

# Breastfeeding and anesthetics (and other medications used during anesthesia)

## Information on selected anesthetics and related medications

The information summarized below is *only a general overview* of selected medications. For detailed information on the specific drugs or for information on drugs not listed here, please review the references listed below with your health care provider.

Info on selected anesthetics				
Name of medication	AAP approved?*	<a href="#">Pregnancy Risk Category**</a>	<a href="#">Lactation Risk Category**</a>	Notes
<i>Local anesthetics</i>				
Articaine (Septocaine)	NR	-	NR	<a href="#">more</a>
Bupivacaine (Marcaine)	NR	C	L2	
Lidocaine (Xylocaine)	Approved	C	L2	
Mepivacaine (Carbocaine, Polocaine)	NR	C	L3	<a href="#">more</a>
Procaine HCL (Novocaine)	NR	C	L3	
<i>General anesthetics</i>				
Halothane (Fluothane)	Approved	C	L2	<a href="#">more</a>
Isoflurane (Forane)	NR	-	NR	<a href="#">1</a>
Ketamine	NR	-	NR	<a href="#">more</a>
Methohexital (Brevital)	Approved	B	L3	
Nitrous oxide	NR	-	L3	
Sevoflurane (Ultane)	NR	B	L3	
Thiopental (Pentothal)	Approved	C	L3	
<i>Other medications often used during anesthesia</i>				
<i>Sedatives</i>				
Diazepam (Valium)	Concern	D	L3; L4 for chronic use	
Midazolam (Versed)	Concern	D	L3	
Propofol (Diprivan)	NR	B	L2	<a href="#">more</a>
Triazolam (Halcion)	NR	X	L3	
<i>Narcotic Analgesics</i>				
Alfentanil (Alfenta)	NR	C	L2	
Fentanyl (Sublimaze)	Approved	B	L2	
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	NR	C	L3	
Morphine	Approved	B	L3	
<i>Reversal Medication</i>				
Flumazenil (Romazicon)	NR	C	NR	<a href="#">2</a>
Naloxone (Narcan)	NR	C	NR	<a href="#">3</a>

<b>Steroids</b>								
Decadron (Dexamethasone)	NR	<b>C</b>	NR	<a href="#">more</a>				
<b>Stimulants</b>								
Epinephrine (Adrenaline)	NR	<b>C</b>	<b>L1</b>					
<b>Anti-nausea</b>								
Promethazine (Phenergan)	NR	<b>C</b>	<b>L2</b>					
<p>* Per the AAP Policy Statement <a href="#">The Transfer of Drugs and Other Chemicals Into Human Milk</a>, revised September 2001.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approved:</b> (Table 6) <a href="#">Maternal Medication Usually Compatible With Breastfeeding</a></li> <li>• <b>Concern:</b> (Table 4) <a href="#">Drugs for Which the Effect on Nursing Infants Is Unknown but May Be of Concern</a></li> <li>• <b>Caution:</b> (Table 5) <a href="#">Drugs That Have Been Associated With Significant Effects on Some Nursing Infants and Should Be Given to Nursing Mothers With Caution</a></li> <li>• NR: Not Reviewed. This drug has not yet been reviewed by the AAP.</li> </ul> <p>** Per <i>Medications' and Mothers' Milk</i> by Thomas Hale, PhD (2004 edition).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Lactation Risk Categories</b></th> <th><b>Pregnancy Risk Categories</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>L1</b> (safest)</li> <li>• <b>L2</b> (safer)</li> <li>• <b>L3</b> (moderately safe)</li> <li>• <b>L4</b> (possibly hazardous)</li> <li>• <b>L5</b> (contraindicated)</li> </ul> </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A</b> (controlled studies show no risk)</li> <li>• <b>B</b> (no evidence of risk in humans)</li> <li>• <b>C</b> (risk cannot be ruled out)</li> <li>• <b>D</b> (positive evidence of risk)</li> <li>• <b>X</b> (contraindicated in pregnancy)</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>NR: Not Reviewed. This drug has not yet been reviewed by Hale.</p>					<b>Lactation Risk Categories</b>	<b>Pregnancy Risk Categories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>L1</b> (safest)</li> <li>• <b>L2</b> (safer)</li> <li>• <b>L3</b> (moderately safe)</li> <li>• <b>L4</b> (possibly hazardous)</li> <li>• <b>L5</b> (contraindicated)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A</b> (controlled studies show no risk)</li> <li>• <b>B</b> (no evidence of risk in humans)</li> <li>• <b>C</b> (risk cannot be ruled out)</li> <li>• <b>D</b> (positive evidence of risk)</li> <li>• <b>X</b> (contraindicated in pregnancy)</li> </ul>
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