

# Galactorrhea

Galactorrhea (also spelled galactorrhoea) (galacto- + -rrhea) or lactorrhea (lacto- + -rrhea) is the spontaneous flow of milk from the breast, unassociated with childbirth or nursing.

Galactorrhea is reported to occur in 5–32% of women. Much of the difference in reported incidence can be attributed to different definitions of galactorrhea.

## Etiology

see [Prolactinoma](#)

Although frequently benign, it may be caused by serious underlying conditions and should be properly investigated.

Galactorrhea also occurs in males, newborn infants and adolescents of both sexes.

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