

DON'T SAY STOP LOOK IT UP

Can breastfeeding mothers take antibiotics?

- Most antibiotics are compatible with breastfeeding. Antibiotics may cause temporary loose stools in the infant as well as the mother
- Amoxicillin, cefaclor, cefuroxime, cephalixin, cephradine, co-amoxiclav, co-fluampicil, flucloxacillin, metronidazole, penicillin V are the lowest risk options.
- Long courses of tetracycline should be avoided
- Ciprofloxacin should be used with caution and not as a first line agent
- Nitrofurantoin and ciprofloxacin should be avoided if there is a risk of G6PD in the infant

The Breastfeeding Network Drugs in Lactation Factsheet

NICE Guidance (Maternal & Child Nutrition, updated 2014) states that the prescriber should not rely solely on the BNF for information on breastfeeding but should use supplementary sources such as the UK Drugs in Lactation Advisory Service [UKDILAS]
www.sps.nhs.uk/ukdilas

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A HIFN, GPIFN
& Breastfeeding Network campaign

