

### Storage of Breast Milk for CCTC Patients

- Breast milk must be stored in a breast milk fridge with controlled temperature. It can be stored in the fridge in either PCCU (for babies who are not in NICU) or NICU (for babies admitted to NICU).
- Do not store breast milk in a fridge or freezer in CCTC.
- All collected breast milk must be labeled; in the absence of the small breast milk labels, use the mother's addressograph label and write the DATE AND TIME collected on the label.
- Small volume syringes of colostrum for a premature infant should be transported to NICU directly.
- There is a program for generating the small breast milk labels available to nurses in PCCU and NICU, however, there are challenges in printing labels if mother and baby are not both in-patients. If labels cannot be generated, use the mother's addressograph.
- The fridge in PCCU is divided into 4 compartments. If the milk will be given within 24 hours, place the collection in the bottom left compartment (this is a fridge for milk that will be picked up by the family).
- If the milk will not be used within 24 hours or there will be prolonged travel time, place the milk in the bottom right compartment. This is a freezer. Small volumes can be placed in the freezer as they can be pooled at a later date.
- Milk in the freezer will be collected by nutrition services (extension 63132). Contact them in advance if the family is coming to pick the milk up.
- **COVID POSITIVE PATIENTS:** Breast milk should be stored for COVID-19 positive mothers as their breast milk contains COVID-19 antibodies that are beneficial to the newborn.

Do not put milk in a biohazard bag please; just place in a clear plastic bag (or it won't be picked up by nutrition services).