

# Weighing Baby Pathway

This pathway is aimed primarily at breast feeding babies.

When a bottle fed baby loses >10% on day 3 or 5, follow guidance for >10-<12% weight loss with an urgent referral to the Infant Feeding Team for review.

## GREEN

## AMBER

## RED/ PRETERM

**Before discharge**  
 Management Plan  
 Bobble Hat Feeding plan  
 2 x Breastfeeding Observation Checklist  
 Feeding updates

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 Management Plan  
 Bobble Hat Feeding plan  
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 Management Plan  
 Bobble Hat Feeding plan  
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 Feeding updates

**Post discharge – D3**  
 Phone call feeding assessment  
 Reiterate Bobble Pack feeding checklist.

**Post discharge – D3**  
 Baby examination  
 Full feeding observation  
 Feeding assessment  
 Weight

**Pre/Post discharge – D3**  
 Baby examination  
 Full feeding observation  
 Feeding assessment  
 Weight

**Post discharge – D5**  
 Baby examination  
 Full feeding observation  
 Feeding assessment  
 Weight

**Post discharge – D5**  
 Baby examination  
 Full feeding observation  
 Feeding assessment  
 Weight

**Post discharge – D5**  
 Baby examination  
 Full feeding observation  
 Feeding assessment  
 Weight

**On Day 3 and Day 5 postnatal calculate percentage weight loss and continue ongoing management as per guidance below**

**<10% weight loss**  
**Community Management**

- Baby examination
- Observe full feed (BF Obs Checklist)
- Feeding assessment
- Update **feeding plan**
- Reiterate Bobble Pack feeding checklist and community feeding support
- Reweigh D10
- NB. TBR if jaundiced

**>10- <12.4% weight loss**  
**Community Management**

- Baby observations/examination
- Complete FEEDING UPDATE (expression/ supplementation audit)
- Observe full feed (BF Obs Checklist). + feeding support Update **feeding plan**
- Arrange a Registered Midwife to fully review baby the same shift.
- Refer for infant feeding support  
 Baby is clinically well:
- RM review in 24 hrs.
- Reweigh in 48 hrs
- If Baby is clinically unwell: Send to Paediatric ED.
- NB. TBR if jaundiced

**>12.5% weight loss**  
**Community Management**

- Baby observations/examination
- Complete FEEDING UPDATE (expression/ supplementation audit)
- Observe full feed (BF Obs Checklist). + feeding support Update **feeding plan**
- Baby is clinically well: SBAR hand over with NN on JBW for readmission
- If Baby is clinically unwell: Send to Paediatric ED.
- NB. TBR if jaundiced

## In the event a mother refuses to take her baby to hospital

- Registered Midwife must review baby ASAP and carry out a safety net assessment
- Midwife to liaise with medical staff to create a plan involving daily midwifery reviews until the baby is gaining weight and no longer in critical danger.

### Readmissions Checklist

#### Weightloss >12.5%/ Jaundice + weightloss >10%

Follow on from community SBAR handover (continuity)  
Baby observations  
Blood gas/ Blood Glucose  
Notify paediatrician – bloods?  
RM to review baby and welcome mother.  
Consolidate feeding plan (expressing/ top ups)  
Feeding updates  
Refer for daily IFT  
Reweigh D5  
SBR/ Phototherapy

### Readmissions Checklist

#### Jaundice, weight loss <10%

Follow on from community SBAR handover (continuity)  
Baby observations  
Notify paediatrician  
RM to review baby and welcome mother.  
Consolidate feeding plan  
Feeding updates  
Reweigh D5  
SBR/ Phototherapy

### Feeding Plan weight loss <10%

- Skin to skin +++
- Respond to all early feeding cues.
- Ensure baby feeds at least 8 times in 24 hours.
- Refer to bobble pack for signs of effective milk transfer and how to seek help if there are concerns.
- Monitor wet and dirty nappies.

### Feeding Plan weight loss 10-12.5%

- Skin to skin +++
- Respond to all early feeding cues.
- Feed baby at least every 2-3 hours and ensure effective latch and milk transfer Attaching Your Baby at the Breast - Global Health Media Project.
- Breastfeed for between 5-40 minutes and offer both breasts.
- Express after breastfeeds for 15 minutes or until the flow stops +2 minutes.
- Offer all available EBM by cup.
- Consider temporary formula top ups if milk volumes not increasing by D3
- 24-48hrs 90ml/kg/ day
- 48-72 hrs 120ml/kg/ day
- 72hrs+ 150ml/kg/day
- Refer to bobble pack for signs of effective milk transfer and reduce/ stop top ups once baby is breastfeeding effectively and weight gain has been observed.

### Feeding Plan weight loss >12.5%

- Skin to skin +++
- Respond to all early feeding cues.
- Feed baby at least every 2-3 hours and ensure effective latch and milk transfer. Attaching Your Baby at the Breast - Global Health Media Project.
- Breastfeed for between 5-40 minutes and offer both breasts
- Express after breastfeeds for 15 minutes or until the flow stops +2 minutes.
- Offer EBM/ formula top up by cup after every feed:
  - 24-48hrs 90ml/kg/ day
  - 48-72 hrs 120ml/kg/ day
  - 72hrs+ 150ml/kg/day
- Refer to bobble pack for signs of effective milk transfer and reduce/ stop top ups once baby is breastfeeding effectively and weight gain has been observed.