

Area: Health Services

Subject: HS46 – Breast Milk Storage & Preparation Guidelines

Reference: 1304.23(e)(2)

Policy: Programs must provide for the proper storage and handling of breast milk provided by the parent each day to ensure that each infant receives his or her own mother's milk and to prevent spoilage.

Procedure:

1. Parents bring in daily, breast milk that has been bottled and labeled with their child's name.
2. Breast milk is refrigerated by staff immediately upon receipt.
3. If the milk is partially frozen, it should continue to thaw in the refrigerator or it can be warmed slowly under warm water or in a bottle warmer that has controlled heat settings for slow warming (i.e., Avent brand). Breast milk that is heated too quickly loses some of its nutritional properties in the heating process.
4. Breast milk **must not** be **reheated** for later use if the infant falls asleep or is interrupted before consuming the offered bottle.
5. BREAST MILK OR FORMULA MUST NEVER BE HEATED IN A MICROWAVE OVEN AS THE BABY MIGHT BE BURNED DUE TO THE UNEVEN HEATING NATURE OR LIQUID IN THE APPLIANCE.
6. Breast milk that is not consumed the day it is brought to the center is discarded at the end of the day.
7. Staff returns to parents empty and washed bottles/nipples at the end of each day.
8. It is important for staff to communicate with a mother the amount of milk infants are offered and consumed at each meal and in total on Infant Meal Record so mothers will know how much milk they need to provide each day (CCF/H-20).

Supervised by: Site Supervisors, Master Teachers

Performed by: Primary Caregivers

Forms needed: Infant Meal Record

Frequency: Daily per procedure