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Tranexamic Acid

Revised: March 15, 2023.

CASRN: 1197-18-8

Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation

Amounts of tranexamic acid in breastmilk appear to be low. Although an international consensus panel recommended against using tranexamic acid during breastfeeding,[1] a subsequent controlled study found no adverse outcomes among breastfed infants whose mothers took tranexamic acid in dosages up to 4 grams daily during breastfeeding. One center in Canada reports routine use of tranexamic acid 3 grams daily in nursing mothers with bleeding disorders until bleeding stops.[2] Tranexamic acid is used for hereditary angioedema in low-income countries where first-line treatments are not available, but should not be used if C1-INH is available. [3] If tranexamic acid is required by a mother, it is not a reason to discontinue breastfeeding; however, until more data become available, medical supervision and follow-up of the breastfed infant is recommended.[4]

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. Unpublished data from the manufacturer indicates that the concentration of tranexamic acid in breastmilk is 1% of the peak serum concentration 1 hour after the last dose of a 2-day treatment course.[5] Further details of the study have not been published.

A dose-finding study of 30 women who received either 5, 10 or 15 mg/kg of tranexamic acid at the time of cord clamping after cesarean delivery collected convenience samples of milk at unspecified times when mothers were nursing their neonates. Tranexamic acid levels in milk were measured in 7 patients. Three samples had no detectable tranexamic acid (<0.04 mg/L). The other samples contained tranexamic acid concentrations ranging from 0.06 to 0.47 mg/L.[6]

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

Effects in Breastfed Infants

Twenty-one mothers who took tranexamic acid during breastfeeding were compared to 42 mothers who took amoxicillin during breastfeeding. In the study population, the tranexamic acid dosage ranged between 1.5 and 4 grams daily at an average of 4.2 months of age and 81% exclusively breastfed their infants. The average time of follow-up of the infants of study mothers was 35.7 months of age. No statistically significant difference were found between the study and control groups in possible drug side effects, neurological development or general health.[4]

A randomized, double-blind, multicenter study compared the use of a 1 gram dose of intravenous tranexamic acid (n = 10,051) to placebo (n = 10,009) in women with postpartum hemorrhage. The dose could be repeated in 24 hours if bleeding recurred. Among babies who were breastfed, no difference in infant deaths were seen between the two groups, nor were any thromboembolic events reported. The numbers of breastfed infants in each group were not reported.[7]

Effects on Lactation and Breastmilk

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

References

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- 7. Shakur H, Roberts I, Fawole B, et al. Effect of early tranexamic acid administration on mortality, hysterectomy, and other morbidities in women with post-partum haemorrhage (WOMAN): An international, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Lancet. 2017;389:2105–16. PubMed PMID: 28456509.

Tranexamic Acid 3

Substance Identification

Substance Name

Tranexamic Acid

CAS Registry Number

1197-18-8

Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Milk, Human

Antifibrinolytic Agents