



Nutrition

Family education and training on infant feeding in the unit and after discharge

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Statement of the standard

Parents develop appropriate **knowledge and skills in feeding** their preterm infant.



For parents and family

- Parents are informed by healthcare professionals about infant feeding challenges.



For neonatal unit

- A unit guideline on parental feeding techniques to improve oral infant feeding behaviours is available and regularly updated.
- Educational programmes (parental feeding techniques to improve oral infant feeding behaviours) are provided by a multidisciplinary infant nutrition team.
- Opportunities for skin-to-skin care and comfort holding of the preterm infant prior to and during the feeding are provided.

Benefits

- Improved nutritional care of preterm and ill infants
- Decreased postnatal growth faltering
- Improved parent-infant interaction



For healthcare professionals

- A unit guideline on parental feeding techniques to improve oral infant feeding behaviours is adhered to by all healthcare professionals.
- Training on possible feeding difficulties and on the educational and support needs of parents is attended by all responsible healthcare professionals.



For hospital

- Training on techniques to improve oral infant feeding behaviours and parental feeding techniques is ensured.



For health service

- Outpatient or community-based support and networks for feeding difficulties are provided.

