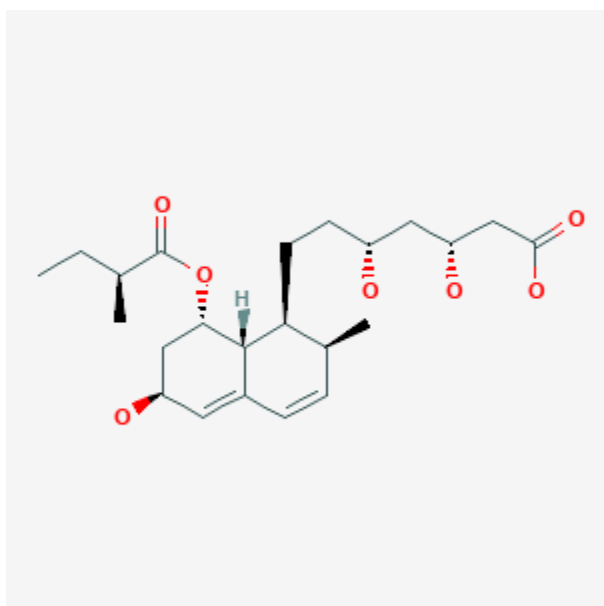




Pravastatin

Revised: February 17, 2020.

CASRN: 81093-37-0



Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation

Levels of pravastatin in milk are low, but no relevant published information exists with its use during breastfeeding. The consensus opinion is that women taking a statin should not breastfeed because of a concern with disruption of infant lipid metabolism. However, others have argued that children homozygous for familial hypercholesterolemia are treated with statins beginning at 1 year of age, that statins have low oral bioavailability, and risks to the breastfed infant are low, especially with rosuvastatin and pravastatin.[1] Until more data become available, an alternate drug may be preferred, especially while nursing a newborn or preterm infant.

Drug Levels

Maternal Levels. Eleven lactating women who were not breastfeeding were given 20 mg of pravastatin orally twice daily for 2.5 days. Serum and milk samples were taken at various times after the 5th dose and analyzed for

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pravastatin and its active metabolite. Peak milk levels averaged 3.9 mcg/L for pravastatin and 2.1 mcg/L for its metabolite. The authors suggested that negligible levels were excreted into breast milk, but that benefits and risks should be carefully considered.[2] Using the peak levels above, a fully breastfed infant would receive a maximum of 900 ng/kg daily with this dosage or about 0.13% of the maternal weight-adjusted dosage.

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.

Alternate Drugs to Consider

Cholestyramine, Colesevelam, Colestipol

References

1. Holmsen ST, Bakkebo T, Seferowicz M, et al. Statins and breastfeeding in familial hypercholesterolaemia. *Tidsskr Nor Laegeforen.* 2017;137:686–7. PubMed PMID: 28551957.
2. Pan H, Fleiss P, Moore L, et al. Excretion of pravastatin, an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor, in breast milk of lactating women. *J Clin Pharmacol.* 1988;28:942. Abstract. PMID.

Substance Identification

Substance Name

Pravastatin

CAS Registry Number

81093-37-0

Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Anticholesteremic Agents

Antilipemic Agents

Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibitors