

Drug Advisory Information for

Breastfeeding Mothers

Royal Women's Hospital Medicines Information Line

Ph. 8345 3190

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Monash Health Drug Information Centre

Ph. 9594 2361

Useful contacts:

The Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) 24 hour helpline

Ph. 1800 686 268

www.breastfeeding.asn.au

Ballarat Health Service Breastfeeding Clinic

Ph. 0439981937 / 53204977

Parent Place Breastfeeding Support

Cnr Sturt and Albert Streets, Ballarat Central

Ph. 0439981937 / 53206871

Ballarat Health Service Maternity Unit

Ph. 53204971

Ballarat Health Services

Breastfeeding Policy Summary



Ballarat Health Services (BHS) supports, respects and encourages a parent's informed choice of infant feeding.

BHS is an accredited Baby Friendly Health Initiative (BFHI) health service and complies with the 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding'

This is a summary of the BHS Breastfeeding Policy. The complete Breastfeeding Policy is available on request — please ask a staff member for a copy.



This information refers primarily to healthy mothers and healthy, full term, newborn babies. Babies born preterm or unwell may have individual feeding needs within these broad policy guidelines.

At BHS we:

- ✓ Ensure that our staff have the right knowledge and skills to support breastfeeding.
- ✓ Discuss the importance and management of breastfeeding with pregnant women and their families and help parents prepare for breastfeeding.
- ✓ Place newborn babies skin-to-skin with their mother straight after birth to allow early breastfeeding instincts to develop without interruption.
- ✓ Help mothers recognize and respond to their baby's feeding cues.
- ✓ Support mothers to learn how to breastfeed and teach them how to manage common breastfeeding challenges.
- ✓ Teach mothers how to express and store their breast milk and how to keep up their breastmilk supply if separated from their baby.
- ✓ Do not give infant formula to breastfed babies unless there is a medical need and a parent has given informed consent.
- ✓ Keep mothers and babies together from birth so they can develop a natural pattern of breastfeeding.
- ✓ Counsel parents about the use and risks of bottles teats and pacifiers when establishing breastfeeding.
- ✓ Provide parents with information about how to access peer and professional support for breastfeeding.
- ✓ Teach parents of formula fed babies how to safely prepare and use infant formula.
- ✓ Provide support to our own staff who are breastfeeding.
- ✓ Monitor infant feeding data for all babies born at BHS
- ✓ Comply with the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes