

PACIFIERS.

There will be an order in the new Admission order set that says we are not to give pacifiers to breastfed babies. **The order states "Pacifiers are NOT to be given to healthy breastfed infants by health care staff. Parent may supply own pacifier after education given about pacifier use and effect on breastfeeding".**

- Pacifiers will no longer be stocked on the unit.
- Teach parents soothing techniques (refer to New Family book as a reference). Also use "Baby Night Owl" handout in postpartum Tool kit
- Educate about the recommendations by AAP of waiting one month (for a breastfed baby).
- After receiving education, if the parents choose to provide and use a pacifier, this will be documented on the Formula/Pacifier Documentation form.
- If a parent chooses to use a pacifier then they may bring in their own-and use for baby ONLY after education about risks of pacifier use in breastfed baby.
- If a baby transfers to us from the NICU we need to dispose of (or put away) the pacifier that the baby comes up with (after talking about it with the parents!). Tell parents that pacifier was used in the NICU because of separation from mother and the need to calm baby in an intensive care unit setting.
- Pacifiers have been shown to cause nipple confusion- baby sucks differently on pacifier than breast nipple and may cause trouble with latch.
- Pacifier sucking in first few weeks can lead to low milk supply. When baby sucks on pacifier then baby may not feed often enough to help milk supply get established. After 1 month of age, when breastfeeding is well established, pacifiers are fine.
- This BYOP- parents are told they can bring their own pacifier if they wish but we educate about not recommended for breastfed babies by AAP until 3-4 weeks of age