

Medication	Mechanism of Action/Use	Nursing Considerations
Methotrexate	Used for medical abortions, usually followed by misoprostol (Ricci et al., 2021).	<p>Avoid skin contact.</p> <p>Monitor results of CBC, chest x-ray, liver, and renal function test, and urinalysis before and after treatment</p> <p>Administer sub q injection to the patient's abdomen or thigh.</p> <p>Increase fluid intake to 2-3 L daily, unless contraindicated, to reduce the risk of adverse GU reactions.</p> <p>Assess the patient for excess bleeding and infection.</p> <p>This drug can cause fetal harm such as death, embryotoxicity, and fetal defects (Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2022).</p>
Mifepristone	Used for medical abortions because it blocks progesterone, which is essential for the development of pregnancy. This medication is followed by misoprostol within 24-48 hours later to help empty the uterus (Ricci et al., 2021).	<p>Instruct patient to contact the provider immediately if she notices weakness, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, and fever for more than 24 hours.</p> <p>Inform the patient that cramping and vaginal bleeding may occur (Ricci et al., 2021).</p>
Rhogam	<p>Used for when a pregnant mother's blood is Rh-negative and her child is Rh-positive, the baby's blood can enter her system and cause her to produce antibodies. Then, when that woman has a second baby with Rh-positive blood, the antibodies will destroy the red blood cells in the baby, which is fatal for the fetus.</p> <p>Rhogam is also administered prior to the start of either a medical or surgical abortion (Ricci et al., 2021).</p>	Do not give RhoGAM to individuals who lack red blood cells and have a deficiency with the antibody to immune globulin A (Ricci et al., 2021).
Betamethasone	Used to accelerate fetal organ maturation during pregnancy	Administer cautiously to pregnant woman.

	(El-Sayed et al., 2020).	Topical corticosteroids have caused a disturbance to the development of an embryo and can be absorbed from the systemic site (RNpedia, 2019).
Indomethacin (Voltaren)	Used for pain management. Inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis (Ricci et al., 2021).	Administer oral form with food to prevent GI upset. Monitor for headache, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, constipation, or diarrhea. Assess for signs and symptoms of bleeding, such as bruising, epistaxis, gingival bleeding, or frank or occult blood in urine or stool, When administering IV, report oliguria or anuria (Ricci et al., 2021).
Magnesium Sulfate	Used to prevent seizures due to worsening preeclampsia and to slow or stop preterm labor. This drug can also be given to prevent preterm injuries to a preterm baby's brain (Bird, 2021).	Monitor the newborn for hypotension, hyporeflexia, and respiratory depression if the mother has received magnesium sulfate. Monitor intake and output levels (Bird, 2021).
Terbutaline Sulfate	This is a drug normally used to treat wheezing and shortness of breath. Although, in OB this drug can sometimes be used to prevent premature labor in pregnant women cells (U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2020).	Tell patient to notify the doctor if they notice uncontrollable shaking of the body, nervousness, dizziness, drowsiness, and weakness cells (U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2020).
Hydralazine hydrochloride	An antihypertensive used for direct vasodilation of arterioles to manage moderate to severe hypertension related to pregnancy (Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2022).	Monitor heart rate and BP Closely monitor HR with IV use Administer oral dose with food. May cause palpitations, flushing, tachycardia, dizziness, nausea, and vomiting, Contraindicated in rheumatic valvular disease (Ricci et al., 2021).
Labetalol	Used to treat high blood pressure and angina in pregnancy (Jones & Bartlett	It is unknown if this drug causes fetal harm. Use only if the benefits to the

	Learning, 2022).	mother outweigh the risk to the fetus. Keep the patient in a supine position for 3 hours after I.V. administration. Watch for a labetalol mask. Monitor a diabetic mother's blood glucose (Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2022).
Nifedipine	Used to treat hypertension and angina in pregnancy. This drug will also sometimes be used to stop labor prior to 37 weeks of gestation. This drug acts through smooth-muscle relaxation by slowing calcium channels into the cells (U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2020).	Monitor heart rate and rhythm, monitor fluid intake/output and daily weight, do not stop medication abruptly (U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2020).
Calcium gluconate	A mineral supplement that is used to treat hypocalcemia and hyperphosphatemia and helps regulate and release the storage of neurotransmitters and hormones. This supplement is considered safe for all three semesters of pregnancy (Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2022).	Store at room temperature, protect from heat, and monitor serum calcium levels (Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2022).
Misoprostol	Given within 24-48 hours of methotrexate and Mifepristone to help empty the uterus after a medical abortion. Misoprostol also stimulates the uterus to contract which reduces bleeding (Ricci et al., 2021).	Advise patient to avoid alcohol and foods that cause GI irritation. Never give this drug undiluted A bolus IV injections (Ricci et al., 2021).
Cervidil	Prostaglandin, hormone-like substance that is naturally produced in the body, used in pregnant women to help relax the cervix. This is used to induce labor (Ricci et al., 2021).	Monitor patient for fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and back pain (Ricci et al., 2021).
Methylergonovine	Used to prevent and control bleeding from the uterus after	May pass through breast milk if mom is breast feeding and affect

	childbirth. It acts directly on the smooth muscle of the uterus (Ricci et al., 2021).	the baby, must be used for up to one week after delivery, and monitor blood pressure. Assess baseline bleeding, uterine tone, and vital signs every 15 minutes. Monitor for any possible adverse effects, such as hypertension, seizures, uterine cramping, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and palpitations (Ricci et al, 2021).
Hepatitis B vaccine	A vaccine that causes the body to produce its own antibodies against the disease. It is important that mothers get tested for Hepatitis B surface antigen, to see if they are at risk of transmitting this disease to their baby during birth (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022).	Monitor the patient for rash, fatigue, and fever (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022).
Erythromycin eye ointment	Stops the growth of bacteria such as neonatal conjunctivitis in newborns (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, 2023).	Administer within one hour after birth, and monitor the patient for vomiting, diarrhea, and allergic reactions (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, 2023).
Phytonadione	Used to treat maternal hypoprothrombinemia and to prevent hemorrhagic diseases in the newborn, helping the baby's blood to clot (Phytonadione/vitamin K1: Nursing pharmacology osmosis, n.d.).	IM administration in vastus lateralis. Monitor for signs of pain, erythema, skin rash, or urticaria Phytonadione/vitamin K1: Nursing pharmacology osmosis, n.d.).
Prenatal vitamins	Used for pregnant women to give them extra key nutrients during pregnancy and helps to reduce the risk of serious birth defects (Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, 2022).	Make sure patient notifies their doctor before starting a prenatal, and inform their provider on what medicines, herbal supplements and vitamins they are currently taking (Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, 2022).
MMR vaccine	A live vaccine that works by stimulating the immune	This vaccine should not be given to pregnant women, but an

	system to produce antibodies (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022).	antibody test should be performed at the first prenatal visit to see if the mother has antibodies to prevent this form of infection (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022).
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