

# Breastfeeding and Medication

## AESTHETIC PROCEDURES

**As with any health intervention,**

**it may be wise to wait until after breastfeeding if it is possible and not harmful to the woman.**

### **Botulinum toxin known as Botox<sup>md</sup>**

Used in cosmetics and sometimes as a treatment for chronic migraine, muscle spasm, excessive sweating, overactive bladder and incontinence.



**It is unlikely that the toxin will enter the milk or harm the breastfed child.**

There is no evidence that expressing and discarding milk helps to reduce the already low risk to the infant. It may be wise to watch for lethargy, irritability, drooping eyelids, difficulty swallowing and breathing.

### **Tattoo**

Although the pigments used may present a risk of toxicity, they are fixed under the skin, preventing them from entering the bloodstream, and from getting into breast milk.

**Therefore, an old tattoo or a new one created during breastfeeding is not contraindicated, provided that optimal safety and hygiene standards are respected to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases.**

There is a risk of deformation of the tattoo due to distension of the skin during pregnancy and breastfeeding. Tattoos on the nipple should be avoided because of the risk of ingesting dyes that may be toxic.

Removal of a tattoo by laser beam can disintegrate the pigments that enter the lymph and bloodstream and would be excreted in the breast milk, which is a reason to wait until after breastfeeding.



Creams used for anesthetic, antiseptic or anti-inflammatory purposes are compatible with breastfeeding, as are acetaminophen or ibuprofen used for pain relief.

### **Depliation**

Topical hair removal products are poorly absorbed into the bloodstream and are therefore unlikely to be found in breast milk. There is no evidence that electrolysis or laser hair removal would affect breastfeeding. Because of possible local irritation or infection following any hair removal method, it is best to avoid areas near the breast or nipple.



### **REFERENCES :**

- <https://www.infantrisk.com/content/botox-injections-and-breastfeeding>
- <https://www.e-lactancia.org/breastfeeding/botulinum-toxin/product/>
- <https://www.e-lactancia.org/breastfeeding/tattooing/synonym/>
- <https://www.breastfeeding.asn.au/bfinfo/beauty-treatments-and-breastfeeding>

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