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Methoxsalen

Revised: February 15, 2024.

CASRN: 298-81-7

Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation

No information is available on the use of methoxsalen during breastfeeding. Expert opinion indicates that due to the photosensitizing effects of methoxsalen, breastfeeding should be withheld for 24 hours after an oral dose to allow for 95% of the drug to be eliminated in the mother's urine.[1-3] The same precaution probably applies to patients receiving methoxsalen as a part of therapy for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma. Use of topical methoxsalen is not contraindicated during breastfeeding, but avoid direct contact of the treated skin with the skin of the infant. [4,5]

Disclaimer: Information presented in this database is not meant as a substitute for professional judgment. You should consult your healthcare provider for breastfeeding advice related to your particular situation. The U.S. government does not warrant or assume any liability or responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information on this Site.

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Drug Levels

Maternal Levels. Relevant published information was not found as of the revision date.

Infant Levels. Relevant published information was not found as of the revision date.

Effects in Breastfed Infants

Relevant published information was not found as of the revision date.

Effects on Lactation and Breastmilk

Relevant published information was not found as of the revision date.

Alternate Drugs to Consider

(Psoriasis) Adalimumab, Certolizumab Pegol, Etanercept, Infliximab, Phototherapy, Tretinoin

References

- 1. Menter A, Korman NJ, Elmets CA, et al. Guidelines of care for the management of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis: Section 5. Guidelines of care for the treatment of psoriasis with phototherapy and photochemotherapy. J Am Acad Dermatol 2010;62:114-35. PubMed PMID: 19811850.
- 2. Butler DC, Heller MM, Murase JE. Safety of dermatologic medications in pregnancy and lactation: Part II. Lactation. J Am Acad Dermatol 2014;70:417.e1-10. PubMed PMID: 24528912.
- 3. Yaghi M, McMullan P, Truong TM, et al. Safety of dermatologic medications in pregnancy and lactation: An Update Part II: Lactation. J Am Acad Dermatol 2024. PubMed PMID: 38280680.
- 4. Reed BR. Dermatologic drug use during pregnancy and lactation. Dermatol Clin 1997;15:197-206. PubMed PMID: 9001872.
- 5. Reed BR. Dermatologic drugs, pregnancy, and lactation. A conservative guide. Arch Dermatol 1997;133:894-8. PubMed PMID: 9236528.

Substance Identification

Substance Name

Methoxsalen

CAS Registry Number

298-81-7

Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Milk, Human

Dermatologic Agents

Photosensitizing Agents

Coumarins

Methoxsalen 3

Furocoumarins

Psoralens

PUVA Therapy