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# **Topotecan**

Revised: August 16, 2021.

CASRN: 123948-87-8

# **Drug Levels and Effects**

## **Summary of Use during Lactation**

Most sources consider breastfeeding to be contraindicated during maternal high-dose antineoplastic drug therapy. The manufacturer recommends that women not breastfeed during treatment with topotecan and for 1 week after the last dose. Chemotherapy may adversely affect the normal microbiome and chemical makeup of breastmilk.[1] Women who receive chemotherapy during pregnancy are more likely to have difficulty nursing their infant.[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.

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### **Drug Levels**

Topotecan appears to be actively transported into breastmilk by multidrug transporter BCRP, which is encoded by ABCG2.[3]

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.

#### References

- 1. Urbaniak C, McMillan A, Angelini M, et al. Effect of chemotherapy on the microbiota and metabolome of human milk, a case report. Microbiome. 2014;2:24. PubMed PMID: 25061513.
- 2. Stopenski S, Aslam A, Zhang X, et al. After chemotherapy treatment for maternal cancer during pregnancy, is breastfeeding possible? Breastfeed Med. 2017;12:91–7. PubMed PMID: 28170295.
- 3. Jonker JW, Merino G, Musters S, et al. The breast cancer resistance protein BCRP (ABCG2) concentrates drugs and carcinogenic xenotoxins into milk. Nat Med. 2005;11:127–9. PubMed PMID: 15685169.

## **Substance Identification**

#### **Substance Name**

Topotecan

### **CAS Registry Number**

123948-87-8

### **Drug Class**

**Breast Feeding** 

Lactation

**Antineoplastic Agents** 

Topoisomerase I Inhibitors