

17-P (17 ALPHA HYDROXYPROGESTERONE CAPROATE) INFORMATION

1. 17P is only available from the Physician Drug Program. The **Provider's office** will need to purchase the 17P from Triangle Compounding or it can be ordered through the www.mombaby.org website, which ultimately obtains its 17-P from Triangle Compounding, as well. (There is an entire section on the www.mombaby.org website to obtain further information regarding 17P.)
2. The provider **cannot** give the patient a prescription to pick up and pay for the 17P at any pharmacy or through any pharmacy program.
3. The pharmacy will send the vial(s) of 17P to the practice with an invoice for payment. Triangle Compounding charges \$90 for a 10-dose vial.
4. A claim should be filed with Medicaid for each dose of 17P the practice administers and Medicaid will, in turn, reimburse the practice up to \$20.00 per dose. The claim can be submitted electronically using the following billing information:
 - **HCPCS Code: J3490**
 - **ICD-9-CM Code: V 23.41**
 - **1 unit =250 mg.**
 - **Use rebatable NDC codes and appropriate NDC units**
5. 17P has a shelf life of 6 months and should be stored at room temperature, away from direct heat and sunlight. No refrigeration is required.
6. Makena, the brand name version of 17P, is quite expensive. The compounded form is just as effective and its use is considered very acceptable.
7. Pregnant women with a previous history of spontaneous preterm birth or spontaneous rupture of membranes before 37 weeks gestation meet the criteria for receiving 17-P. Additionally, the patient must currently be pregnant with a singleton gestation. The patient should be informed regarding 17P, consent should be obtained and the discussion should be documented. (Patient information is available in both English and Spanish.) Optimally, it is recommended that treatment be initiated between 16 weeks, 0 days and 20 weeks, 6 days gestation. It may be started as late as 26 weeks, 6 days gestation, but supportive data for this late of a start is inconclusive.

The injections are continued until the patient reaches 36 weeks, 6 days gestation or gives birth, whichever occurs first.

8. 17-P can be administered in the gluteus muscle or anterior thigh, alternating sides each week. The dose to be given is 250 mg (1ml) weekly. Ideally, the injections should be given the same time each week; however a range of 5 to 9 days between injections is acceptable, should it be necessary to plan around holidays or other delays. Once an alteration occurs in the scheduled day, the injections from that point on should be the same time each week, if at all possible. The injection is not terribly painful, but patients may take acetaminophen and/or soak in a warm tub, should they experience pain at the injection site.
9. Additional administrative tips:
 - Clean the vial top with alcohol, before drawing up the medication.
 - Clean the injection site with alcohol, before performing the injection.
 - Draw up 1 ml of 17P in a 3cc syringe using an 18 gauge needle since the medication is thick.
 - Change the needle to a 21 gauge, 1 ½ inch needle before injecting the 17-P.
 - Since the medicine is extremely thick, care should be used to avoid overfilling the syringe, which can lead to subsequent wastage.