



## Contraindications

### Fetal Lung Immaturity

#### Fetus Missing Lungs

This medication should never be given to any patient whose fetus is immature. This would be before 20 weeks of gestation or the determination of fetal lung immaturity via lab tests.

### Cervix Not Ripened

#### Unripened Cervix fruit

Giving this medication and inducing contractions before cervical ripening may cause fetal or maternal injuries.

### Active Genital Herpes Infection

#### Herpes-harp with Active Infection

Patients with an active genital herpes infection should never be administered this medication. These patients require cesarean delivery due to the high risk of vertical transmission of this TORCH infection.

## Considerations

### Use Lowest Dose

#### Using Smallest Needle

Using the lowest dose of this medication prevents many of the side effects. As higher doses are used the strength of contractions are also increased which may cause placental insufficiency. It also increases the risk of water intoxication and uterine rupture.

### IV Pump

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This medication is destroyed by the gastrointestinal system and must be given IV or IM route. It has a relatively short half life that, when coupled with the potency, requires the use of an IV pump at all times when this medication is administered intravenously.