

U.S. National Library of Medicine National Center for Biotechnology Information **NLM Citation:** Drugs and Lactation Database (LactMed) [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 2006-. X-Rays. [Updated 2018 Oct 31]. **Bookshelf URL:** https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/



X-Rays

Revised: October 31, 2018.

## **Drug Levels and Effects**

## Summary of Use during Lactation

X-rays used to obtain dental images, x-rays of broken bones, chest x-rays, etc. are a form of electromagnetic radiation similar to light, but with a shorter wavelength. X-rays are present only during the time that the image is being taken and leave no radiation or radioactivity in the body or in milk. Diagnostic X-rays have no known effect on the milk in the breast at the time of imaging, nor on milk production. No special precautions are required.[1]

For information on contrast media used with x-rays, see the LactMed entry for the specific contrast agent. For information on high-dose therapeutic radiation, see the LactMed record on Radiotherapy.

## **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. Groen RS, Bae JY, Lim KJ. Fear of the unknown: ionizing radiation exposure during pregnancy. Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2012;206:456-62. PubMed PMID: 22244469.

# **Substance Identification**

#### **Substance Name**

X-Rays

### **Drug Class**

Breast Feeding

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Lactation

Diagnostic Imaging

Radiation