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References

Prescribing in pregnancy and breastfeeding CHAPTER 7 ■ ■ Hypnotic benzodiazepine receptor agonists (Z drugs) are probably not associated with an increased risk of congenital malformations,^{211,212} but an increased risk of premature birth, low birth weight and small for gestational age has been reported.²¹¹ ■ ■ Zolpidem may be associated with an increased likelihood of caesarean section.²¹³ ■ ■ Available data do not appear to show an association between in utero benzodiazepine and/or Z drug exposure and neurodevelopmental disorders.^{214–216} Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in pregnancy Methylphenidate and amfetamines are probably not major teratogens.^{217,218} A small increased risk of cardiac malformations has been reported with methylphenidate but is not seen with amfetamines.²¹⁹ There may be a small increased risk of spontaneous abortion with methylphenidate and a small increased risk of premature birth and low birth weight with amfetamines.²¹⁸ Modafinil may be associated with an increased risk of congenital malformations (including congenital heart defects, hypospadias and orofacial clefts).^{220,221} In the UK, the MHRA advises that modafinil should not be used during pregnancy.²²⁰ Women of child-bearing age must understand the risk of taking modafinil in pregnancy and should be advised to use effective contraception during treatment with modafinil and for 2 months after discontinuing treatment.²²⁰ Available data do not show an increased risk of neurodevelopmental disorders in children exposed to ADHD medications in utero.^{222,223} References

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