

Breastfeeding after a scan



Some scans may interfere with your breastmilk, making it unsafe for your baby to drink. We recommend you follow the advice below to keep your baby safe.

VQ (Ventilation Perfusion) Scan

Technetium Macroaggregated Albumin 99m (Tc-99m MAA)

We recommend that you express enough breastmilk **before** your scan to last 12 hours. You should not breastfeed your baby for 12 hours after your scan.

After your scan we recommend you express your breastmilk for 12 hours and keep it in the fridge. It is safe to start breastfeeding again and/or use this breastmilk **after** 12 hours.

You do not need to be separated from your baby after the scan.

CT (Computerised Tomography) Scan

It is safe to breastfeed after receiving a radiopaque contrast media, as less than one percent of the iodine based dye is in your breastmilk.

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

It is safe to breastfeed as less than 0.04 percent of gadolinium (the contrast medium given to you) is excreted into your breastmilk and even less is ingested by your baby.

Some research has shown that gadolinium may remain in your baby. The long term effects are unknown. You may choose to express and throw away your breastmilk for 24 hours after this scan.

For further information, contact:

Mothersafe: Medications in Pregnancy and Lactation Service

Phone: (02) 9382 6539 (Sydney metro area)
1800 647 848 (statewide)

www.mothersafe.org.au

