



Facts About Methergine

What is Methergine?

Methergine is a medication that makes the uterus (womb) contract in order to stop or slow bleeding.

When should I take it?

If you have heavy bleeding, soaking through one or more full-sized pads in one hour or less, you should take this medication. If you have a history of high blood pressure, Raynaud's syndrome or other vascular problems **you should not take this medication** without first consulting a nurse or your doctor.

How should I take it?

1. Fill your prescription for Methergine at any pharmacy.
2. You will receive 8 pills. Take them according to the following directions:
 - Take 2 pills to start.
 - If you're still bleeding heavily 2 hours later, take one more pill.
 - If the bleeding hasn't slowed down in one hour after the third pill, call your clinic number or the emergency number and talk with a nurse.
 - If the bleeding slows down or stops, stop taking Methergine.
 - If the bleeding becomes heavy again, start taking Methergine. Take one pill every 3 hours. Call if the bleeding continues to be heavy.

What should I watch for?

Many women experience cramping after taking methergine because it stops bleeding by causing the uterus to contract. This is normal. If cramping becomes uncomfortable, take ibuprofen.

If you have a history of high blood pressure, Raynaud's syndrome or other vascular disease you may not be able to use this medication. Please let the recovery nurse know before you leave if you have a history of these problems.

Some uncommon side effects of Methergine include: nausea and vomiting, headaches and shortness of breath. If you have these side effects, stop taking Methergine. Call your clinic number or the emergency number and talk to a nurse.

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