



**Aneurin Bevan University Health Board**

# **Hospital Breast Pump Loan Service**

*N.B. Staff should be discouraged from printing this document. This is to avoid the risk of out-of-date printed versions of the document. The Intranet should be referred to for the current version of the document.*

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## **1. Introduction/Overview**

Breastfeeding is recognised as the optimal food source for growth, development and health (WHO 2023)

There are occasions that a breastfeeding parent will require a breast pump for additional support to continue with breastfeeding. This may be due to issues with supply, inadequate weight gain, or separation of parent and baby.

In these circumstances, advice can include hiring a hospital grade pump in order to maintain, protect, or further stimulate milk supply. These interventions are often expensive, and as it is recognised that within Aneurin Bevan University Health Board there are wide areas of deprivation (Welsh Government 2019), these recommendations can cause cessation to breastfeed, resulting in further health inequalities within the population of Gwent.

The Breast Pump Loan Service aims to reduce these health inequalities by supporting parents to continue breastfeeding for longer, with ongoing support.

## **2. Statement**

As part of a recognised Marmot region (Gwent PSB 2022), Aneurin Bevan University Health Board aims to contribute to giving every child the best start in life by supporting continued breastfeeding up to two years and beyond, as per WHO and UNICEF recommendations (2018).

## **3. Aims/Purpose**

This guideline aims to ensure appropriate management and maintenance of the breast pumps, and to guarantee parents have correct feeding support.

## **4. Scope**

This document is for midwives, HCSW and others working within the hospital and community setting who help parents to breastfeed

## 5. Roles and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the member of staff caring for the breastfeeding parent to provide support and recognise when additional intervention may be required, and to refer for additional support appropriately and promptly.

It is the responsibility of the Infant Feeding Lead Midwife to ensure breast pumps are loaned to those who would most benefit from the rental, that a feeding plan has been made, and follow up support is in place.

It is important to ensure that prior to hiring the pump, details are obtained, and the checklist is completed via the Initial Rental Form on MS Forms.

It is the responsibility of the designated hospital staff member to ensure that on return of the pump, that it is inspected, cleaned, and the return is documented via the Rental Return Form on MS Forms.

## 6. Details

Following referral from the Infant Feeding Lead Midwife, a pump loan can be initiated via the hospital. The member of staff dealing with the loan should be confident in the use of the pump and give appropriate instruction.

Prior to the loan, the pump should be checked to ensure it is clean and in working order.

Each mother/parent should be given:

- Ardo Bellis Pump
- Two pump sets with appropriately sized flange (to allow for double pumping)
- Breast pump Loan Agreement (can be located with the pumps) is to be signed (yellow copy to be given to parents, white copy to be scanned and sent to [abb.infantfeeding@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:abb.infantfeeding@wales.nhs.uk))
- Pumping information pack

The mother/parent's details must be recorded via the [Initial Rental Form](#) prior to the pump being loaned.

On return of the pump, the midwife should:

- Perform a visual inspection of the pump

- Check that all parts are present and intact (Bellis pump unit, plug, power cable and bag)
- Check the pump is in working order
- Clean pump with Clinell wipe
- Complete [Rental Return form](#)

The mother/parent should be made aware that an initial rental period of two weeks is given, and this date should be documented on the Breast pump Loan Agreement form. This may be reviewed at the discretion of the Infant Feeding Lead Midwife.

## **7. Training**

All members of staff within maternity should be trained to use the hospital grade pumps available. Additional training will be made available for staff both ad hoc on the ward by Ardo representatives, and on mandatory study days. Any staff members involved in the Breast Pump Loan Service who do not feel confident in the use of breast pumps, and how to support parents with pumping, should approach the Infant Feeding Lead Midwife or ward managers for further training.

## **8. Implementation**

The implementation of the Breast Pump Loan Service is initially a pilot scheme which will be fully evaluated for effectiveness and impact on continued breastfeeding rates.

The initial pilot will involve a small number of pumps, and users will be asked to give feedback in order to evaluate whether a full scheme will be beneficial in supporting the population in which ABUHB serve.

## **9. Equality**

Equality impact assessment completed; no adverse impact identified

## **10. Audit**

Audit via user feedback on Microsoft forms, which will be sent out following return of the pump, and a further feedback form at 6 weeks, to evaluate the impact of the service on continued breastfeeding rates

## 11. Review

This guideline will be reviewed following the completion of the initial pilot, but no more than three years from date of publication.

## 12. References

[Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation \(WIMD\) 2019: results report \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Exclusive breastfeeding for optimal growth, development and health of infants \(who.int\)](#)

[Microsoft Word - 03 - Proposal - Gwent Becoming A Marmot Region.docx \(gwentpsb.org\)](#)

[Unicef/WHO 2018 Breastfeeding, a mothers gift for every child](#)