

Breastfeeding - Iodinated Contrast Agents

The current ACR recommendations no longer state that patients must “pump & dump.” Patient should make an informed decision, knowing that the amount of iodine excreted in breastmilk and absorbed by the baby is so low (less than 0.01% of the administered dose) that it is felt to be safe to continue breastfeeding. If the patient remains concerned, they can certainly choose to discard their breastmilk for the next 24 hours

Breastfeeding - Gadolinium-Based Contrast Agents

Because of the very small percentage of gadolinium-based contrast medium that is excreted into the breast milk and absorbed by the infant’s gut, the ACR Manual on Contrast Media recommends that it is safe for the mother and infant to continue breast-feeding after receiving such an agent. Ultimately, an informed decision to temporarily stop breast-feeding should be left up to the mother after these facts are communicated. If the mother remains concerned about any potential ill effects to the infant, she may abstain from breast-feeding from the time of contrast administration for a period of 12 to 24 hours. There is no value to stop breast-feeding beyond 24 hours. The mother should be told to express and discard breast milk from both breast after contrast administration until breast feeding resumes. In anticipation of this, she may wish to use a breast pump to obtain milk before the contrast-enhanced study to feed the infant during the 24- hour period following the examination.