

### **4.0 Breastfeeding**

*Effective Date: 01/05/18*

#### **4.09D Feeding Cup**

##### **Feeding Cup**

###### Description

Cup feeding is a method of supplemental feeding using a medicine cup or soft cup such as a Foley feeding cup.

###### Indication for use of Feeding Cup

- a. Mother is unavailable
- b. Sore nipples
- c. Unable to latch infant
- d. Temporarily supplementing due to medical necessity, such as preterm infancy, minor cleft lip or palate.

###### Procedure

- a. Educate client about the purpose of feeding cups and the risks of poor milk intake and compromised milk production when cup feeding.
- b. Assess milk production and need for additional breast stimulation when using a specialty feeding device.
- c. Instruct the client to:
  - i. Have proper technique when feeding a baby with sipping or lapping method.
  - ii. Make sure baby is fully awake, calm and alert before feeding this way.
  - iii. Use a bib on baby to catch spills and gently secure baby's hands to prevent from bumping the container.
  - iv. Hold baby in an upright position on caregiver's lap or crook of arm, supporting baby's shoulders and neck.
  - v. Pour 5-10 mls of human milk or formula into a medicine cup. Refill the cup as needed.
  - vi. Direct the rim of the cup towards the corners of the upper lip and gums with it gently touching/resting on the lower lip. Do not apply pressure to the lower lip.
  - vii. Tip cup so that milk touches lips. The infant should begin to lap the milk from the cup with his/her tongue. The tongue should form a trough to bring the milk to the back of the throat so that swallowing can occur.
  - viii. Not pour milk into infant's mouth.
  - ix. Keep the cup in a tilted position.
  - x. Not to take cup away when baby pauses, unless he/she pulls away. Allow baby to start again when he/she is ready.
  - xi. Observe infant's natural pauses between bursts of swallows. It is important to let the infant pace herself/himself. If not swallowing well, do not use this method.