

Is it good to continue giving food and water to a child who is vomiting?

Yes, it is important to give food and water to a child, but give little amount one after another.

It is important to wash hands with soap and clean water after handling children's faeces

Questions and Answers on
DIARRHOEA



Republic of Botswana

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take your child to the clinic when
they show signs of **diarrhoea**

What does sunken fontanel mean in a child with diarrhoea?

A sunken fontanel is a sign of severe dehydration in a child who has diarrhoea.

Is it good to perform ritual “phogwana” in a child with diarrhoea ?

There is nothing wrong with it, but it is important to immediately take the child to the nearest health facility before performing the ritual.

Should a child with diarrhoea be given enema? (induced diarrhoea)

No, giving enema on a child with diarrhoea will increase loss of body fluids.

Is it a good practice to give a child who does not have diarrhoea Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT)?

No, ORT is given to replace fluids and salts lost due to diarrhoea.

Is bottle-feeding recommended for a child?

No, health personnel discourage bottle-feeding because bottles are not easy to clean and therefore can carry harmful germs. Use a clean cup or spoon instead of a bottle.

Should a mother continue to breast feed a child with diarrhoea?

Yes, breast-feeding is good for a child with diarrhoea to replace the lost nutrients in the body.

Is it good to drink water from streams and rivers?

Water from streams and rivers must be boiled before drinking. Water from all different sources should be boiled especially when given to children. Boilwater thoroughly for more than a minute.

When should a child with diarrhoea be taken to the clinic/hospital?

Take the child to the nearest clinic/hospital as soon as diarrhoea starts.

Does one have to wash hands after handling a child’s faeces?

Yes, it is important to wash hands with soap and clean water because children’s faeces like any other have germs that can cause diseases.

Should a child with diarrhoea be given water and food?

Yes, it is important that a child with diarrhoea be given soft food, water, fruit juice and any other fluids to maintain their nutrient balance in the body.