



PROTOCOL FOR MANAGEMENT OF NON-BREASTFED INFANTS 0 – 6 MONTHS

NB: Breastfeeding is the safest way to feed an infant. All efforts must be taken to protect, promote and support breastfeeding. However, in difficult circumstances, it may be necessary to use infant formula as a last resort. Infants in these special situations are highly vulnerable and must be urgently identified, protected and provided with appropriate support.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR BMS SUPPORT	
ALL of the following	ONE or more
A <u>full</u> assessment has been carried out by a qualified health or nutrition worker trained in IYCF and documented incl. household assessment	The mothers has died or is absent for <u>unavoidable</u> reasons
	The infant has been rejected by the mother due to having experienced rape or psychosocial trauma ¹
	Acceptable maternal or infant medical reasons ²
Infant is 0 – 6 months old	The mother is relactating ³ , support until lactation is re-established ⁴
Wet nursing is not an option	HIV positive mother who has <i>chosen</i> not to breastfeed and where AFASS criteria are met ⁵

FULL PACKAGE OF SUPPORT PROVIDED TO NON-BREASTFED INFANTS	
One-to-One Skilled Counselling & Education	Quantity (measurement) of mixing a feed, frequency of feeds, hygienic practices and safe preparation and cup feeding
Practical Demonstrations	
Infant Formula	Sustainable supply as long as the infant needs it Provided every 2 weeks from SC <i>See specifications below</i>
Safer BMS Kit	One time provision – <i>see specifications below</i>
Follow up & Monitoring	weekly home visits by trained CV bi-monthly growth monitoring & health check at SC
Transport Support / Allowance	To travel to stabilisation centre
Access to safe water & fuel	

¹ Note this rejection should be confirmed by a psychologist oriented on IYCF-E. Bereavement, trauma or emotional crises do not automatically warrant cessation of breastfeeding - restorative care and psychosocial support should be the first step.

² [Click here for Acceptable Medical Reasons to Use BMS](#) – note that this medical decision should ideally be taken by a clinician trained on IYCF so that BMS is not unnecessarily prescribed.

³ The re-establishment of breastfeeding after a woman had stopped (recently or in the past).

⁴ For re-lactation, a two month supply of infant formula should be planned to allow time to re-establish exclusive breastfeeding and to allow for a safety-net. See Part 6 of [IFE Module 2 - Additional Materials](#)

⁵ Including HIV positive mothers who choose not to breastfeed and where AFASS criteria are met. Note that exclusive breastfeeding is recommended by WHO and Nigerian National Policy.

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44345/1/9789241599535_eng.pdf



BREASTMILK SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION	
Preferred option	Second option
Generic (unbranded) infant formula	Commercial Infant Formula
Ready to Use Infant Formula (RUIF)	Powdered Infant Formula (PIF)
Compliant with NAFDAC Marketing of Infant and Young Children Food and Other Designated Products Regulations 2005. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Labels should state the superiority of breastfeeding ○ Labels should indicate that the products should be used only on medical advice ○ Labels should warn about health hazards of using infant formula ○ There should be no pictures idealizing the use of infant formula 	
Manufactured and packaged in accordance with the Codex Alimentarius standards, CODEX STAN 72-1981	
(Re-)labelled in appropriate language (Kanuri / Hausa) with pictorial diagrams	
Have a shelf-life of at least 6 months on receipt of supply.	
Purchased (NOT DONATED)	
Suitable for infants < 6 months	

SAFER BMS KIT CONTENTS	
High quality thermos flask	1 – 2
Large cup / jar with wide opening	1
Paper Napkins / Plastic Bib	1
Water Purification Treatment e.g. Aquatab	1
Small pot / kettle – <i>for boiling water</i>	1
Small cup – <i>for feeding infant</i>	1
Small basin – <i>for washing</i>	1
Soap – <i>for handwashing & washing equipment. Needs replacing.</i>	4
Solid plastic box with lid – <i>for storage</i>	1
Jerry Can with Lid	1
Water – approx. 3L per day for PIF	1
Fuel – <i>for boiling</i>	1
Additional for PIF	
Measuring jar for water	1
Shallow bowl – <i>for cooling the feed in water</i>	1
Spoon	

REFERRALS

- **Upon discharge:** Infants > 6 months must be referred to breastfeeding and / or complementary feeding support and counselling as appropriate.
- Consider whether Child Protection and / or Psychosocial support is required



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