

Tarrant County Public Health 17P Initiative

17P is an injection of a naturally-occurring progesterone medication that can help prevent you from having your baby too soon.

Am I eligible for this 17P medication?

Yes, if 1) you are pregnant with a single baby AND 2) if you have been diagnosed with a history of spontaneous preterm birth between 20 and 36 weeks gestation.

When should 17P be started?

You should start your treatment between 16 and 20 weeks. In case you started your prenatal care late, injections may be started up to 23 weeks.

Should 17P be given until 36 or 37 weeks?

In order to prevent late preterm birth, 17P should be given until 36 weeks.

How often should 17P be given?

Progesterone stays in the body for approximately one week. As such, the shot needs to be given every seven days. The suggested range of days in between injections is 5 to 9 days. This range may be helpful when planning around holidays or delayed appointments.

Is 17P safe for mothers?

There are minimal risks for mothers who take 17P to reduce their risk for recurring preterm birth. The most common problems are soreness, irritation, itching, bruising, swelling and pain that can occur at the injection site.

Is 17P safe for the baby?

Studies have shown 17P to be safe and it does not increase risks for birth defects.

Remember: Ask your health care provider about 17P.

For more information, please contact Tarrant County Public Health's Prematurity Prevention Program at 817-321-4717 or e-mail 17P@tarrantcounty.com



For additional information, visit our 17P Initiative Preterm Birth Prevention web page at <http://health.tarrantcounty.com>.

Tarrant County Public Health 17P Initiative A program for prematurity prevention

**Think you might be at risk for a preterm birth?
There may be something you can do about that.**

- Preterm birth is when a baby is born before 37 weeks of pregnancy or more than three weeks early.
- Babies born too early can have health complications, such as brain damage, breathing and vision problems and can even die.
- African-American babies are at higher risk of being born too early, though premature birth affects all babies.
- The greatest risk for preterm birth is having had a prior preterm birth.
- Women who have already had a premature baby need special attention when they are pregnant.
- For babies, delaying a preterm birth by even one or two weeks can make a difference in their survival.

17P is a natural progesterone medicine that can help prevent preterm birth by delaying birth in some pregnant women.

Refer to the back side of this card for frequently asked questions regarding 17P.