

## 5 INTRAPARTUM CARE

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5.20 Guidelines for prescribing routine medications for a woman in Labour and Birth Suite  
Section B  
Clinical Practice Guidelines  
King Edward Memorial Hospital  
Perth Western Australia

### 5.20 GUIDELINES FOR PRESCRIBING ROUTINE MEDICATIONS FOR A WOMAN IN LABOUR AND BIRTH SUITE

#### AIM

- To provide a guide to medical practitioners on the routine medications used in the Labour and Birth Suite at King Edward Memorial Hospital.
- To ensure appropriate medications are prescribed for each woman during labour, birth and the immediate postpartum period.
- To comply with the Poisons Act 1964

#### BACKGROUND

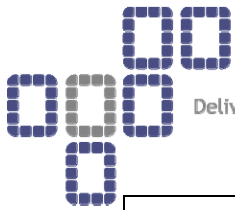
All women admitted to KEMH Labour and Birth Suite may require the administration of numerous medications during their labour, birth and immediate postpartum period. A number of medications are used routinely in the care of these women. To assist medical practitioners the following table has been created as a guide.

#### KEY POINTS

All women admitted to the LBS will be assessed prior to prescribing of these medications, identifying their individual needs, circumstances and medical condition.  
It is the responsibility of all medical practitioners prescribing these medications to ensure that there are no contraindications.

#### MEDICATION PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES

MEDICATION	DOSE	ROUTE	FREQUENCY	INDICATIONS FOR USE
Lignocaine 1%	10-20mls	Subcutaneous	Once	Prior to episiotomy and for suturing the perineum.
<a href="#">Metoclopramide</a>	10mg	Intramuscular	Once	Nausea and vomiting in labour
<a href="#">Morphine</a>	10 mg	Intramuscular	q 4hr	Pain relief in early labour To be prescribed on the <b>MR 810</b>
<a href="#">Nitrous Oxide</a>		Inhalation	PRN	Analgesia



<a href="#">Pethidine</a>	100 mg	Intramuscular	Q 4hr	Pain relief in early labour. To be prescribed on the <b>MR810</b>
<a href="#">Promethazine</a>	25mg	Intramuscular	Once	Nausea and vomiting in labour
<b>EITHER SYNTOCINON <u>OR</u> SYNTOMETRINE FOR THIRD STAGE MANAGEMENT</b>				
<a href="#">Oxytocin</a> (Syntocinon)	10 units	Intramuscular	Once	In the Second stage of labour with the delivery of the anterior shoulder
<a href="#">Syntometrine</a>	1 ampoule (0.5 Ergometrine and 5IU Syntocinon)	Intramuscular	Once	In the Second stage of labour with the delivery of the anterior shoulder

## REFERENCES

W029 DRUGS OF ADDICTION (EIGHTH SCHEDULE DRUGS)

[http://wnhs.hdwa.health.wa.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/53274/W029.pdf](http://wnhs.hdwa.health.wa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/53274/W029.pdf)