

NICU Oral Feeding Practice Review

Activity	Rarely 1	Occasionally 2	Frequently 3	Consistently 4
Systems				
An oral feeding policy is followed				
Feeding readiness is documented				
Feeding quality is documented				
Feeding Caregiver techniques are documented				
Pulling the NG/OG tube is part of an identified process				
Feeding quality is as important as feeding volume				
Teamwork				
Developmental Committee is a high performance team				
Feeding plans are followed, i.e. nipple selection and techniques				
Family understands the transition to oral feeding process				
Feeding practice changes per infant versus per caregiver				
Family is involved in caregiving from admission on				
Breastfeeding is the first oral feeding if parent desires				
Family provides the first bottle feeding if they desire				
Team members have identified roles in relation to feeding				
Education				
Oral feeding is started and stopped based on infant behavior				
Staff does not force feed infants				
A nipple appropriate for the infant's abilities is used				
All staff receive consistent education about neonatal feeding				
Feedings are safe				
Feedings are stopped if autonomic instability noted				
Feedings allow for adequate growth and development without undue stress on body systems				
Feedings are enjoyable to infants, families, and staff				
Feeding method is appropriate for infant's developmental abilities				
Positive oral and early feeding experiences are provided				
TOTALS				