Pregnancy and Medicines

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/pregnancyandmedicines.html

During pregnancy, any medicines you take, including over-the-counter or prescription drugs, herbs, or supplements, can get into your baby’s system. Some medicines may be safe, but many are not. The decision about whether or not to take a medicine depends on the risks and benefits. You and your health care provider should make this choice together. Labels on prescription and over-the-counter drugs have information that can help with the decision.

Always speak with your health care provider before you start or stop any medicine. Not using medicine that you need may be more harmful to you and your baby than using the medicine.

Dept. of Health and Human Services Office on Women’s Health

Start Here

- Medicine and Pregnancy [http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ByAudience/ForWomen/ucm118567.htm]
  Easy-to-Read (Food and Drug Administration)
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ByAudience/ForWomen/FreePublications/ucm126298.htm]

Overviews

- Drugs, Herbs and Dietary Supplements [http://www.marchofdimes.com/pregnancy/alcohol_drugsherbs.html] (March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation)
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.nacersano.org/centro/9246_9636.asp]
- Medication Use During Pregnancy [http://www.cdc.gov/Features/MedicationsPregnancy/] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Latest News

- Pregnancy: A Time for Special Caution [http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm351130.htm] (05/10/2013, Food and Drug Administration)

Alternative Therapy

  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/echinacea_sp.pdf]
- St. John's Wort (Hypericum Perforatum) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/stjohnswort.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/stjohnswort_sp.pdf]

Specific Conditions

- Abatacept (Orencia) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Abatacept_Final_Copy.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
- Accutane and Other Retinoids [http://www.marchofdimes.com/pregnancy/alcohol_accutane.html] (March of...
Dimes Birth Defects Foundation
Also available in Spanish [http://www.nacersano.org/centro/9388_9938.asp]

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/acetaminophen.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Spanish_Acetaminophen_10_11.pdf]
- Acyclovir (Zovirax)/Valacyclovir (Valtrex) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/acyclovir.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/acyclovir_sp.pdf]
- Adalimumab (Humira) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/adalimumab.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/adalimumab_sp.pdf]
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/albuterol_sp.pdf]
- Asthma Medications and Pregnancy [http://www.nationaljewish.org/healthinfo/conditions/asthma/associated-conditions/pregnancy/medications-and-pregnancy/] (National Jewish Health)
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/benzodiazepines_sp.pdf]
- Bisphosphonate Treatment and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Bisphosphonate_5_12.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Spanish_Bisphosphonate_5_12.pdf]
- Bupropion (Wellbutrin) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/bupropion.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/carbamazepine.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/carbamazepine_sp.pdf]
- Citalopram/Escitalopram (Celexa/Lexapro) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/citalopram.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/citalopram_sp.pdf]
  Also available in Spanish [http://familydoctor.org/online/famdocs/home/women/reproductive/gynecologic/822.printerview.html]
- Enzyme Replacement Therapy for Treatment of Gaucher Disease in Pregnancy and Breastfeeding [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/ERT_5_12.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
- Etafercept (Enbrel) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/etanercept.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/fluconazole_sp.pdf]
- Fluoxetine (Prozac) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/fluoxetine.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/fluoxetine_sp.pdf]
Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/fluoxetine_sp.pdf]


Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/ibuprofen_sp.pdf]

- Infliximab (Remicade) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/infliximab.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

- Inhaled Corticosteroids (ICSs) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/inhaledcorticosteroids.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/inhaledcorticosteroids_sp.pdf]

- Isotretinoin (Accutane) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/isotretinoin.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/isotretinoin_sp.pdf]

- Leflunomide (Arava) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Leflunomide_Final_Copy.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Spanish_Lithium_10_11.pdf]

- Loratadine (Claritin) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/loratadine.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/loratadine_sp.pdf]

Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/metformin_sp.pdf]

Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/methotrexate_sp.pdf]

- Metronidazole (Flagyl) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/metronidazole.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/metronidazole_sp.pdf]

Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/miconazole_sp.pdf]

- Miglustat (Zavesca) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Miglustat_5_12_doc.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

- Mirtazapine (Remeron) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/mirtazapine.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

- Montelukast (Singulair) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/montelukast.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF


- Paroxetine (Paxil) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/paroxetine.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

- Phentemine and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Phentemine_1_12.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

- Prednisone/Prednisolone and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/prednisone.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/prednisone_sp.pdf]


- Risk of Oral Clefts (Cleft Lip and/or Palate) in Infants Born to Mothers Taking Topamax (Topiramate) [http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm245470.htm] (Food and Drug Administration)


- Sertraline (Zoloft) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/sertraline.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/sertraline_sp.pdf]

- Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim (Bactrim or Septa) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Bactrim.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/bactrim_sp.pdf]


  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/tetracycline_sp.pdf]


- Tocilizumab (Actemra) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Tocilizumab_Final_Copy.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF


- Trazodone (Desyrel) and Nefazodone (Serzone) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/trazodone.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/trazodone_sp.pdf]

- Tretinoin (Retin-A) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/Tretinoin_Retin_A_Update_4_2013.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

  Also available in Spanish [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/tretinoin_sp.pdf]

- Venlafaxine (Effexor) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/venlafaxine.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF


**Related Issues**

- Index to Drug-Specific Information [http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/PostmarketDrugSafetyInformationforPatientsandProviders/ucm111085.htm] (Food and Drug Administration)

- Pregnant Women to Benefit from Better Information [http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm048643.htm] (Food and Drug Administration)


- Registries Help Moms Measure Medication Risks [http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm223320.htm] (Food and Drug Administration)

**Research**

- Medication Use during Pregnancy [http://www.cdc.gov/Features/dsMedicationPregnancy/] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)


- Pregnancy Registries [http://www.fda.gov/ScienceResearch/SpecialTopics/WomensHealthResearch/ucm251314.htm] (Food and Drug Administration)

- Pregnancy Studies Conducted by the Organization of Teratology Specialists (OTIS) [http://www.pregnancystudies.org/] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists)

**Journal Articles**
References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)


Directories

- Find an Affiliate [http://www.mothertobaby.org/find-a-tis-s13040] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists)

Organizations

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [http://www.cdc.gov]
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.cdc.gov/spanish/]
- March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation [http://www.marchofdimes.com]
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.nacersano.org/]
- MotherToBaby [http://www.mothertobaby.org] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists)

Statistics

- Use of Medications in Pregnant Women [http://www.cdc.gov/pregnancy/meds/data.html] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Men

- Finasteride (Propecia/Proscar) and Pregnancy [http://www.mothertobaby.org/files/finasteride.pdf] (Organization of Teratology Information Specialists) - PDF

You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:

- Preconception Care [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/preconceptioncare.html]

The primary NIH organization for research on Pregnancy and Medicines is the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [http://www.nichd.nih.gov]

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