## Table 2

## Care Ideas for Lactation Suppression and Engorgement Following Loss<sup>1</sup> Melissa Cole, IBCLC, RLC

- Care ideas that are widely accepted:
  - Ice packs, cold compresses
  - Anti-inflammatory medications, such as ibuprofen
  - Milk expression : pumping or hand expression, expressing just to comfort, not to drain the breasts completely
  - A supportive bra
- Alternative care ideas that have proven useful for some include:<sup>2</sup>
  - Lymphatic drainage techniques
  - Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine
  - Herbal treatment, in particular, therapeutic doses of sage, parsley, and peppermint
  - Compresses of cabbage leaf or jasmine flowers/diluted jasmine absolute oil
  - Short term high-dose vitamin B6
    - Enzymatic supplements, such as bromelain and/or bromelain/trypsin complex
  - Therapeutic ultrasound treatments
  - Homeopathy: Bryonia, Lac Caninum, Apis Mellifica, Belladonna, Phytolacca, etc

<sup>1</sup>Many healing traditions have care options for weaning and lactation suppression. Please consult a qualified practitioner for in-depth support regarding the care options presented above.

<sup>2</sup>While these treatment methods are generally considered safe, please do consult your healthcare provider to ensure the treatments are compatible with your unique healthcare needs.

Cole, Melissa. Lactation after Perinatal, Neonatal, or Infant Loss, Clinical Lactation, 3-3, 94-100.