

## Information for breastfeeding families

# *Congratulations on the Birth of Your Baby!*



Here are some basic guidelines to keep in mind for the first few weeks.

Wet diapers = 6+ per day

Stools = 3+ per day

Feedings = at least 8 times, on demand, around the clock for the first 2-3 months

### ***Signs of good feedings***

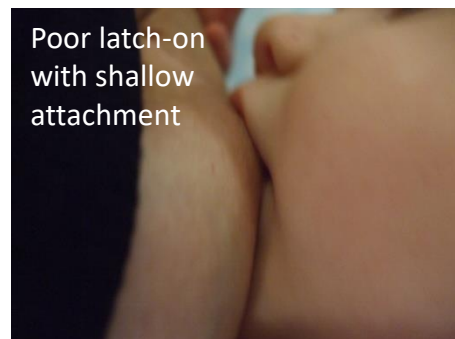
- ✓ Feeling a deep, strong pulling sensation without sharp pain
- ✓ Consistent sucking with only brief pauses
- ✓ Hearing swallowing (after the milk comes in)
- ✓ Latch-on is easy
- ✓ Vigorous sucking at the breast
- ✓ Breasts are softer after the feeding
- ✓ Seeing milk in your baby's mouth
- ✓ Feeling a let-down reflex or seeing a change in the baby's feeding rhythm
- ✓ Adequate wet diapers and stools
- ✓ Minimal weight loss during first few days
- ✓ Baby regains birth weight by 2 weeks and gains  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 oz daily thereafter

### ***Signs of poor feedings***

- ✓ Feeling pain during feedings
- ✓ Sleepy baby
- ✓ Inconsistent, flutter (weak) sucking
- ✓ Difficulty latching-on and staying on
- ✓ Clicking or popping sounds in your baby's mouth
- ✓ Prolonged nursing (more than 20-25 minutes on each side)
- ✓ Infrequent nursing (baby does not wake to feed at least every 3 hours)
- ✓ Baby is not satisfied at the end of the feeding
- ✓ Engorgement
- ✓ Inadequate wet diapers and stools
- ✓ Rapid or excessive weight loss (more than 7-10%) during the first few days
- ✓ Has not regained birth weight by 2 weeks
- ✓ Slow weight gain thereafter (less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  –  $\frac{3}{4}$  oz per day)



Good latch-on  
with wide mouth



Poor latch-on  
with shallow  
attachment