



Cetuximab

Revised: November 15, 2023.

CASRN: 205923-56-4

Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation

No information is available on the clinical use of cetuximab during breastfeeding. Because cetuximab is a large protein molecule with a molecular weight of 145,782 Da, the amount in milk is likely to be very low.[1] It is also likely to be partially destroyed in the infant's gastrointestinal tract and absorption by the infant is probably minimal.[2] Until more data become available, cetuximab should be used with caution during breastfeeding, especially while nursing a newborn or preterm infant. The manufacturer recommends that breastfeeding be discontinued during cetuximab therapy and for 2 months after the last dose.

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.

References

1. Stratigakis A, Paty D, Zou P, et al. A regression approach for assessing large molecular drug concentration in breast milk. *Reprod Breed* 2023;3:199-207. doi:10.1016/j.repbre.2023.10.003
2. Anderson PO. Monoclonal antibodies during breastfeeding. *Breastfeed Med* 2021;16:591-3. PubMed PMID: 33956488.

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Substance Identification

Substance Name

Cetuximab

CAS Registry Number

205923-56-4

Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Milk, Human

Antibodies, Monoclonal

Antineoplastic Agents