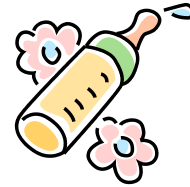




Components of Infant Feeding and Terms



Prior to feeding infant:

- ♥ **Read infant cues** (listed below)
- ♥ **Position:** infant may require being fed in side tilt position
- ♥ **Assess State:** is the infant in a deep sleep, light sleep, drowsy/semi-drowsy, alert, active or crying.

Infant cues:

- ♥ **Approach:** Readiness cues: Smiling, Cooing, Little active movement, Alertness, Relaxed face, "O" face
- ♥ **Coping Cues:** Hands to face, mouth or midline, Flexor posturing, Grasp, Fisting, Sucking, Change in state (lower level)
- ♥ **Stress Signs:** Burping, Spitting up, Arching/posturing of trunk or extremities, Changes in vital signs, Changes in color, Hiccups, Irritability, Yawning, Squirming or increased activity level

Suckling vs. Sucking:

Suckling	Sucking
<ul style="list-style-type: none">♥ 0-6 months of age♥ Loose seal with lips♥ Tongue is cupped around nipple, bowl shaped♥ Movement is anterior to posterior and in-out pattern♥ 1 cycle per second♥ Wide jaw excursions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">♥ 6 months and older♥ Tight seal with lips, decreased tongue seal on nipple♥ Tongue is only slightly cupped♥ Vertical movement♥ 1 cycle per second♥ Rhythmical movement♥ Decreased jaw movement

Taste development in infants:

- ♥ **Sweet**- preferred by infants, children and adults, infants will suck harder for sweet flavored liquids
- ♥ **Sour**- rejected by babies, acquires preference at 24 months of age
- ♥ **Bitter**- all ages reject or are indifferent to it
- ♥ **Salt**- reject or are indifferent until 4 months of age

Feeding terms:

- ♥ **Suck-Swallow-Breath synchrony**: the three domains must be well coordinated and smooth for safe and efficient feeding. If functioning within normal limits the pattern will prevent aspiration of food, swallowing of air and allow for the intake of nutrients. As known as the swallow reflex
- ♥ **Nutritive suck**: purpose to obtain nourishment
- ♥ **Non-nutritive suck**: satisfies sucking desire, exploration and regulates state
- ♥ **Sucking Pads**: provide stability and pressure for nipple during suck
- ♥ **Sucking reflex**: automatic reflex to ensure nutrients until suck becomes cortical
- ♥ **Root reflex**: turning of head with open mouth in response to stimuli on cheek, aids infants in learning to eat
- ♥ **Gag reflex**: protects airway from aspiration (life long)
- ♥ **Tongue protrusion**: protrusion of tongue upon stimulation to the anterior portion
- ♥ **Transverse tongue**: tongue should lateralize on sides with stimulation (life long)
- ♥ **Cough reflex**: protects airway if possible aspiration occurs, ideal to have a strong and effective cough (life long)
- ♥ **Phasic bite**: equal pressure between molars on both sides of mouth, rhythmic motions of opening and closing with stimulation
- ♥ **Tonic bite reflex**: clamping type bite, this is never normal

- ♥ **Munching pattern:** up and down movement of jaw
- ♥ **Graded jaw movement:** ability to vary opening of oral cavity depending on thickness of food (life long)
- ♥ **Rotary chewing:** diagonal movement of jaw as food moves to side or center of oral cavity (life long)

Information gathered from the following sources:

Evaluation and Treatment of Pediatric Feeding Disorders: from NIU to Childhood, Fraker and Walbert

Feeding and Swallowing, Disorders in Infancy Assessment and Management, Wolf and Glass

Pediatric Dysphagia: Management of the Whole Child, Angela Mansolillo, MA/CCC, SLP, BRS-S

Pediatric Dysphagia: NICU to community, MSCC with Rickard, Fawx, and Farbarino