

What is cleft?

Cleft is a facial birth defect at the lip and/or palate.



Cleft lip: may either be a little cut in the coloured part of the lip or a complete separation of the upper lip which may go up into the nose.



Cleft palate: is a gap in the roof of the mouth affecting the soft palate (i.e. back of the palate towards the throat) or both the soft and hard palates (i.e. the front of the palate towards the lips).



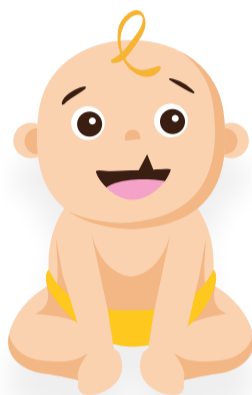
Difficulties for the babies with cleft



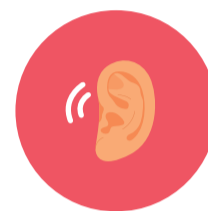
Feeding problems



Speech problems



Dental problems



Hearing problems

How to feed a baby with cleft?



Feed your baby in a calm and quiet environment and keep each feed to 20 – 30 minutes.



Have several breaks for burping.



After each feeding and burping, continuous aspiration is needed for proper hygiene.



Avoid placing the teat into the cleft.

Squeeze the bottle gently to deliver milk into the mouth.

If you are using specially designed bottles and teats, squeeze the teats instead.

A squeeze every three to four sucks is usually enough.

Smile Train Association

Our Services

We are a non-governmental organisation in Mauritius which provides non-medical assistance to all cleft infants, children & adults.



in collaboration



Contact Us

69, Chemin 20 piers,
Grand Baie, Mauritius

T: +230 269 12 27

Registration Number: 15349

NSIF Registration Number: NSIF/2021/0003

Website: www.cleftcare.org

Facebook: Cleft Care Mauritius

9.00 - 16.30