



## CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE

Guideline coverage includes NICU KEMH, NICU PMH and NETS WA

# Pasteurised Donor Human Milk (PHDM)

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

## Perron Rotary Express Milk (PREM) Bank

Pasteurised Donor Human Milk (PDHM) is now available as a feeding choice for infants  $\leq 32$  weeks post-conceptual age, and or  $\leq 1500$  grams whose mothers are unable to provide sufficient breast milk for adequate nutrition. Other infants with a risk of feed intolerance will be considered for PDHM on an individual basis by Consultant/SR.

On occasions where there is very high demand for PDHM, usage will be restricted to neonates  $\leq 32$  weeks gestation and/or  $\leq 1500$  grams and any other neonate prioritised by SR/Consultant to protect the most at risk infants.

PDHM is usually fed up until a corrected gestation of 32-34 weeks unless demand for PDHM is high; then recipients of PDHM will be reviewed by PREM Milk Bank/Consultants on an individual basis and supply restricted to prioritise the highest risk infants to retain supply.

All PDHM is provided from the [Perron Rotary Express Milk \(PREM\) Bank](#), and all donors are thoroughly screened for viruses. All milk is pasteurised and microbiologically tested before being released from the milk bank.

Human breast milk provides optimal nutrition and reduces the risks of illness and disease. PDHM retains most of its bioactive properties and is the next best option where the mothers own milk is not available or there is insufficient volume.

## Information for Donors

All potential donors are screened appropriately to ensure there is minimal risk of transmission from infectious agents contained in their breast milk. Screening is by questionnaire and blood investigations. (Refer to: PREMB Donor Screening and Consent MR052).

- Test results are generally available within 72 hours but may take up to 7-14 days. Results of tests will only be given in person by PREM Bank personnel and not over the phone. Feeding of donor EBM is delayed until results of all screening tests are demonstrated to be negative.
- The Donor is provided with PREM Bank Donor kit and information on safe expressing, handling and storage of breast milk, labelling of EBM and breast pump hire.

## Information for Parents

Parental consent must be obtained for the use of Pasteurised Donor Human Milk.

Refer to: PREM Bank Donor Screening and Consent MR052 for Donor Human Milk Feeds.

## Guidelines for the Use of PDHM

For practical purposes the use of PDHM in the nurseries should be essentially the same as for mothers own EBM. Where mother's own milk is also available but insufficient in volume, mother's own milk should always be used up prior to giving PDHM. The required volume of PDHM for the following 24 hour period will be delivered to the Milk Room as required. All PDHM will be clearly labelled "Pasteurised Donor Human Milk" and will be pre-labelled by the PREM Bank with the infants UMRN and the date dispensed.

PDHM is not to be shared between twins/triplets as donor milk may be from different donors.

As for frozen EBM, PDHM can be used for the 24 hour period following thawing. Milk will be provided in sterile bottles.

**NOTE:** When **documenting feeds** in 'Neonatal Observation and Nursing Assessment ICU' chart (MR489) please document a donor milk feed by writing 'PDHM' rather than 'EBM'.

Any **unopened** bottles of PDHM should be returned to the Milk Room to be recorded and disposed of. Any partially used bottles can be emptied and reprocessed by the PCA's.

**NOTE:** If insufficient PDHM is supplied, or more milk is required due to spillage or increased feed volumes, an emergency supply will be available in the Milk Room Freezer. Any nurse utilising this milk should record the UPID (clearly marked on PDHM label) in the Record sheet attached to the freezer. The date used and recipients UMRN should also be recorded. Any PDHM used from the milk room freezer should be labelled appropriately with the infants UMRN (TOPAS sticker if available) and the date thawed.

## Preparation for Transfer or Discharge (Other than KEMH Special Care Nursery and Ward 6B PMH)

**NOTE:** PDHM is **not** to be sent with patients to peripheral hospitals.

The PREM Milk Bank operates under legal advice that we only provide donor milk to patients under the direct care of the Medical Director of NCCU. This is a requirement of the Therapeutic Goods Act (Therapeutic Goods (Excluded Goods) Order No. 1 of 2011). As such we cannot provide PDHM to hospitals other than KEMH Special Care Nursery and Ward 6B at PMH.

If PDHM has been provided for a patient on the day of transfer to another unit, staff should discard any unused portion of PDHM. **Under no circumstances** should PDHM be sent with a patient. If insufficient maternal EBM is available the receiving hospital should be advised to decide on an appropriate alternative.

Please contact the Manager of the PREM Bank, Dr Ben Hartmann if there are any concerns regarding the use of PDHM.

Related WNHS policies, procedures and guidelines

[Neonatology Clinical Guidelines - Enteral Feeding: Initiation and Progression](#)  
[Perron Rotary Express Milk \(PREM\) Bank](#)

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