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### **Docusate**

Revised: October 31, 2018.

CASRN: 10041-19-7

# **Drug Levels and Effects**

# **Summary of Use during Lactation**

Docusate is minimally absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and therefore the drug is unlikely to be found in the maternal serum or breastmilk. Laxatives that are completely unabsorbed may be preferred.[2]

### **Drug 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.

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#### **Effects in Breastfed Infants**

In a randomized, blinded trial, 35 postpartum breastfeeding patients received a laxative containing docusate in a dose of 120 mg daily in addition to danthron 100 mg daily. One patient stated that diarrhea occurred in her breastfed infant.[1] The diarrhea was most likely caused by the danthron.

#### **Effects on Lactation and Breastmilk**

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

### **Alternate Drugs to Consider**

Bisacodyl, Magnesium Hydroxide, Psyllium, Senna

#### References

- 1. Greenhalf JO, Leonard HS. Laxatives in the treatment of constipation in pregnant and breast-feeding mothers. Practitioner. 1973;210:259-63. PubMed PMID: 4570522.
- 2. Lewis JH, Weingold AB and the Committee of FDA-Related Matters, American College of Gastroenterology. The use of gastrointestinal drugs during pregnancy and lactation. Am J Gastroenterol. 1985;80:912-23. PubMed PMID: 2864852.

### **Substance Identification**

#### **Substance Name**

Docusate

# **CAS Registry Number**

10041-19-7

### **Drug Class**

**Breast Feeding** 

Lactation

**Gastrointestinal Agents** 

Laxatives

Surface-Active Agents