



## Tositumomab I 131

Revised: December 3, 2018.

CASRN: 192391-48-3

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## Drug Levels and Effects

### Summary of Use during Lactation

Information in this record refers to the use of tositumomab I 131 as a therapeutic agent. No information is available on the use of tositumomab I 131 during breastfeeding. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, the manufacturer and expert opinion recommend not administering the drug in women who wish to continue breastfeeding.[1] If the drug is given, breastfeeding should be discontinued. Parents should limit close contact with their infants and small children after therapeutic tositumomab I 131 administration. Suggested contact times by one group are 30 minutes per day or less of contact at a distance of 2 meters or less for a period of 6 to 23 days.[2] Another group suggests avoiding contact with small children at a distance of 10 cm for an average of 8.1 days (range 3.5 to 12.9 days).[3] Additionally, nursing mothers may have excessive I 131 uptake by the breasts, so they should receive potassium iodide or Lugol's solution before receiving tositumomab I 131 to block uptake by the breasts and thyroid.

**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 .

Nursing mothers should not work with substances containing I 131 in their workplace.[4]

## Drug Levels

I 131 is a beta and high-energy gamma emitter with a main gamma emission energy of 364 keV and a physical half-life of 8.04 days.[5] The effective half-life of sodium iodide I 131 averages 9.2 hours (range 7.3 to 11.1 hours). Iodide is actively secreted into breastmilk and actively taken up by the mother's and infant's thyroid glands. From 25 to 46% of administered radioactivity is excreted into breastmilk after administration of sodium iodide I 131.[6]

## 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. Goldsmith SJ. Radioimmunotherapy of lymphoma: Bexxar and Zevalin. *Semin Nucl Med.* 2010;40:122-35. PubMed PMID: 20113680.
2. Gates VL, Carey JE, Siegel JA et al. Nonmyeloablative iodine-131 anti-B1 radioimmunotherapy as outpatient therapy. *J Nucl Med.* 1998;39:1230-6. PubMed PMID: 9669400.
3. Siegel JA, Kroll S, Regan D et al. A practical methodology for patient release after tositumomab and (131)I-tositumomab therapy. *J Nucl Med.* 2002;43:354-63. PubMed PMID: 11884495.
4. Almen A, Mattsson S. Radiological protection of fetuses and breast-fed children of occupationally exposed women in nuclear medicine - Challenges for hospitals. *Phys Med.* 2017;43:172-7. PubMed PMID: 28882410.
5. Howe DB, Beardsley M, Bakhsh S. Appendix U. Model procedure for release of patients or human research subjects administered radioactive materials. In, NUREG-1556. Consolidated guidance about materials licenses. Program-specific guidance about medical use licenses. Final report. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. 2008;9, Rev. 2. Available at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1556/v9/r2/>
6. Mountford PJ, Coakley AJ. A review of the secretion of radioactivity in human breast milk: data, quantitative analysis and recommendations. *Nucl Med Commun.* 1989;10:15-27. PubMed PMID: 2645546.

## Substance Identification

### Substance Name

Tositumomab I 131

### CAS Registry Number

192391-48-3

### Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Radiopharmaceuticals

## Iodine Radioisotopes