

Nutrition/Health Volume  
Certification Section

Risk Factor 603 (Breastfeeding Complications or Potential Complications (Infant))  
(2.04720)

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POLICY: A breastfed infant shall be assigned risk factor 603 (Breastfeeding Complications) when complications or potential complications for breastfeeding exists as listed in this policy. Procedures for obtaining data, documentation and assigning risk factors must be followed.

PROCEDURES:

A. Obtaining Data

1. Obtain verification of complication:

- a. from visual observation, including observing baby at the breast or
- b. from healthcare provider or lactation consultant either verbally or in written format (i.e., a note on a physicians prescription pad, referral form, medical record, other reliable record or verbal confirmation from physician or someone working under physician's order ) or
- c. as self reported by applicant/participant/caregiver.

2. Obtain weight and length/height with adherence to the procedures in the Health and Nutrition Assessment Handbook ([HNAH](#)).

3. Determine a typical 24 hour feeding and stooling pattern.

B. Documenting

1. Document the complication in General Notes or breastfeeding notes in MOWINS.
2. Scan any written documentation provided by the healthcare provider or lactation consultant in the participant's file in MOWINS.

C. Assessing Risk Factor

1. The CPA shall assess all breastfeeding infants at certification, infant follow-up and recertification, for any breastfeeding complications or potential complications.

- a. An assessment may include observing the infant's skin, muscle tone, oral cavity, position and latch of the baby to the breast, milk transfer and stooling patterns.

D. Assigning Risk Factor

1. The CPA shall assign risk factor 603 to a breastfeeding infant when any of the following complications or potential complications for breastfeeding exist:

- a. Jaundice

- b. Weak or ineffective suck
- c. Difficulty latching onto mother's breast
- d. Inadequate stooling (for age, as determined by a physician or healthcare professional), and/or less than 6 wet diapers per day.

E. Providing Appropriate Counseling (See [Counseling Guides](#) for suggested counseling). Refer to the [Nutrition Training Manual](#) for more information.

- 1. Counseling and education shall be provided by the CPA, in addition to follow up by a peer counselor, if available.
- 2. Document counseling contact in MOWINS.

F. Providing Referrals

- 1. Provide appropriate referral information which may include peer counselor, lactation consultant, or healthcare provider and document in MOWINS.