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PPIs not helpful for infants, and evidence of harm

In the May 2023 Tools for Practice, reviews indicate that proton pump inhibitor (PPI) use in babies does not improve crying, fussiness, irritability, or regurgitation attributed to feeds.¹

However, PPIs may increase the risk of serious adverse effects (e.g., respiratory tract infections) from 2.5% on placebo to 12% at four weeks.

Since no meta-analyses were available, the data was from randomized, controlled trials on infants retrieved from systematic reviews in the last ten years.

Reference:

1. Crying babies: Can proton pump inhibitors help Tools for Practice #340

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