

LactMed database: Information listed in an easy accessible way for clinicians

Here is a sample listing of a relatively new antibiotic called ertapenem (Invanz[®]) for which there is some literature on its impact in breastfeeding women and their infants.

Ertapenem

CASRN: 153832-46-3

Drug Levels and Effects

Summary of Use during Lactation:

Limited information indicates that single maternal doses of ertapenem up to 1 gram produce low levels in milk that are not expected to cause adverse effects in breastfed infants. Occasionally, disruption of the infant's gastrointestinal flora, resulting in diarrhea or thrush, has been reported with beta-lactams, but these effects have not been adequately evaluated.

Drug Levels:

Maternal Levels. Five women who were 5 to 14 days postpartum received ertapenem 1 gram daily for 3 to 10 days for acute pelvic infections. Breastmilk samples were obtained before the first dose and twice during the 24 hours after the last dose as well as daily in the morning for 2 to 5 days after the last dose. Milk concentrations during the first 24 hours of the last dose ranged from < 0.125 mg/L to 0.3 mg/L. Milk concentration was < 0.125 mg/L by day 3 in 4 of the women and after 5 days in the 5th.¹

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.

Possible Effects on Lactation:

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

AAP Category:

Not listed, but the similar drugs ceftazidime and ceftriaxone are rated as usually compatible with breastfeeding.²

References

1. FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. NDA 21-337. Clinical pharmacology and biopharmaceutics reviews. 2008:37-40. Available at: www.fda.gov/cder/foi/nda/2001/21337_Invanz_biopharmr.pdf. Accessed Sept. 18, 2008.
2. American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Drugs. The transfer of drugs and other chemicals into human milk. *Pediatrics* 2001;108:776-89. PMID: 11533352

Substance Identification

Substance Name: Ertapenem

CAS Registry Number: 153832-46-3

Drug Class:

Antiinfective Agents Carbapenems

Administrative Information

LactMed Record Number: 691

Last Revision Date: 20090203

Disclaimer:

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