

703 Infant Born of Woman with Mental Retardation or Alcohol or Drug Abuse (I)

**Description** • Infants born to mothers with mental retardation, alcohol or drug use may be at risk of poor bonding and parenting skills between mother and infant and be at risk for failure to thrive, abuse, neglect and other social risks

**Assess Readiness for Change:** with open ended questions

- “What is your day like for you and Sam?”
- “Do you feed Sam yourself, or do you have help at home?”

**Discussion, Counseling and Education**

If the answer is:	Try Counseling Strategies	Try Education
<p><b>Not ready</b> → “My boyfriend helps me. But I stay with Sam mostly.”</p> <p>Raise awareness &amp; personalize change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “So it sounds like you are the one who feeds Sam most of the time. How is feeding going for both of you?”</li> <li>• “What concerns you most about taking care of Sam?”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Sam is eligible for WIC because you have xx (i.e. a disability or drug/alcohol abuse) that can affect the way you care for Sam?”</li> <li>• “We can help you find services that are available to help you if you feel like you need some assistance?”</li> </ul>
<b>Record Plan or Goal</b>	Mom acknowledges drug use but feels she is dealing with Sam ok. Check child’s weight & re-assess next appointment.	
<p><b>Unsure</b> → “I feed him usually as I am trying to breastfeed?”</p> <p>Raise awareness &amp; confidence &amp; identify barriers to change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “I hear a little hesitation. You said “trying” to breastfeed. What concerns do you have with how breastfeeding is going?”</li> <li>• “On a scale of 1-10, how worried are you that you won’t be able to keep breastfeeding?”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be sensitive but aware of possible neglect of infant:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Report suspected abuse</li> <li>○ Refer to assistance programs as needed</li> <li>○ Offer information on infant feeding as needed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Record Plan or Goal</b>	Mom states she wants to continue BF. Made referral to LLC. Re-asses BF status next appointment.	
<p><b>Ready</b> → “I was messed up before I got pregnant. Now I go to counseling. I want to be a good mom.”</p> <p>Help plan change-support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “How has counseling helped you the most?”</li> <li>• “WIC focuses on feeding and foods. What concerns about food do you have?”</li> <li>• “What else can I help you with today?”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Infants often have fussy times of the day. It may not be because they are hungry. I have a crisis hot line number I can share with you for the times you get frustrated and you think you might need to talk to someone?”</li> </ul>
<b>Record Plan or Goal</b>	Mom said when baby cries it stresses her. Provided crisis hotline number. Mom’s friend can take baby. Follow-up stressors.	

<b>Education Resources</b>	<p><a href="http://kidshealth.org/parent/pregnancy_newborn/communicating/bonding.html#">http://kidshealth.org/parent/pregnancy_newborn/communicating/bonding.html#</a> Resource- <i>Bonding with Baby</i></p> <p><a href="http://teacher.scholastic.com/professional/bruceperry/bonding.htm#author">http://teacher.scholastic.com/professional/bruceperry/bonding.htm#author</a> Resource- <i>Bonding and Attachment in Maltreated Children</i></p>
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