



MAMI Feeding Assessment Guide

Management of small & nutritionally at-risk infants under six months & their mothers

ASSESS

1. ESTABLISH MODE OF INFANT FEEDING

ASK

- What and how do you feed the infant?¹

2. INFANT BREASTFED OR GIVEN BREASTMILK

ASK:

- Please tell me about any difficulties with breastfeeding
- How many times is the infant breastfed or given breastmilk in 24 hours?

3. BREASTFEEDING OBSERVATION

OBSERVE BREASTFEED FOR AT LEAST 4 MINUTES²:

- Infant well-attached to breast?
- Infant suckling effectively?

BREAST EXAMINATION:

- Any breast conditions (e.g., mastitis, thrush, pain)?

4. CHECK IF INFANT RECEIVES ANYTHING OTHER THAN BREASTMILK

ASK:

- What other foods or drinks does the infant receive?

Potential feeding risk if infant receives formula; Continue to Step 5

5. INFANT RECEIVES FORMULA

ASK:

- What type of formula does the infant receive?
- If using powdered formula: What source of water is used?
- How is infant formula prepared? (e.g. number of scoops of powder per volume of water)
- Is formula fed with a feeding bottle?
- How much formula does the infant consume at each feed (liquid)?³
- Please tell me about any difficulties with feeding

CLASSIFY ALL MOTHERS AND INFANTS

SIGNS

CLASSIFY

ACT

INFANT BREASTFED OR GIVEN BREAST MILK: ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Fewer than 8 breastfeeds/breast milk feeds in 24 hours **or**
- Not well-attached **or**
- Not suckling effectively **or**
- Infant receives foods or drinks other than breastmilk

INFANT NOT BREASTFED OR DOES NOT RECEIVE BREAST MILK: ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Infant receives inappropriate formula **or**
- Unsafe water used to prepare formula **or**
- Formula incorrectly prepared **or**
- Feeding bottle used **or**
- Infant receives insufficient formula for age⁴

MOTHER:

ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Any breast condition (e.g. mastitis, thrush, pain)
- Mother reports difficulty feeding infant

MODERATE FEEDING RISK

Enrol in MAMI Outpatient Care

INFANT BREASTFED OR GIVEN BREAST MILK:

- 8 or more breastfeeds/breast milk feeds in 24 hours and
- Well attached **and**
- Suckling effectively **and**
- Infant receives only breastmilk

INFANT NOT BREASTFED OR DOES NOT RECEIVE BREAST MILK:

- Infant receives appropriate formula **and**
- Safe water (e.g. boiled) used to prepare formula **and**
- Formula correctly prepared **and**
- No feeding bottle used **and**
- Infant receives sufficient formula for age⁴

MOTHER:

- No breast conditions **and**
- Mother reports no difficulty feeding infant

LOW FEEDING RISK

Praise & reassure
Provide or refer for routine health care & maternal and IYCF counselling

Notes

1. If infant receives any amount of breastmilk, then they should be considered a breastfed infant.
2. Observe breastfeeding for at least 4 minutes from when the infant is properly attached. If the infant has fed within the past hour, then you may need to return to the breastfeeding observation after completing other steps in the MAMI Assessment to check if the infant is willing to feed again.
3. It may be difficult for mothers to describe the volume of formula that the infant consumes at each feed. Alternatively, it may be helpful to ask how much formula is usually prepared and how much the infant usually leaves in the cup or bottle at the end of a feed. The mother should also specify the amount of powdered infant formula and the amount of water that are used to prepare a feed (usually one scoop of powdered infant formula should be added to every 30ml of water to achieve adequate nutrient density).
4. For guidance on sufficient quantities of infant formula for age, see the table on the MAMI Feeding Assessment Form.