



GEORGIA PERINATAL

CONSULTANTS

17-HYDROXYPROGESTERONE

WHAT IS 17HP AND WHY IS IT GIVEN?

17HP is a synthetic equivalent of progesterone, a naturally occurring steroid hormone. It works by creating a supportive uterine environment for the developing baby. The goal of the treatment is to reduce the risk of preterm delivery in patients with a history of preterm delivery (delivery before 37 weeks).

WHEN AND HOW IS IT ADMINISTERED?

17HP is given on a weekly basis starting between 16-20 weeks through 36 weeks of gestation. It is given as an intramuscular injection. Injection sites are rotated on a weekly basis to minimize the common side effects listed below.

WHAT SIDE EFFECTS CAN I EXPECT?

Injection site reactions are common and include soreness, redness and itchiness. If you experience any of these common side effects, apply a cold compress to the area. You may also apply topical Benadryl or 1% hydrocortisone. Do not apply heat as this will further irritate the site, and try to refrain from scratching.

Other side effects include a transient increase in blood sugar and slight headache. There are no side effects to your baby.

Contact your provider right away if you experience an allergic reaction (hives, sudden swelling in face or hands, tingling or swelling in the mouth or throat, chest tightness or difficulty breathing).