

Drug Class: Progesterone

Prototype Med Medroxyprogesterone Acetate
Provera

Other Meds norethindrone (Micronor)
Megestrol acetate (Megace)

Action: Antagonize estrogen influenced tissue growth in the uterine endometrium, thus prevent hyperplasia or an overgrowth of the lining of the uterus

Therapeutic Use

Treatment of endometriosis

Treatment of dysfunctional uterine bleeding

Treatment of endometrial carcinoma

Adverse Drug Reactions

Thromboembolism/Breast cancer

Breakthrough bleeding and other menstrual irregularities

Nausea/Edema

Nursing Interventions

Monitor for and report any indications of deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, myocardial infarction, and cerebrovascular accident.

Encourage clients who smoke to quit.

Recommend mammograms and breast examinations at appropriate intervals.

Discontinue the drug for any indications of breast cancer.

Monitor the pattern and amount of any reported bleeding.

Inform clients that this effect diminishes with time.

Monitor weight.

Administration

Give orally daily or cyclically or via IM injection.

Expect amenorrhea and other menstrual irregularities.

Patient Education

Report leg or chest pain, leg edema, sudden change in vision, severe head-ache, or shortness of breath.

Do not smoke.

Stop taking at least 4 weeks before any surgery that increases the risk of thromboembolic events.

Perform breast self-examination every month.

Obtain a mammogram and breast examination at the recommended intervals.

Report any unusual breakthrough bleeding or spotting or changes in menstrual patterns.

Take oral forms with food. Take at bedtime.

Contraindications

Pregnancy - teratogenic effects

History of or high risk for thromboembolic events

Undiagnosed vaginal bleeding

Liver disease

Cervical, uterine, vaginal, or breast cancer

Precautions

Asthma/Seizures/Migraines

Cerebrovascular accident

Cardiac or kidney dysfunction

Interactions

Rifampin (Rifadin), ritonavir (Norvir), phenobarbital (Luminal), carbamazepine (Tegretol), primidone (Mysoline), phenytoin (Dilantin), and St. John's wort can reduce the effectiveness of progesterones.

Progesterones may require adjustments in the dosage of hypoglycemic drugs.

