudson, OH. Available at: <http://online.lexi.com>. Accessed April 25, 2016.
3. Clinical Pharmacology [database online]. Tampa, FL: Gold Standard, Inc.; 2017. URL: <http://www.clinicalpharmacology-ip.com/>. Accessed May 2017.

4. US Script Oracle PBM: Medi-Span[®] Master Drug Data Base. April 2016.
5. Food and Drug Administration. WWW.FDA.GOV. Accessed May 2017.
6. DailyMed. <https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/>.
7. Envolve Pharmacy Solutions internal pipeline database. Accessed May 2017.