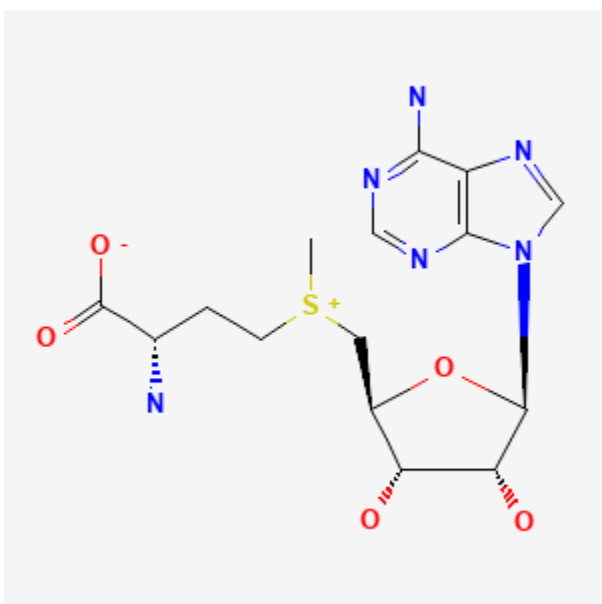




SAM-e

Revised: May 17, 2021.

CASRN: 29908-03-0



Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation

SAM-e (S-adenosylmethionine) is a naturally occurring methyl radical donor involved in enzymatic transmethylation reactions in humans and animals. SAM-e has no specific lactation-related uses, but it has been used therapeutically for treating postpartum depression, cholestatic jaundice, osteoarthritis and numerous other conditions. SAM-e has poor oral bioavailability. SAM-e is generally well tolerated in adults. The most frequent adverse effects reported are gastrointestinal, such as nausea. Skin rashes have also been reported. No information is available on the clinical use of SAM-e during breastfeeding. However, use of SAM-e by a nursing mother would not be expected to cause any adverse effects in breastfed infants, especially if the infant is older than 2 months.[1,2]

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.

Attribution Statement: LactMed is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Dietary supplements do not require extensive pre-marketing approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Manufacturers are responsible to ensure the safety, but do not need to *prove* the safety and effectiveness of dietary supplements before they are marketed. Dietary supplements may contain multiple ingredients, and differences are often found between labeled and actual ingredients or their amounts. A manufacturer may contract with an independent organization to verify the quality of a product or its ingredients, but that does *not* certify the safety or effectiveness of a product. Because of the above issues, clinical testing results on one product may not be applicable to other products. More detailed information [about dietary supplements](#) is available elsewhere on the LactMed Web site.

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

(Depression) [Nortriptyline](#), [Paroxetine](#), Sertraline (Cholestatic Jaundice) [Ursodiol](#)

References

1. Mischoulon D. Update and critique of natural remedies as antidepressant treatments. *Obstet Gynecol Clin North Am* 2009;36:789-807, x. PMID: 19944301
2. Deligiannidis KM, Freeman MP. Complementary and alternative medicine for the treatment of depressive disorders in women. *Psychiatr Clin North Am.* 2010;33:441-63. PubMed PMID: 20385346.

Substance Identification

Substance Name

SAM-e

Scientific Name

S-adenosylmethionine

CAS Registry Number

29908-03-0

Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Complementary Therapies