CLASS: B

PROTOCOL USED IN: OB/GYN & Childbirth Emergencies

PHARMACOLOGY AND ACTIONS:
A. Hormone which increases electrical and contractile activity in uterine smooth muscle.
B. Can initiate or enhance rhythmic contractions of the uterus.
C. Exhibits rapid onset with a very short half-life, rapid inactivation and excretion.

INDICATIONS:
Control of post-partum hemorrhage

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
Rule out multiple fetuses before administration

SIDE EFFECTS AND NOTES:
A. Administration should follow delivery of placenta.
B. In large doses, oxytocin exhibits a transient, but marked vasodilating effect and reflex tachycardia.
C. Cardiac dysrhythmias may be precipitated or aggravated by oxytocin.
D. Fundul massage and nursing can stimulate natural release of pitocin from mother’s pituitary gland.

ADULT DOSSING:

10 USP units (10mg) IM. Contact Medical Control.

PEDIATRIC: not recommended in pediatric patients.