Can breastfeeding mothers take SSRI antidepressants?

- Sertraline is the preferred SSRI in lactation, but all SSRIs are compatible
- If a woman has been successfully treated with an SSRI in pregnancy and needs to continue after delivery, there is no need to change the drug, provided the infant is full term, healthy and can be adequately monitored
- Infants exposed to SSRIs via breastmilk should be monitored by the caregivers for sedation, poor feeding, restlessness and irritability

- UKDILAS

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



#DONTSAYSTOPLOOKITUP

A HIFN, GPIFN & Breastfeeding Network campaign