



Information For Breastfeeding Mothers Who Receive Gadolinium (IV Contrast in MRI)

Dear Patient,

You will be receiving an IV injection of contrast media (gadolinium) in your bloodstream for your MRI scan.

Historically, breastfeeding mothers have been advised to interrupt breast-feeding for 24 hours if receiving a gadolinium-enhanced MRI scan. At that time, this advice was based on a precautionary and theoretical risks.

Literature on the excretion into breast milk of gadolinium-based contrast media, and the gastrointestinal absorption of these agents from breast milk, shows that the expected dose of contrast medium absorbed by an infant from ingested breast milk is extremely low. Less than 0.04% of the intravascular (IV) dose given to a mother is excreted into the breast milk in the first 24 hours.

It is recommended by major professional associations such as the American College of Radiology (ACR), the American College Of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and similar associations in Europe not to interrupt breastfeeding because no ill-effects have been reported in breast feeding infants whose mothers received gadolinium-based contrast agents.

At LACGH we recommend breastfeeding mothers make an informed decision whether to continue with breastfeeding or to interrupt breastfeeding for 24 hours post MRI contrast (gadolinium) injection.

Regards,

Your MRI Team

References

https://www.acr.org/-/media/ACR/Files/Clinical-Resources/Contrast_Media.pdf

http://www.mrisafety.com/TMDL_list.php?mastertable=SafetyInformation&masterkey1=246#