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**Date of Search:** 14 Jul 2017

**Sources Searched:** Medline, Embase, PubMed, DynaMed Plus, Electronic Medicines Compendium, BNF.

## Riluzole in Pregnancy

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[See full search strategy](#)

### Summary:

Riluzole is contraindicated in pregnancy due to lack of clinical experience and case reports which are inadequate to inform the drug-associated risk. It is not known whether riluzole is excreted in human breast milk; avoidance is therefore advised.

In the pregnant rat, the transfer of <sup>14</sup>C-riluzole across the placenta to the foetus has been detected. No malformations were seen in animal reproductive studies.

**Source:** Electronic Medicines Compendium Rilutek 50 mg film-coated tablets

URL: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/1672> [last accessed 14/07/2017].

### 1. Neuromuscular Disorders in Pregnancy

**Author(s):** Guidon A.C.; Massey E.W.

**Source:** Neurologic Clinics; Aug 2012; vol. 30 (no. 3); p. 889-911

**Publication Date:** Aug 2012

**Publication Type(s):** Review

**PubMedID:** 22840795

**Abstract:** Preexisting and coincident neuromuscular disorders in pregnancy are challenging for clinicians because of the heterogeneity of disease and the limited data in the literature. Many questions arise regarding the effect of disease on the pregnancy, delivery, and newborn in addition to the effect of pregnancy on the course of disease. Each disorder has particular considerations and possible complications. An interdisciplinary team of physicians is essential. This article discusses the most recent literature on neuromuscular disorders in pregnancy including acquired root, plexus, and peripheral nerve lesions; acquired and inherited neuropathies and myopathies; disorders of the neuromuscular junction; and motor neuron diseases. © 2012 Elsevier Inc.

**Database:** EMBASE

## **2. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and riluzole use during pregnancy: A case report**

**Author(s):** Scalco R.S.; Da Silva I.G.; Becker J.; Vieira M.C.; Da Cunha Filho E.V.; Lago E.G.

**Source:** Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; Sep 2012; vol. 13 (no. 5); p. 471-472

**Publication Date:** Sep 2012

**Publication Type(s):** Letter

**PubMedID:** 22670879

**Database:** EMBASE

## **3. Riluzole use during pregnancy in a patient with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: A case report**

**Author(s):** Kawamichi Y.; Makino Y.; Matsuda Y.; Ohta H.; Miyazaki K.; Uchiyama S.

**Source:** Journal of International Medical Research; 2010; vol. 38 (no. 2); p. 720-726

**Publication Date:** 2010

**Publication Type(s):** Article

**PubMedID:** 20515588

Available in print at [Patricia Bowen Library and Knowledge Service West Middlesex university Hospital](#) - from Journal of International Medical Research

Available in full text at [Journal of International Medical Research](#) - from Free Access Content

**Abstract:** Pregnancy with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is rare and generally considered dangerous. Riluzole is the only drug approved for use in ALS, but the effect on maternal and fetal health is unknown. We describe the case of an ALS patient taking riluzole throughout pregnancy. A 34-year old Japanese woman, who had been diagnosed with probable ALS 4 years earlier, visited our hospital for abdominal distension, without knowing that she was pregnant. The patient had been taking riluzole for 2 years, inclusive of her gestational months, and we decided to continue administration of the medication. The patient delivered a normal female infant transvaginally at 38 weeks gestation. The patient's neurological status was stable 1 year after delivery and the baby had developed normally. We found that, in this case, riluzole did not cause any side-effects to the pregnant woman or her fetus. © 2010 Field House Publishing LLP.

**Database:** EMBASE

## **Strategy** 239760

<b>#</b>	<b>Database</b>	<b>Search term</b>	<b>Results</b>
1	Medline	(Riluzole).ti,ab	1238
2	Medline	exp RILUZOLE/	890
3	Medline	(1 OR 2)	1393
4	Medline	(pregn*).ti,ab	399417
5	Medline	exp PREGNANCY/	812139
6	Medline	(4 OR 5)	895117
7	Medline	(3 AND 6)	7
8	EMBASE	(Riluzole).ti,ab	1800
9	EMBASE	exp RILUZOLE/	3850
10	EMBASE	(8 OR 9)	3973
11	EMBASE	(pregn*).ti,ab	556566
12	EMBASE	exp PREGNANCY/	670130
13	EMBASE	(11 OR 12)	866617
14	EMBASE	(10 AND 13)	17
15	EMBASE	(RILUTEK).ti,ab	39
16	EMBASE	(13 AND 15)	0
17	PubMed	(Riluzole).ti,ab	1406
18	PubMed	(pregn*).ti,ab	914806
19	PubMed	(17 AND 18)	10