

# MotherToBaby: A Service of the Organization of Teratology Information Specialists (OTIS)

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[MotherToBaby](#) is a service of the international non-profit [Organization of Teratology Information Specialists \(OTIS\)](#), and provides free, up-to-date, evidence-based information on the safety of medications, diseases, chemicals, herbal products, substances of abuse, and other exposures during pregnancy and while breastfeeding.

MothertoBaby experts are also able and ready to provide evidence-based information about Zika.. MothertoBaby experts can cover Zika-related topics such as:

- Mode of transmission
- Regions where it has been identified
- Symptoms of infection
- Effects of the infection and symptoms on the pregnancy
- Effects of treatment of the infection and symptoms on the pregnancy
- Prevention of infection
- Central nervous system (CNS) malformations
- Information on types of testing depending on when the infection occurred

OTIS has an established, [toll-free national call system](#) (**toll free number: (866) 626-6847**) [so that anyone in North America could be routed to one of 14 affiliated services around the country to speak with an expert](#), as well as offering in-person counseling sessions through one of the 14 affiliates.

This service is available to [mothers](#), [healthcare professionals](#), and [the general public](#).

In the summer of 2016, MotherToBaby will also be launching an app which will provide their resources (including access to their experts) in an easy-to-use, quickly accessible format for mobile use.

In addition to email, text, and online live chat as methods of connecting with a MotherToBaby expert, they also serve many consumers and providers through their website, blogs, press releases, social media postings, and links to our extensive library of over 80 fact sheets.

Through all of these means, more than 100,000 women and their health care providers seek information about birth defect prevention from MotherToBaby every year.

Members of OTIS include the experts that provide the MotherToBaby information service and the researchers that conduct MotherToBaby Pregnancy Studies. MotherToBaby also conducts state-of-the-art research on the safety of medications and vaccines in pregnancy coordinated by the OTIS Research Collaborative Center at the [University of California, San Diego](#). Members of OTIS, who provide their expertise to MotherToBaby, are engaged in work to:

- Understand the effects of environmental agents in maternal and fetal/infant health;
- Prevent negative pregnancy outcomes, including birth defects; and
- Communicate evidence-based information about medications and other environmental exposures in pregnancy and lactation.

MotherToBaby experts include, but are not limited to, specialists in the fields of: Obstetrics and gynecology; Pediatrics; Genetics; Dysmorphology (abnormal fetal tissue development); Perinatal epidemiology; Teratology; Behavioral teratology; Pharmacy; Genetic counseling; Nursing ; Midwifery; Maternal and child health; and Public health.

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MotherToBaby experts can discuss the risks of any kind of exposure during pregnancy or breastfeeding, including:

- Prescription medications
- Over-the-counter medications
- Vitamins and supplements
- Alcohol and recreational drugs
- Vaccinations or immunizations
- Diseases or infections
- Chemicals
- Pesticides
- Occupational exposures
- Paternal exposures

## To Contact MotherToBaby:

- **Website:** [www.mothertobaby.org](http://www.mothertobaby.org)
- **Toll-Free Number:** (866) 626-6847
- **Text MotherToBaby:** (855)-999-3525

**Youtube:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0O5nm\\_E\\_rS8I1BpO-C4eLw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0O5nm_E_rS8I1BpO-C4eLw)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/MotherToBaby>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/mothertobaby>

**Pinterest:** <https://www.pinterest.com/mothertobaby/>

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/mothertobaby>

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