fluoxetine in early pregnancy: cardiac birth defects

- Caution advised with all SSRIs.

In early 2010, the European Medicines Agency reported a meta-analysis of epidemiological studies showing that exposure to fluoxetine in the first trimester of pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of cardiac malformations in newborns (1). The frequency of cardiac malformations was doubled in exposed newborns (1). The frequency of cardiac malformations in early pregnancy is associated with an exposure to SSRIs to pregnant women or to women who may become pregnant.

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