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Carboprost

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Carboprost*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C61662.

The (15S)-15 methyl analogue of naturally occurring prostaglandin F₂ alpha (PGF₂ alpha) with oxytocic activity. Mimicking endogenous PGF₂ alpha, carboprost activates prostaglandin F receptor, a G-protein coupled receptor, on smooth muscle cells, thereby resulting in smooth muscle contractions. When administered intramuscularly on gravid subjects, this agent induces myometrium contractions, thereby initiating luteolysis and consequently parturition. Furthermore, carboprost's action on vascular smooth muscle and gastrointestinal tract sphincters leads to raised blood pressure and induces vomiting or diarrhea, respectively.