



## Benefits of LactMed

- Online with flexible database searching
- Includes drugs, herbals, dietary supplements, and diagnostic agents, including radiopharmaceuticals
- Standardized unit record structure
- Complete drug-specific reviews
- Includes links to PubMed
- Reviewed by an expert panel
- Suggests alternative drugs
- Updated monthly

## Categories of Information

- Generic/Scientific Name
- Chemical Structure
- Summary of Use During Lactation
- Drug Levels (Maternal and Infant, Serum and Urine)
- Effects in Breastfed Infants
- Effects on Lactation and Breastmilk
- Alternate Drugs to Consider
- References with links to PubMed or doi (when available)
- Substance Name
- CAS Registry Number
- Drug Class
- Administrative Information

## Why a Database for Breastfeeding and Drugs?

“...it is critical that up-to-date information about the effects of medication use during pregnancy and lactation and the management of maternal conditions be available to women and healthcare providers. A comprehensive, coordinated public health approach that builds on and expands existing activities is needed to generate information about medication use, make that information readily available, and translate it into safe and effective healthcare.”

Lagoy CT et al. Report from the CDC: Medication Use During Pregnancy and Lactation: An Urgent Call for Public Health Action. *Journal of Women's Health* 14(2): 104-9, March 2005.

## Who is Responsible for LactMed?

LactMed is authored by a clinical pharmacist who is a subject expert. LactMed's scientific review panel is composed of recognized medical authorities, along with specialist reviewers for herbal medicines and radiopharmaceuticals. LactMed is maintained by the NLM Division of Specialized Information Services.

## Assistance and FAQs

Help and FAQ links are on the LactMed home page in the right side bar under “Support.”

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This brochure may be reproduced and is available at <http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/pdf/lactmedbrochure.pdf>.

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**LACTMED**  
Drugs and Lactation  
**BASICS**

## Assuring Medication Safety When Breastfeeding

### About LactMed

<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/newtonxnet/lactmed.htm>

LactMed is a FREE, evidence-based, online database with information on over 1100 drugs, dietary supplements and diagnostic agents to which breastfeeding mothers may be exposed, the levels of such substances in breast milk and infant blood, and the possible adverse effects in the nursing infant. It is part of the National Library of Medicine's TOXNET collection of resources covering toxicology, chemical safety and environmental health. <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov>

LactMed Features:

- Data mined from scientific literature
- Peer reviewed by an expert panel
- Fully referenced with links to PubMed
- Glossary of breastfeeding terms
- Breastfeeding information links





## LactMed Searching

In the search box, enter one or more terms (e.g., Bacitracin) that describe what you are looking for. These may be any combination of words, chemical, generic and trade names, and numbers, including Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number (CAS RN). Multiple terms are searched as if there is an *OR* between them. Use the **Advanced Search** tab to include more specificity in the search strategy.

## LactMed Browsing

Use the **Browse LactMed** tab if unsure of the spelling of a substance. Select an option (*Single Words, CAS Registry Numbers, or Chemical Names*) and/or start typing a drug name or other term in the search box. A list of index terms will be displayed that begin with your search term. Clicking on one or more terms in the list will copy them to the search box.

## LactMed Mobile Apps

The LactMed Apps for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch and Android are available for mobile devices at <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/help/lactmedapp.htm>.

## Some Proponents of Breastfeeding

Exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months is optimal for child health according to:

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
- American Dietetic Association (ADA)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

## Healthy People 2020 Breastfeeding Goals

- Increase infants ever breastfed to 82%
- Increase infants breastfed at 6 months to 61%
- Increase infants breastfed at 1 year to 34%

*Healthy People 2020*. Maternal, Infant, and Child Health, Infant Care, MICH-21, Increase proportion of infants who are breastfed.

## LactMed is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics

“...the most comprehensive, up-to-date source of information regarding the safety of maternal medications when the mother is breastfeeding.”

Section on Breastfeeding. Breastfeeding and the Use of Human Milk. *Pediatrics* 129(3): e827-41, March 2012.

## Search for Bacitracin

NAME	ADD TO MY LIST
The following is the primary record for the chemical. All of the query terms were found.	
1. Bacitracin 1400-87-4	Select Record
The following 3 records contain one or more of the requested chemical name(s) and all of the query terms anywhere in the record.	
2. Clindamycin 18323-44-9	Select Record
3. Mupirocin 12650-69-0	Select Record
4. Neomycin 1404-04-2	Select Record

## Search Results

Your initial retrieval will display a list of generic drug names and their CAS RN. If your search is for a drug (e.g., Bacitracin) and there is a match for it, that drug record appears first and is referred to as the primary record. That is followed by a list of other records that also contain some mention of the drug by chemical, generic or trade name that you entered.

## Recommended Browsers

TOXNET is best viewed with Internet Explorer 9.0+, Firefox, Chrome, Safari, and Opera.