

# Breastfeeding and Medication



## Ear Drops and Breastfeeding

**Absorption of ear drops is unlikely to reach clinical significance in breastmilk as there is virtually no means of absorption into the systemic system from the external ear canal.**

Ear drops generally include corticosteroids to reduce inflammation, antibiotics to reduce otitis external, antifungals, local anaesthetics for pain and ingredients to soften and remove earwax. Treatment of otitis media with ear drops is generally ineffective and is better treated by simple analgesia and, if necessary, antibiotics. Almond oil, olive oil and sodium bicarbonate solution are all used to soften ear wax.

Examples of ear drops and their ingredients:

Betnesol N® (Betamethasone And Neomycin)

Betnesol® (Betamethasone),

Cerumol® (Chlorbutanol),

Gentisone HC® (Gentamicin And Hydrocortisone)

Gentisone® (Gentamicin)

Locorten-Vioform® (Flumetasone And Clioquinol)

Neo-Cortef® (Hydrocortisone And Neomycin)

Otex® (Urea Hydrogen Peroxide)

Otomize® (Dexamethasone, Neomycin And Acetic Acid)

Otosprorin® (Polymyxin B Neomycin Hydrocortisone)

Predsol N® (Prednisolone And Neomycin)

Predsol® (Prednisolone)

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August 2018 *The information on this sheet is based upon my professional experience as a pharmacist with a specialised interest in the safety of drugs in breastmilk, supported by evidence from expert sources. However, I cannot take responsibility for the prescription of medication which remains with the healthcare professionals involved. I am happy to discuss the evidence by email [wendy@breastfeeding-and-medication.co.uk](mailto:wendy@breastfeeding-and-medication.co.uk)*

Sofradex® (Dexamethasone Framycetin Gramicidin)

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