# **Breastfeeding Plan of Care**

#### Position and latch techniques:

- Feed your baby when your baby shows early hunger cues such as rooting or bringing hands to mouth
- Offer both breasts at every feed between 8-12x / 24 hours
- use breast compressions to encourage active sucking and swallowing
- When swallows at breast slow less than every 3 sucks, switch sides
- Do not time the breastfeeding session
- if your baby is not showing signs of hunger 3 hours from beginning of the last feed, feed baby
- Skin to Skin as much as possible
- Laid back position to ensure the deepest latch possible for both mom and baby's comfort



#### **Engorgement management:**

- Massage breast towards armpit for few minutes before feed
- Try reverse pressure softening, where you push areola into breast and hold for 30-60s
- Then try some gentle hand expression prior to putting baby to breast
- Feed baby at least every 3 hours or more until back to birth weight
- Cool compresses to breasts afterwards as needed



## Nipple care:

- If needed, use own colostrum/expressed breast milk or oil such as coconut or olive oil to nipples
- if nipples are cracked and not healing, an antibiotic ointment such as mupirocin may be needed
- ensuring a good position and latch will help heal any early nipple damage along with good lactation support
- avoid use of All purpose nipple ointment (APNO)

## **Parenting Videos:**

www.monarchcentre.ca

Newborn Bath, Diaper Change, Mental Health, Normal Newborn Behaviours, PostPartum Recovery, and Jaundice:



# Community Parenting and Breastfeeding supports:

www.ottawabreastfeeds.ca www.parentinginottawa.ca

