

## **L. reuteri DSM17938 effective for colic in breastfed infants**

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(HealthDay)—*Lactobacillus reuteri* DSM17938 is effective for breastfed

infants with colic, according to a meta-analysis published online Dec. 26 in *Pediatrics*.

Valerie Sung, Ph.D., from the Murdoch Children's Research Institute in Melbourne, Australia, and colleagues performed an individual participant data meta-analysis to examine whether *L. reuteri* DSM17398 reduces crying and/or fussing time in infants with colic. Data were included from four [randomized controlled trials](#) of *L. reuteri* DSM17398 versus placebo delivered orally to 345 infants with colic (174 received probiotics and 171 placebo). Infant crying and/or fussing duration and treatment success at 21 days were the outcomes studied.

The researchers found that at all time points, the probiotic group averaged less crying and/or fussing time than the [placebo group](#) (day 21 adjusted mean difference in change from baseline, -25.4 minutes). At all time points the probiotic group was almost twice as likely as the placebo group to experience [treatment success](#) (day 21 adjusted incidence ratio, 1.7). Dramatic intervention effects were seen in breastfed infants (number needed to treat for day 21 success, 2.6), while effects were insignificant for formula-fed infants.

"*L. reuteri* DSM17938 is effective and can be recommended for breastfed infants with colic," the authors write. "Its role in formula-fed [infants](#) with colic needs further research."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical and nutrition industries.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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