Red Flags and Risk Factors for Breastfeeding



Mother's NameBaby's Name			
		Date	
	Mother gained less than 18 pounds		Mother smokes
	Mother gained more than 35		Mother pumping at time of discharge
	pounds		Mother takes thyroid medication
	Mother has a BMI of more than		Mother has received Depo Provera
	26.1 kg/m²		Mother has PCOS
	Breast augmentation		No prenatal breastfeeding classes
	Reduction mammoplasty		Vacuum extractor or forceps
	Breast biopsy		Skin to skin for less than I hour after the
	Blunt trauma to the breast		birth
	Little or no breast changes during		Delay in initiation of breastfeeding more than
	pregnancy		2 hours
	History of low milk supply		Late Preterm Infant
	History of breastfeeding		Birth weight is less than 6 pounds
	problems/failure		Male infant
	Flat nipples		Circumcision done before discharge
	Inverted nipples		Tongue tied at time of discharge
	Sore nipples at the time of		Cleft palate
	discharge		Fetal distress or Apgar of 7 or less
	First time mother		Insult to oral cavity
	Epidural in place for more than 6 to		SGA
	8 hours before the birth		LGA
	Multiple boluses of epidural		Jaundiced at time of discharge
	medications		Sleepy infant at time of discharge
	Mother has edema of feet and		Latch problems at time of discharge
	hands		Infant is using a pacifier at discharge
	Episotomy or perineal tear		Infant receiving supplementation
	Induction of labor > 6 hours		Infant fed with an artificial nipple
	Hypertension at time of discharge		More than 7% loss of birth weight
	Received MagSo4		Special feeding plan at time of discharge
	Pain medications MORE than one hour prior to delivery		

Many of these factors can contribute to problems with breastfeeding. Some of the risk factors are more significant than others. Multiple factors are more meaningful than just one. Identification of risk factors helps in developing a plan of care for the breastfeeding dyad and in determining timing of follow-up.