

SCOPE DEFINITION

Guideline Title: *Establishing breastfeeding*

| Scope framework | |
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| Population | Pregnant and postpartum women with healthy term babies who are establishing breastfeeding in the first week |
| Purpose | Identify relevant evidence related to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of breastfeeding • Assessment and support for establishing breastfeeding |
| Outcome | Support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of breastfeeding • Assessment of breastfeeding • Evidence informed management of common breastfeeding concerns |
| Exclusions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation, storage, transport and feeding of infant formula • Administration of expressed breast milk (in detail) • Premature and/or sick baby feeding • Breast milk storage • Donor milk or peer breast milk sharing (in detail) • Maternal medications and breastfeeding • Suppression of lactation • Galactogogues • Infant feeding where primary carer is not the birthing parent (e.g adoptive parents or surrogacy arrangements) • Specific guidance for breastfeeding in multiple births • Specific guidance for breastfeeding the jaundiced baby |

Clinical questions

| Question | Likely Content/Headings/Document Flow |
|---|--|
| Introduction | Communication |
| 1. What approaches to clinical care support and promote breastfeeding? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of breastfeeding • Clinical standards • Breastfeeding cautions • Communication • Antenatal care • Skin to skin contact • Dummy (pacifier) use |
| 2. How is breastfeeding assessed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breastfeeding assessment • Positioning and attachment • Milk transfer and production • Breastfeeding effectiveness |
| 3. What strategies support the establishment of breastfeeding when concerns are identified? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common concerns • Supplementary feeding • Expressing breast milk • Alternative feeding choices |
| 4. What strategies support maintenance of breastfeeding? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued breastfeeding • Health promotion |

Potential areas for audit focus (to be refined during development)

- Proportion of health professionals who complete continuing education and training on breastfeeding as per BFHI recommendations
- Proportion of pregnant women who have been offered information about the importance of breastfeeding
- Proportion of breastfeeding women to whom iodine 150 microgram oral supplementation is recommended
- Proportion of women, who gave birth to a term well baby, who had skin to skin contact at birth for at least one hour or until baby breastfed
- Proportion of breastfeeding babies who receive infant formula before discharge without documented informed maternal consent
- Proportion of women who are exclusively breastfeeding on discharge from service
- Proportion of women who are providing their baby with some breast milk on discharge from service
- Proportion of babies who are exclusively breastfeeding at points in time after discharge from service (e.g. at 1, 3, 6, and 12 months)