

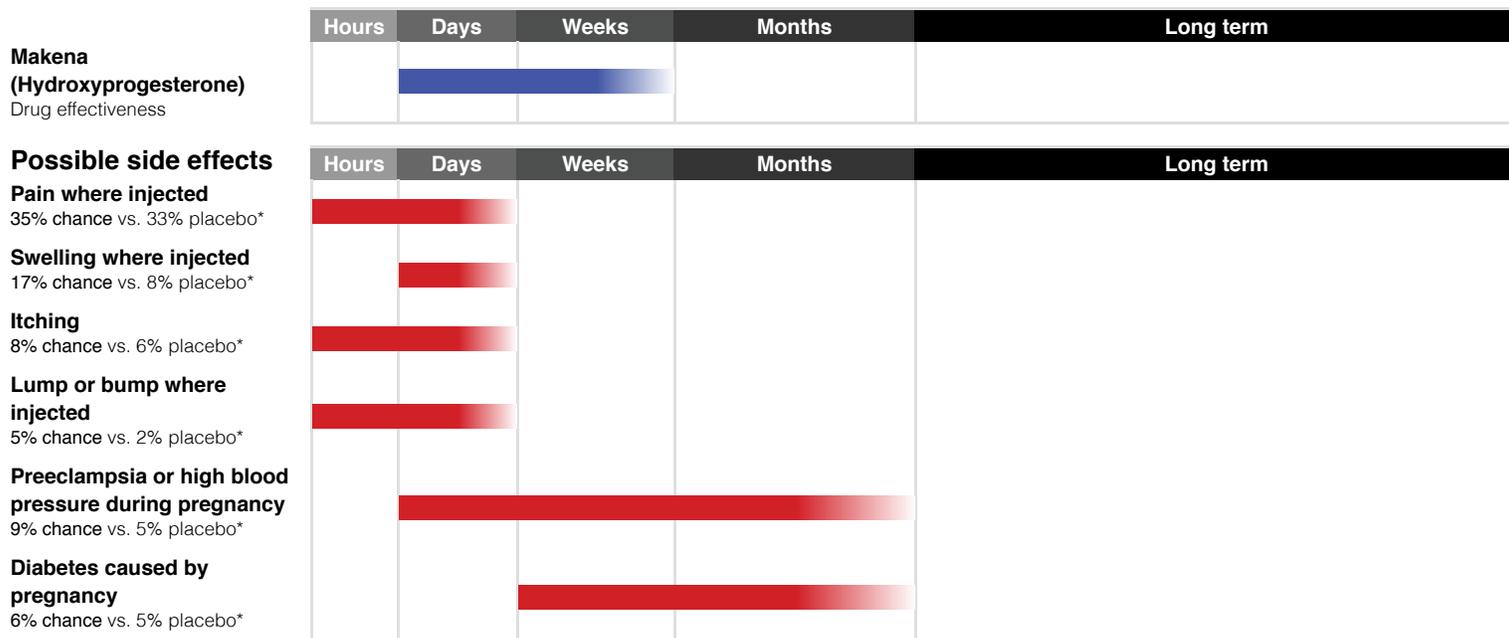
Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) basics

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Helps women carry a baby to full term. Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) lowers your chance of having your baby too early, but you should weigh its risks and benefits carefully with your prenatal care provider.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

Tips from pharmacists

- Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) injection is given by your doctor or a helper at home every 7 days in your butt. Don't ever try to give yourself the injection.
- Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) isn't given if you are actually in labor. It is only given to women who have delivered a premature baby in the past and are likely to go into labor before they are 37 weeks pregnant.
- You must start Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) between weeks 16 and 20 of your pregnancy and continue using it every week until week 37 or until you deliver your baby (whichever happens first).
- It's important that you don't miss any doses.
- Let your doctor know if you notice any unexplained pain while you are on Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone), or if you have a reaction (redness or oozing fluid) at the injection site.
- You can't use Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) if you are pregnant with more than 1 baby (twins, triplets, etc).

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Increased risk of blood clots and stroke

Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) can raise your risk of blood clots, which can be very dangerous. You're more likely to have them if you smoke tobacco, are obese, or if you or your family have a history of blood clots. Get medical care right away if you have pain in your legs or arms, bad headaches, trouble breathing, or sudden changes in your speech or vision.

Breast cancer

It is not completely clear if progesterones, like Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone), increases your risk of breast cancer. There may be a higher risk if you have a history of breast cancer, so make sure to tell your doctor if you or a family member has ever had breast cancer.

Liver problems

Makena (Hydroxyprogesterone) is broken down by the liver, so if the liver is damaged, the drug can build up in your body. If you notice sudden yellowing of your skin or eyes, talk to your doctor before your next injection. Don't start taking it if you have abnormal liver blood tests or a history of liver problems.