Study Finds Epilepsy Drug to Be Safe During Pregnancy

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Contacts:
Penny Smith Tel: +44 (0)1243 770448 sciencenewsroom@wiley.com

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New research indicates that use of the epilepsy drug lamotrigine during pregnancy does not increase the risk of birth malformations or neurodevelopmental disorders. The British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology study provides the most extensive long-term report regarding children whose mothers took lamotrigine while pregnant.

The study included the children of 83 epileptic women treated with lamotrigine during pregnancy at a tertiary medical center between 2004 and 2014. All newborns were monitored and parents completed a questionnaire regarding their child’s development and health up to the age of 12 years.

“The results of this study are good news for both pregnant epileptic women and their children, as well as their treating neurologists,” said co-author Dr. Itai Berger, of the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, in Jerusalem.

Additional Information


About Journal

Published on behalf of the British Pharmacological Society, the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology contains papers and reports on all aspects of drug action in humans: review articles, mini review articles, original papers, commentaries, editorials and letters. The Journal enjoys a wide readership, bridging the gap between the medical profession, clinical research and the pharmaceutical industry. It also publishes research on new methods, new drugs and new approaches to treatment.

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