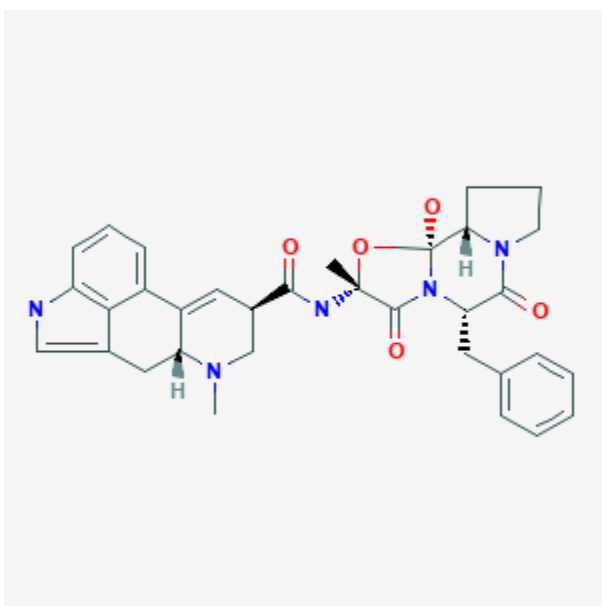




## Ergotamine

Revised: February 17, 2020.

CASRN: 113-15-5



## Drug Levels and Effects

### Summary of Use during Lactation

Because there is limited published experience with ergotamine during breastfeeding and it might cause adverse effects in the infant, most authorities consider ergotamine to be undesirable to use during nursing.[1,2]

### 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

A study in which ergotamine was administered to mothers of newborns immediately postpartum in a dose of 1 mg 3 times daily for 6 days found no effect on weight gain in the breastfed infants.[3] Milk intake, and therefore infant dosage, might have been minimal during the first few days before the mothers' milk came in fully.

## Effects on Lactation and Breastmilk

Thirty women who delivered fullterm infants received a single intramuscular dose of methylergonovine 0.2 mg after delivery, followed by oral ergotamine 1 mg 3 times daily for 6 days. Compared to 28 women who delivered fullterm infants and received no ergot derivatives, there was no difference in the milk production, as measured by weight differences before and after nursing, between the 2 groups during the first 6 days postpartum.[3]

## Alternate Drugs to Consider

Eletriptan, Rizatriptan, Sumatriptan, Zolmitriptan

## References

1. Moretti ME, Lee A, Ito S. Which drugs are contraindicated during breastfeeding? *Can Fam Physician*. 2000;46:1753-7. PubMed PMID: 11013791.
2. WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. Breastfeeding and maternal medication. Recommendations for drugs in the eleventh WHO model list of essential drugs. 2002. Available at: [http://www.who.int/child\\_adolescent\\_health/documents/55732/en/](http://www.who.int/child_adolescent_health/documents/55732/en/)
3. Jolivet A, Robyn C, Huraux-Rendu C, et al. *J Gynecol Obstet Biol Reprod (Paris)*. 1978;7:129-34. [Effect of ergot alkaloid derivatives on milk secretion in the immediate postpartum period]. PubMed PMID: 641312.

## Substance Identification

### Substance Name

Ergotamine

### CAS Registry Number

113-15-5

### Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Adrenergic Alpha-Agonists

Analgesics, Non-Narcotic

Ergot Alkaloids

Vasoconstrictor Agents