

# Methergine (methylergonovine) basics

**Treats bleeding during and after labor and delivery of your baby.** Methergine (methylergonovine) is a second choice medicine for bleeding during childbirth because of side effects.

## What to expect when starting

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

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
<b>Methergine (methylergonovine)</b> Drug effectiveness					
<b>Possible side effects†</b>					
<b>Heart attack</b>					
<b>High blood pressure</b>					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- Talk to your doctor right away or go to the emergency room if you notice chest pain or tightness, difficulty breathing, or pain that goes from your chest to your left arm.
- Methergine (methylergonovine) is usually only given in the hospital.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Heart attack

Some people have had heart attacks while taking Methergine (methylergonovine). This is very rare. Talk to your doctor right away if you suddenly feel crushing pain, tightness or heaviness in your chest, trouble breathing, or chest pain that spreads to your left arm or neck.

### Breathing problems in babies of breastfeeding mothers

Wait at least 12 hours after your last dose of Methergine (methylergonovine) before you breastfeed your baby, since it can get into the breast milk. The most serious symptoms in breastfeeding babies are breathing problems, lowered body temperature, muscle spasms, and convulsions.

### High blood pressure

The most common side effect of Methergine (methylergonovine) is high blood pressure, which usually goes away when you stop taking it. Talk to your doctor right away if you suddenly get a really bad headache, dizziness, pass out, or notice changes in your vision.