

Carboprost (Hemabate)

Carboprost (Hemabate) is a synthetic prostaglandin used to treat postpartum hemorrhage by inducing uterine contractions. Typically, after a woman gives birth, the uterus continues to contract and bleeding stops. Postpartum hemorrhage can occur when this doesn't happen, however. Carboprost can also be used to induce abortion in the second trimester of pregnancy. Side effects of carboprost (Hemabate) include: hypertension, fever, bronchoconstriction, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. If the patient develops a fever, the cause of the fever must be identified, to determine whether the fever is drug-induced, or due to another condition such as endometritis.



PLAY PICMONIC

Mechanism

Prostaglandin F2-alpha Analog

[P-rasta and Fox in \(2\) Tutu with Afro On-a-log](#)

Carboprost (Hemabate) is a synthetic prostaglandin, similar to the naturally occurring F2-alpha prostaglandin. Because of its similar structure, it is called an analog.

Smooth Muscle Contraction

[Smoothie Muscle Flexing](#)

Prostaglandins cause contraction of smooth muscle. In this case, carboprost (Hemabate) works by causing intense uterine contractions to stop postpartum bleeding.

Indications

Postpartum Hemorrhage

[Post-baby with Hemorrhage-hammer](#)

Typically, after a woman delivers the infant and the placenta, the uterus continues to contract and bleeding stops. When this doesn't happen, postpartum hemorrhage can occur. Carboprost (Hemabate) is given to induce intense uterine contractions, in order to stop postpartum bleeding.

Abortion

[Aborting Fetus](#)

Carboprost (Hemabate) may also be used to induce abortion in the second trimester of pregnancy by generating strong uterine contractions. Other off-label uses for this medication include treatment of hemorrhagic cystitis.

Side Effects

GI Distress

[GI shooting Flare-gun](#)

Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea are common, as prostaglandins stimulate the smooth muscle tissue in the stomach and intestines.

Hypertension

Hiker-BP

Prostaglandins cause vasoconstriction, which may lead to hypertension. Carboprost should be used with caution in patients with a history of high blood pressure.

Fever

Fever-beaver

Fever is a common side effect associated with the medication. If a fever develops, the cause of the fever must be identified to determine whether it is drug-induced or due to another condition/infection, such as endometritis.

Bronchoconstriction

Broccoli-constrictor

Prostaglandins can cause bronchoconstriction and should be used with caution in patients with a history of asthma.

Considerations

Identify Cause of Fever

ID Fever-beaver

Fever is a common side effect of carboprost. If a fever develops, the cause of the fever must be identified to determine whether it is drug-induced or due to another condition/infection, such as endometritis. Failure to recognize postpartum or post-abortion endometritis may lead to sepsis and death.