

CHAPTER-5: BABY DOESN'T TAKE BREASTFEED

- ⊗ Many a times when a hungry baby is put to breast it starts crying and behaves as it is fighting with it. Sometimes it happens that such behavior is with only one breast! It may also happen that child may take nipple at mouth and does not suck at all! It may also happen that child may suck for a very short time and starts crying. Such behavior may occur many a times during a single meal.



- * In this way, when child refuses to take breast milk relatives concludes that breast milk is not enough and start top feeds. Consequently, breast feeding slowly reduces.

REASONS FOR CHILD REFUSING BREAST FEED

Illness: When the child is sick, there is nose block, teeth have started to erupt, it is suffering from pain, mouth has thrush, and if sucking and swallowing is not possible due to deficiencies of the brain the child will not be able to breastfed. If mother or child is sedated due to drugs, feeding may not be possible.

Mistakes in method of feeding:

- * If bottle feed is given in addition to breast feeding baby may prefer the bottle as it involves less efforts to get milk.
- 🔔 If areola is not in baby's mouth, baby cannot exert pressure to suck. During breastfeeding if mother keeps moving the breast, the baby may find it difficult. Restriction of baby's head may make it difficult for the baby to feed. Too much of milk may also cause problem. Wherein child drinks a little and then starts crying due to coughing by aspiration.

When baby's feelings are hurt: Breastfeeding children are also having feelings and when they are hurt such children may stop breastfeeding. When does this happen? Most commonly, when mother separates from baby (e.g. due to job) such a situation arises. Apart from

this when people taking care of the baby change, house is changed, mother is ill, mother is in periods and rarely when body odor of the mother changes (due to soap or eating onion or garlic) are such conditions.

Baby's attention is diverted: Baby more than four months old gets distracted by any sound or by somebody playing with it.

WHEN BABY REFUSES TO FEED ON ONE SIDE:

This happen frequently usually when milk is less or sucking is difficult due to engorged breast or uncomfortable position. In such a situation, manually remove milk and check baby's position at breast.