

**Clinical Guideline:** Feeding Difficulties Site: FPH

* Consider is child being overfed? > 150mls/kg/day
* Consider reflux , can be silent (no vomiting)
* Cow’s milk intolerance (even if breast fed) , reflux, diarrhoea, Refusal to feed, poor weight gain, rashes,
* irritability, wind, colic Lack of breast milk
* Maternal depression
* Some babies don’t feed well - use a spoon
* Constipation
* Cardiac/respiratory causes
* Blocked nose (saline drops)
* Not every cry is a hungry cry- some babies are just grumpy

History

* Breast fed babies consider removal of diary or wheat, if mother can cope
* Use bottle top ups rather than stopping breast feeding.
* There is not much to be gained in switching between various milks
* Lactose intolerance is rare (but expect after gastroenteritis) use 4-6 weeks of lactose free milk if diarrhoea is persistent.
* If suspect cow’s milk intolerance then try hypoallergenic milk Neutramagen/ Neocate (this may take 2 weeks weaning on to it gradually as may not initially tolerate)
* Try early weaning (4 months)
* NO evidence for Soya milk, Rice milk, Goats milk
* Enfamil AR - useful in reflux as doesn’t cause constipation (can happen with Gaviscon)

Advice and Treatment

**Consider Referral:**

Access to breast feeding advice: Health Visitor or hospital

Referral Guidelines – red flag signs

Investigation

Examination

General Information