Late Preterm Healthy Infant Feeding Guidelines
(Infants ≥ 35 and < 38 weeks)
First 4 Days of Life

I. Method
- Direct breastfeeding
- Direct breastfeeding with SNS (5 Fr feeding tube)
- Cup/finger feeding when MOB not available
- Bottle feeding

II. Nutrient
- Colostrum (when breastfeeding)
- Expressed breastmilk
- Artificial baby milk
- Mother should be pumping minimally q 3 hrs (6-8x/24 hrs) if unable to breast feed, or if infant feeding suboptimal

III. Frequency of feeding
- q 3 hrs

IV. Quantity
- 0-24 hrs – 5-10 ml
- 25-48 hrs – 10-20 ml
- 29-96 hrs – 20-30 ml

Infants meeting any of the following criteria should be assessed for the need for supplementation with breastfeeding at the above stated quantities:
- Birth weight <2500 gms
- <36 weeks
- Poor reserve evidenced by temperature temp instability or hypoglycemia
- Poor feeding as evidenced by LATCH <7 or <10 minutes at breast
- Weight loss >3% per day, or >8% total

V. Duration
- In order to minimize fatigue, limit breastfeeding to 30-40 minutes

VI. Evidence of successful feeding
- Established maternal milk supply
- Signs of milk transfer
- Signs of adequate infant hydration
- Voiding/Stooling – DOL 1 – min. 1 void/1 stool
  - DOL 2 – 2/2
  - DOL 3 – 3/3
  - DOL 4 – 6-8x/day
- <3% per day weight loss
- <8% total weight loss

Near Term 07/09