## Breastfeeding Assessment Tool 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Day 1 - 2</th>
<th>Day 3 - 4</th>
<th>Day 5 - 6</th>
<th>Day 7 - 28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Urine:</strong> number of wet nappies per day</td>
<td>1-2 or more; urates may be present</td>
<td>3 or more; nappies feel heavier</td>
<td>5 or more</td>
<td>6 or more, heavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stools:</strong> number per day, colour, consistency</td>
<td>1 or more, dark green / black ‘tar-like’ (Meconium)</td>
<td>2 or more, changing in colour and consistency - brown/green/yellow, becoming looser (‘changing stool’)</td>
<td>2 or more, yellow; may be quite watery</td>
<td>2 or more, at least size of £2 coin, yellow and watery, ‘seedy’ appearance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Management Plan 1

Feeding needs to be observed so that positioning and attachment can be improved - either at a drop-in centre or home visit.

Observe for effective suckling pattern

Advise a minimum 8 feeds in 24 hours

Skin contact to encourage breastfeeding

Weigh baby. Weight loss should be less than 10% of birth weight. If greater than 10% loss, move to management plan 2 immediately.

Contact the mother the next day - a change in frequency/amount of urine and stools will indicate that milk intake is improving

Weigh the baby again on day 5. If weight increasing, continue to monitor closely and provide support. If the baby is not now gaining weight (20-30gms/day), move to Management Plan 2

### Management Plan 2

Follow Management Plan 1, plus:

Refer to breastfeeding advisor/drop-in clinic

Express breastmilk after each feed and offer to baby

Consider referral to GP if infection or other illness suspected

Weigh again in 24 hours. **If the baby is not now gaining weight (20-30gms/day), move to Management Plan 3**

### Management Plan 3

Refer to maternity unit for review by paediatrician & breastfeeding advisor

Follow Management Plan 2, plus:

Frequent breastfeeds and expressing, using hospital-grade breast pump

Carry out investigations* to determine ongoing care. This may include formula feeds or intravenous fluids, if breastfeeding ineffective or EBM/DBM unavailable

Reduce formula offered as breastmilk supply increases. Weigh again in 24 hours. Continue to monitor weight twice weekly until growth is adequate.

**Weight loss:** Day of maximum weight loss: - day 3

Maximum percentage weight loss: 7 - 9%

Birth weight regained: 7-10 days

Refer to “What’s in a Nappy?” leaflet on BF information webpage for colour chart.