



Dear Healthcare Provider:

If you have a patient who would benefit from Donor Human Milk (DHM), the Mothers' Milk Band of Austin can help.

For Patients with a Medical Need for DHM

MMBA prioritizes dispensing milk to infants in the hospital setting but recognizes that many babies in the community would also benefit from access to donor human milk. MMBA builds a supply of milk that can serve a wide population of recipients. Premature and sick babies are served first, followed by healthy newborns leaving the hospital and healthy infants already in the community. Serving these healthy infants does not affect our ability to serve babies in the NICU, because if milk becomes scarce, MMBA will ensure that the most fragile babies are prioritized.

Common diagnoses of recipients of donor human milk:

- Preterm birth, especially VLBW or ELBW infants
- Failure to Thrive
- Malabsorption Syndromes
- Short-gut Syndrome
- Renal Failure
- Inborn Errors of Metabolism
- Immunological Deficiencies
- Formula Intolerance
- Cardiac Anomalies
- Gastrointestinal Anomalies, including Gastroschisis
- Intrauterine Exposure to Drugs or Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

If you have a patient with a medical need for DHM, you need to provide a prescription and a letter of medical necessity, and the family needs to contact us. If the patient has insurance, additional paperwork may be required to establish services.

Healthy Babies

MMBA serves healthy infants in the community when supply allows. If you have a patient who is interested in DHM for their baby, either ongoing or to provide a "bridge" to allow time for the mother to meet her breastfeeding goals, they will need a prescription from you and they will need to contact us to establish services.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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Donor Milk Quick Reference Guide

For Health Care Providers

A Prescription is needed, even for healthy babies, to receive more than 40 ounces of milk.

Healthy Babies

- Prescription (if more than 40 ounces is needed)
- The family needs to contact MMBA

Medical need:

- Prescription
- Letter of Medical Necessity
- The family needs to contact MMBA
- If required by the patient's insurance, we will contact you to complete the necessary forms

Prescriptions Should Include:

- Current date
- Patient's name and date of birth
- Amount of milk (in ounces) to provide per day
- Refills or time frame in which donor human milk is needed: Example: 15 ounces/day for 3 months
- Patient's Diagnosis or "Healthy Infant" (include ICD-10 codes)

Letter of Medical Necessity Should Include:

- Patient's name and date of birth
- Medical reasons why donor human milk should be the source of nutrition – including diagnosis codes and description
- Birth weight and current weight, growth charts should be submitted if weight trend is an issue
- Documentation of formula trials within the last 90 days: including names, dates, and patient's response OR reasons why patient should not be subjected to trials
- Documentation of desired treatment outcomes: what will be accomplished by using donor human milk?
- Details on how symptoms have improved with the introduction of donor human milk (if applicable)
- If the patient is approaching age 1, a documented plan for transitioning to another food source

What the family can expect when they contact MMBA

- An intake phone call to assess the patient's needs
- Recipient Forms to be emailed & completed online
- Discussing the milk processing fees related to donor human milk. If milk is medically necessary, the possibility of insurance coverage and/or eligibility for charitable care will be addressed.