

Breastfeeding Assessment Tool 2

Age	Day 1 - 2	Day 3 - 4	Day 5 - 6	Day 7 - 28
Urine: number of wet nappies per day	1-2 or more; urates may be present	3 or more; nappies feel heavier	5 or more	6 or more, heavy
Stools: number per day, colour, consistency	1 or more, dark green / black 'tar-like' (Meconium)	2 or more, changing in colour and consistency - brown/green/yellow, becoming looser ('changing stool')	2 or more, yellow; may be quite watery	2 or more, at least size of £2 coin, yellow and watery, 'seedy' appearance

Refer to "What's in a Nappy?" leaflet on BF information webpage for colour chart.

Management Plan 1

Feeding needs to be observed so that positioning and attachment can be improved - either at a drop-in centre or home visit

Observe for effective suckling pattern

Advise a minimum 8 feeds in 24 hours

Skin contact to encourage breastfeeding

Weigh baby. Weight loss should be less than 10% of birth weight. If greater than 10% loss, move to management plan 2 immediately.

Contact the mother the next day - a change in frequency/amount of urine and stools will indicate that milk intake is improving

Weigh the baby again on day 5. If weight increasing, continue to monitor closely and provide support. **If the baby is not now gaining weight (20-30gms/day), move to Management Plan 2**

Weight loss: Day of maximum weight loss: - day 3

Maximum percentage weight loss: 7 - 9%

Birth weight regained: 7-10 days

Management plan 2

Follow Management Plan 1, plus:

Refer to breastfeeding advisor/drop-in clinic

Express breastmilk after each

feed and offer to baby

Consider referral to GP if

infection or other illness

suspected

Weigh again in 24 hours. **If the**

baby is not now gaining weight

(20-30gms/day), move to

Management Plan 3

Management plan 3

Refer to maternity unit for review by paediatrician & breastfeeding advisor

Follow Management Plan 2, plus:

Frequent breastfeeds and expressing, using hospital-grade breast pump

Carry out investigations* to determine ongoing care. This may include formula

feeds or intravenous fluids, if breastfeeding ineffective or EBM/DBM

unavailable

Reduce formula offered as breastmilk supply increases. Weigh again in 24

hours. Continue to monitor weight twice weekly until growth is adequate.