



CTIS Pregnancy Risk Information Line

(800) 532-3749

Promoting Healthy Pregnancies

Journal Articles

[Periconceptional glycaemic load and intake of sugars and their association with neural tube defects in offspring.](#)

Shaw GM et al. 2008.
Paediatr Perinat Epidemiol 22(6): 514-519.

[Maternal intake of fat, riboflavin and nicotinamide and the risk of having offspring with congenital heart defects.](#)

Smedts HPM et al. 2008.
Eur J Nutr 47(7): 357-365.

[Ozone and other air pollutants and the risk of oral clefts.](#) Hwang BF, Jaakkola JJK. 2008.
Environ Health Perspect 116(10): 1411-1415.

[Paroxetine and fluoxetine in pregnancy: a prospective, multicentre, controlled, observational study.](#) Diav-Citrin O et al. 2008. Br J Clin Pharmacol 66(5): 695-705.

[Use of antihistamine medications during early pregnancy and isolated major malformations.](#) Gilboa SM et al. 2009
Feb;85(2):137-50

[Maternal asthma, asthma medication use, and the risk of congenital heart defects.](#) Lin S et al. Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol. 2009
Feb;85(2):161-8.



CTIS Pregnancy Information Line is Excited to Announce the Launch of our New Newsletter and Website

The California Teratogen Information Service (CTIS) has been providing pregnancy risk counseling via a confidential and no-cost Pregnancy Risk Information Line for the past 27 years.

CTIS fields questions (in both English and Spanish) about exposure concerns to help women and their health care providers assess risk factors associated with potentially harmful exposures before, during and after pregnancy.

Contact CTIS for the most up-to-date information on medications, vaccines and other exposures during pregnancy and breastfeeding.

[Read our Press Release...](#)

We are excited to bring you a periodic newsletter that will keep you up to date on CTIS activities, provide links to articles of interest, and summaries of recent research in the field of Teratology.

Interested in receiving upcoming editions of our newsletter?
[Sign up here!](#)

To receive upcoming editions, simply complete the sign up form linked above. Otherwise, you will not receive any of our future newsletters.

[Plasma zinc concentrations of mothers and the risk of oral clefts in their children in Utah.](#)

Munger RG et al. Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol. 2009 Feb;85(2):151-5.

[Maternal thyroid disease, thyroid medication use, and selected birth defects in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study.](#)

Browne ML et al. Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol. 2009 Feb 12.

[FAEEs in meconium as biomarkers of maternal drinking habit during pregnancy.](#)

Pichini S et al. Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol. 2008 Dec 11. [Epub ahead of print]

Visitors to our new website (<http://www.ctispregnancy.org>) can download informational fact sheets and contact a counselor though **telephone, email or via chat** for more guidance about exposures.

Want to refer your patient to CTIS?

Our services are COST-FREE and confidential. You and your patients can [call, email or chat](#) with a counselor. Or, you can simplify it for your patients and let CTIS make the call! Just fill-out the [FAX-referral form](#) located on our website and fax it to CTIS.

Research Review Article

Does valproic acid use during pregnancy cause an increase in Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Numerous studies over two decades have associated use of sodium valproate or valproic acid (VPA) during pregnancy with a characteristic pattern of major and minor malformations, the principle features of which include postnatal growth retardation, craniofacial anomalies including midface hypoplasia, epicanthal folds, short nose, broad nasal bridge, thin upper lip, thick lower lip, and microgathia, and subtle limb defects (primarily hyperconvex fingernails). Various cardiovascular defects have also been seen and some more recent studies raise serious concern about deficits in neurobehavioral function. These include problems with cognition as well as poor concentration and hyperactivity.

In addition, use of VPA early in the first trimester (approximately days 14-21 post-conception) has been associated with a risk of 1 to 2% for meningomyelocele. It is important to both the mother and to the developing fetus that the pregnant woman's seizure disorder is kept under the best possible control. Some researchers believe that seizures themselves are associated with and increased risk for birth defects. [More....](#)

You may [take your email address](#) off this list.

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