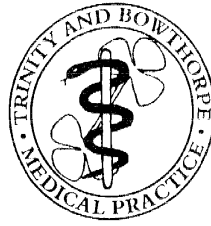


TRINITY & BOWTHORPE MEDICAL PRACTICE

THE HEALTH CENTRE
BOWTHORPE
NORWICH
NR5 9HA

Tel: 01603 748043
Fax: 01603 748125



TRINITY STREET SURGERY
1 TRINITY STREET
NORWICH
NR2 2BQ

Tel: 01603 624844
Fax: 01603 766829

Breast Feeding Policy

A. Confidentiality Notice

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B. Document Details

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1.2	03.01.17	Sonja Kerridge		
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What this is about

Our surgery welcomes nursing mothers to breastfeed while at the surgery.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all staff at the surgery understand their role and responsibilities in supporting nursing mothers and their partners to feed and care for the baby within the building.

What we do / our activity / our practice

We are a breastfeeding friendly surgery. Our aim is to support the needs of our patients to be family friendly.

All of our staff will support the needs and rights of breastfeeding mothers. Parents will be treated with respect, be listened to and acknowledged. All staff will ensure that they create an environment which is supportive of parents and nursing mothers.

We have 2 infant feeding champions at the surgery, Dr Jane Craig and Dianne Stolworthy, practice nurse, who have a special interest in breastfeeding, and who will be able to see you with any breastfeeding problems you have and signpost you to the most appropriate support and advice.

Babies need feeding when they ask for it. Their stomachs are very small and breast milk is digested very quickly. Breastfeeding works best when mother and baby are both relaxed. Hungry, upset babies will generally be helped to calm down and become quiet when breastfeeding. Therefore babies should be fed whenever they ask, even if this means in public, and no mother should ever be made to feel uncomfortable when feeding their babies in public.

If a mother wishes to feed her baby in private, a private space will be provided. However, no mother should feel obliged to feed their baby in private and if they wish to feed their baby in a public place they should be encouraged to do so.

If a visitor to the premises objects to anyone breastfeeding, they will be informed that management supports breastfeeding and that mothers have a legal right to breastfeed their babies anywhere. If the situation cannot be resolved readily, junior staff should refer patients/visitors to senior management.

A copy of this policy will be displayed on the practice website. Breastfeeding welcome posters will be displayed permanently in each patient waiting area.

This practice adheres to the International Marketing Code of breastmilk substitutes, and will not display materials promoting breastmilk substitutes, feeding bottles, teats or dummies.

All relevant staff will:

- Ensure that they are familiar with the contents of this document;
- Make mothers and babies welcome;
- Know how to view, read and print off the policy.

How this fits

This procedure is in line with NHS Policy to encourage the breast feeding of infants

How we audit this

Progress with this policy will be discussed once a year at the Practice Meeting. We will be glad to hear comments and reports of any incidents.