



Golimumab

Revised: July 20, 2019.

CASRN: 476181-74-5

Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation

Little information is available on the clinical use of golimumab during breastfeeding. Because golimumab is a large protein molecule with a molecular weight of about 150,000, the amount in milk is likely to be very low and absorption is unlikely because it is probably destroyed in the infant's gastrointestinal tract. Until more data become available, golimumab should be used with caution during breastfeeding, especially while nursing a newborn or preterm infant. Most experts feel that the drug is probably safe during nursing.[1][2][3][4][5][6]

Golimumab is a human immunoglobulin G1 (IgG1) kappa antibody. Holder pasteurization (62.5 degrees C for 30 minutes) decreases the concentration of endogenous immunoglobulin G by up to 79%.[7][8] A study of 67 colostrum samples that underwent Holder pasteurization found that IgG amounts decreased by 34 to 40%. Specific IgG subclasses decreased by different amounts, with IgG1 activity decreasing by about 37%.[9] None of the studies measured IgG activity.

Drug Levels

Maternal Levels. In a multi-center study of women with inflammatory bowel disease in pregnancy (the PIANO registry), 1 woman receiving golimumab provided milk samples at 1, 12, 24, 48, 72, 96, 120, and 168 hours after drug administration. Golimumab was not detected in any of the samples.[4]

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

Effects in Breastfed Infants

In a multi-center study of women with inflammatory bowel disease in pregnancy (the PIANO registry), 1 woman received a golimumab while breastfeeding her infant. Among those who received golimumab or another biologic agent while breastfeeding, infant growth, development or infection rate was no different from infants whose mothers received no treatment. An additional 68 women received a biologic agent plus a thiopurine. Infant outcomes were similar in this group.[4]

Effects on Lactation and Breastmilk

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

Alternate Drugs to Consider

(Inflammatory Bowel Disease) Adalimumab, Certolizumab Pegol, Infliximab; (Rheumatoid Arthritis) Adalimumab, Certolizumab Pegol, Etanercept, Infliximab

References

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Substance Identification

Substance Name

Golimumab

CAS Registry Number

476181-74-5

Drug Class

Breast Feeding

Lactation

Antirheumatic Agents

Antibodies, Monoclonal, Humanized