

MANAGEMENT OF NEW BABY WITH A CLEFT FOR FIRST 24 HOURS FOLLOWING BIRTH

_____ has had an antenatal diagnosis of _____

& has been visited by the cleft specialist nursing team. A post natal feeding plan has been agreed

Please contact the Cleft Clinical Nurse Specialist team at RHC, Glasgow on 0141 452 4905 as soon as possible following birth

Completed referral forms are returned to ggc.cleftnursescotland@nhs.scot

Cleft CNS will visit within 24 hours of referral form being received, if appropriate

PRIOR TO THIS VISIT PLEASE FOLLOW THESE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Oral feeds can be introduced as set out below.

Breast feeding/EBM

Put to breast and encourage skin to skin contact.

Babies with cleft lip (with or without gum involvement) should be positioned with the breast filling the gap, for example cleft side down, to assist a lip seal.

If palate involvement please assist mother in hand expressing and offer colostrum via cup
Babies born with cleft palate are unable to create sufficient intra oral pressure required to successfully feed at breast. Baby can still be breast milk fed, Cleft CNS can provide loan of dual electric breast pump for up to 1 year.

If concerned about volumes please top up via cup.

Bottle feeding

Offer feeds from **standard bottle and orthodontic teat.**

Babies born with cleft palate are unable to create sufficient intra oral pressure, baby may take only small volume from standard bottle.

If concerned about volumes please top up via cup.

Cleft CNS will visit to assess baby and feeding, commencing assisted feeding when appropriate.

Cleft Nurse Specialists
The National Cleft Surgical Service for Scotland
0141 452 4905