



## Can I breastfeed after having an MRI scan?

A very low concentration of the intravenous gadolinium-based contrast agent used for your Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan ends up in your breast milk. Further, babies who drink this milk absorb very little of the contrast agent. There is no evidence that this small amount is harmful to your baby. There is no evidence that it is necessary to stop breast feeding after a contrast agent injection.

If you still have safety concerns about your baby receiving your breast milk, you can elect not to breast-feed for 24 hours after the administration of this MRI contrast agent. During these 24 hours, you can express (pump) and discard the milk from both your breasts.

If you decide to withhold breast feeding for 24 hours, you are encouraged to prepare for this by expressing and saving your breast milk before your scheduled MRI appointment.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

Author: Hero Hussain, MD

Patient Education by [Michigan Medicine](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International Public License](#). Last Revised 01/2021