

Informal Milk Sharing

Report Form

Notes/Key Points:

- Interesting topic
 - Big spectrum of reactions
 - Hospital setting has different liability issues
- Shared Stories
- Human milk for human babies
- Do you have the right to choose what you feed your baby?
- Testing of breast milk is expensive for hospital, while formula can be used without testing/without liability risk
- Important to inform parents of the possible risks
 - But not forgetting that formula carries risks also
 - Formula causing problems doesn't generate headlines, not like milk sharing
- demand for human milk is increasing with new policies, promotion of breast as best
- What to say as IBCLC to Mom who wants to use informal milk sharing-2 resources shared
- 1 in 200 formula babies die from illness which would have been prevented by breastfeeding
- HIV status known in US – pregnant women routinely tested
- Small risk but it is there-communicate with mother that it is low compared to formula
- Educate-best alternative from WHO
- There is a protocol for treating breastmilk at home if HIV+ (WABA document)
- Went through handout and resources
- Possible problems
 - profit motive
 - Dilution
 - Milk brothers and sisters-Muslim
 - Wet nurse
 - Issue with milk banking
- Stranger vs someone you know in regards to risks