

# RxFiles - Drug Comparison Charts - 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) Overview

New

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## Drugs in Pregnancy Risk Classification<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

The following are the codes that appear on some of our charts. This table explains the rating system used.

RISK FACTOR	CLASSIFICATION	COMMENTS *
<b>A</b>	<b>SAFE</b>	<b>No risk.</b> Considered safe in all trimesters. No evidence of fetal risk in controlled studies in humans.
<b>B</b>	<b>LIKELY SAFE</b>	<b>Minimal risk.</b> Either no evidence of risk in animals or risk found in animal studies not reproduced in humans.
<b>B/D</b>		<b>With higher dose, longer duration of drug exposure or near term the risk becomes <b>D</b></b>
<b>C</b>	<b>CAUTION</b>	<b>Potential risk.</b> Risk evident from studies in animals and/ or no human studies available. Use only if benefit outweighs risk. May be more or less safe depending on trimester.
<b>C/D</b>		<b>With higher dose, longer duration of drug exposure or near term the risk becomes <b>D</b></b>
<b>D</b>	<b>EXTREME CAUTION</b>	<b>Positive evidence of risk.</b> Use only if benefit outweighs risk.
<b>X</b>	<b>CONTRAINDICATED</b>	<b>++ Positive evidence of risk.</b> Avoid in women who are or may become pregnant as risk of use outweighs any benefit.
<b>U</b>	<b>UNKNOWN</b>	<b>Risk unknown or untested.</b> Information unavailable / inadequate at this time.

\* Rating system has limitations eg. antidepressant frequently used like fluoxetine has a C rating; yet maprotiline (B rating) has less clinical experience

General Information about **Pregnancy Exposure Registries** <http://www.fda.gov/womens/registries/default.htm>

1. **Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation**, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Briggs GE, Freeman RK, Yaffe SJ, editors. Williams and Wilkins; Baltimore, MD: 2008.

2. **Drug Information Handbook**, 17<sup>th</sup> ed. Lacy CF, Armstrong LL, Goldman MP and Lance LL, editors. Lexi-Comp Inc; Hudson, Ohio: 2008-2009.

3. Individual Drug Product Monographs. 4. Micromedex 2008 {NOTE: for additional Canadian information on drugs in pregnancy & lactation see <http://www.motherisk.org/index.jsp> }

**WHO Essential Medicines List** <http://www.who.int/medicines/publications/essentialmedicines/en/index.html>

**Common RxFiles ABBREVIATIONS & SYMBOLS** –most of our charts have footnotes to explain unique abbreviations.

☞ =Exception Drug Status (EDS) in Saskatchewan (1-800-667-2549)

X =non-formulary in Saskatchewan

\$ Retail Cost to Consumer based on acquisition cost, markup & dispensing fee in Saskatchewan. Lowest generic price used where available

BP =blood pressure Bz =benzodiazepine CI =contraindication CV =cardiovascular

HR =Heart rate HSR =Hypersensitivity reaction LFT =Liver Function tests

☉ =indicates strength of tablet is scored ☺ = tastes good

☞ =↓ dose required for Renal dysfunction<sup>1</sup> if 1) ≥ 75% renal excretion

2) toxic if accumulates 3) an active metabolite requiring dose adjustment. [CrCl <60ml/min shows impaired renal function]

**CrCl** ml/min Male={ (140-age) x ABW weight in Kg } / {serum creatinine in umol/l x 0.814}

Female= 0.85 x CrCl male

Adjusted body weight in kg (ABW) = {Ideal body weight (IBW) + 0.4 (Actual body weight-IBW)}

IBW (Males)= 50kg + 0.906 (Height in cm - 152.4cm); IBW (Females)= 45kg + 0.906 (Height in cm - 152.4cm)

**MDRD** (eGFR)= most accurate, but need PDA with MedCalc to do the calculation.

☞ =prior approval required by NIHB (Non-Insured Health Benefits) coverage for eligible **First Nations & Inuit** 1-800-580-0950

⊗ =not covered by NIHB [http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnih-spni/pubs/nihb-ssna\\_e.html#drug-med\\_bull-lebull](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnih-spni/pubs/nihb-ssna_e.html#drug-med_bull-lebull)

▼ =covered by NIHB for the **OTC charts** p70-73 & identified **ONLY** for those drugs which have **Sask. Formulary** restrictions such as **EDS or non formulary status**

DI =drug interaction Dx =diagnosis g =generic avail. GI =Gastrointestinal HA =headache HF =heart failure

M =Monitoring ⊕ =a concern if given Pre-Op SE =side effect Sx =syndrome/symptom Sz =seizure Tx =treatment

🇨🇦 = CDN (We are Canadian)

⊗ =Avoid → soybean & peanut allergy

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Newsletters, Charts & References are available online at [www.RxFiles.ca](http://www.RxFiles.ca)

### RxFiles Academic Detailing Program

Objective comparisons for optimal drug therapy. For more information check our website - [www.RxFiles.ca](http://www.RxFiles.ca) or, contact Loren Regier BSP, BA RxFiles, c/o , Saskatoon City Hospital

701 Queen Street Saskatoon, SK S7K 0M7 Canada; Ph (306) 655-8505, Fax (306) 655-7980

RxFiles Program Pharmacists: North Battleford (P. Karlson), Prince Albert (D. Derbowka), Regina/Moose Jaw (B. Schuster), Estevan/Weyburn (D. Sereda)

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<sup>1</sup> Vidal L, Shavit M, Fraser A, et al.. Systematic comparison of four sources of drug information regarding adjustment of dose for renal function. *BMJ*. 2005 Jul 30;331(7511):263. Epub 2005 May 19.