

BROSS: Nutritive Sucking Patterns



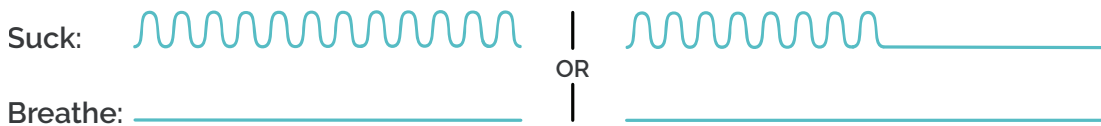
Feeding
FUNdamentals™

Recall that the BROSS uses Homeostasis as the guide. Therefore, the BROSS steps begin with internal regulation. We first assess Homeostasis with limited challenges, then with small challenges, then with the challenge of integrating the oral system with non-nutritive sucking. So the first three steps are:

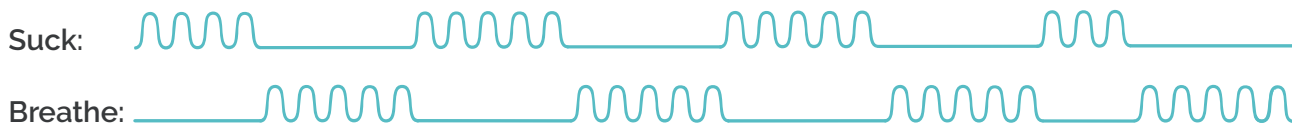
1. Stability in Bed with Handling
2. Systems Stability with Holding
3. Stability in Arms with Non-Nutritive Sucking

The following are detailed descriptions of the five Nutritive Sucking Pattern:

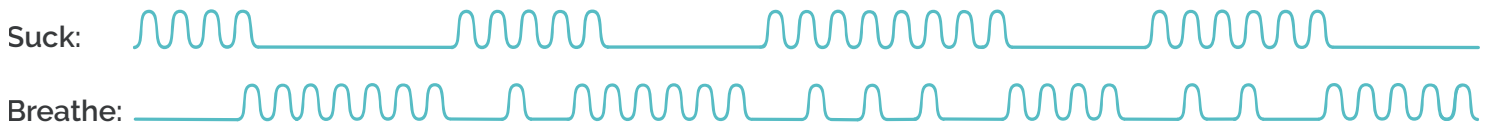
OBLIGATORY: Infant fails to stop and breathe, and needs the caregiver to intervene.



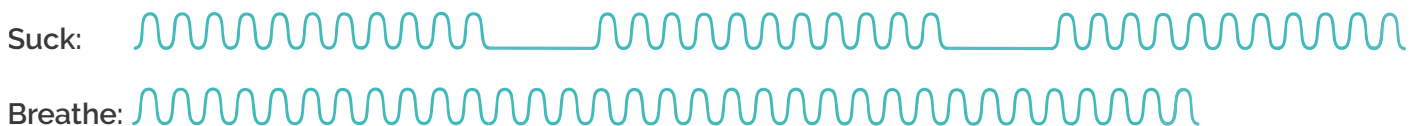
ALTERNATING: Infant alternates between breathing and sucking bursts without assistance from the feeder. The infant does not attempt to breathe during the sucking burst; consequently sucking bursts are between 2 and 5 sucks.



INTERMITTENT: Infant is taking breaths intermittently during the sucking bursts. The breaths happen irregularly. Because the infant is taking some small breaths with the sucking burst, the sucking burst may be longer than 5 sucks.



COORDINATED: Infant is coordinating breathing fully within the sucking burst. Suck:Swallow:Breath (SSB) ratio may be 2:1:1 or 1:1:1. With regular small breaths within the sucking burst, the burst can lengthen to as much as 10-30 SSBs in a row, followed by a breathing break. SSB pattern is consistent.



INTEGRATED: Infant uses a coordinated breathing pattern AND is able to begin looking at, socializing with the feeder while maintaining their coordination and stamina. **This is the final step in the BROSS.**