

Guideline for Contrast Administration in Breastfeeding Patients



This guideline is to provide the most recent information regarding contrast administration in breast feeding patients and to assist the patient in making an informed decision before any procedure requiring contrast administration.

Guideline for CT

The available literature suggests that it is safe for the mother and infant to continue breastfeeding after administration of contrast agents.

If breast-feeding patient is scheduled for an exam requiring iodinated contrast, CT technologists should do the following prior to study:

1. Provide current information regarding contrast administration as it pertains to breastfeeding, addressing any patient concerns
 - o Less than 1% of iodinated contrast is excreted into breast milk
 - o Absorption of iodinated contrast media by the infant is approximately 0.01 of the maternal dose
 - o Current literature suggests a mother can safely continue to breast-feed after receiving iodinated contrast
2. Instruct mothers who express concern to pump and discard their breast milk for 24 hours post-procedure. Prior to appointment patient can be encouraged to pump enough breast milk to cover the 24-hour period following the exam.

Guideline for MRI

Because of the very small percentage of gadolinium-based contrast medium that is excreted into the breast milk and absorbed by the infant's digestive tract, the available data suggests that it is safe for the mother and infant to continue breast-feeding after receiving GBCAs.

If the breast-feeding patient is scheduled for an exam requiring gadolinium-based contrast, MRI technologists should do the following prior to study:

1. Provide current information regarding contrast administration as it pertains to breastfeeding, addressing any patient concerns
 - o Less than 0.04% of gadolinium-based contrast is excreted into breast milk
 - o Absorption of contrast media by the infant is approximately 0.0004% of the maternal dose
 - o Current literature suggests a mother can safely continue to breast-feed after receiving gadolinium-based contrast
2. Instruct mothers who express concern to pump and discard milk from both breasts for 24 hours after their exam. Patient may wish to pump enough breast milk to cover the 24-hour period following the exam.