

CanDo trial

Canadian Donor Milk trial: Pasteurized human donor milk supplementation in the well-baby unit

What is our mission

We're on a mission to find out the best way of feeding babies who require extra nutrition in well-baby units

Why are we doing this study?

Healthy start for babies

- Mother's milk is the healthiest milk for all babies.
- Some babies born with low birth weight or born to a diabetic mother may need extra feeding in their early days. This is due to potential issues like low blood sugar, weight loss, or insufficient availability of their mother's milk.
- Typically, this extra feeding is formula. We're conducting this study to explore if using human donor milk might be a better option for these babies.



We are exploring the impact of donor milk and formula feeding on breastfeeding and health outcomes of babies in well-baby units



The study groups

Each participating baby born to a diabetic mother OR born small for his/her age (<2500 grams) is assigned at random to 2 groups (donor milk or formula). This means each baby has an equal chance of being in a group and will stay in that group for the duration of the intervention. The intervention will start when babies are in the well-baby unit and will continue until they are discharged. The groups are:

1. Donor milk

All babies in this group will receive pasteurized donor milk from a trusted milk bank if they need extra feeding.

2. Formula

All babies in this group will receive formula if they need extra feeding.

For more info:



Contact Us



Study staff: 437-335-6368



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What do we think we'll find?

In this research study, we're exploring if giving babies donor milk or formula during their early hospital stay can help breastfeeding last longer. We're also looking at how this choice affects the baby's health, growth, behavior, feeding, and parental stress.

What happens in the study?



(10-20 min)

To collect baseline information (age and education level) and your baby's feeding plans In hospital



To track your baby's growth in hospital and at 1, 2, 3, and 4 months



(5-10 min)

To answer 4 questions on how you are feeding your baby and 14 questions to rate your confidence in breastfeeding at 1, 2, 3, and 4 months



To answer 37 short questions on how your baby behaves at 1, 2, 3, and 4 months



To answer 40 questions to assess anxiety 10 questions to assess depression at 2 and 4 months



To collect a small sample of your milk (2-3 teaspoons) to measure cortisol, a stress hormone at 2 and 4 months The instruction will be provided

Token of appreciation will be provided to all participants

