

**Submission no. 417**AUTHORISED: 20/6/07 *R***Subject:** Breast Feeding

Dear Pauline

In reply to your current request. My first child was very easy to feed and latched on straight away and I never had any problems, so when I had my second child I assumed it would be just as easy. From day one I had trouble I just couldn't get him latched on properly. No one seemed to be able to help me, the nurses in the hospital just kept telling me I was doing it wrong and tried to help me to no avail. I then went to the Nursing mothers association and they were of no help what so ever. So after much pain, bleeding cracked nipples and a screaming baby, because he was hungry, I decided to give up. It was then that my wonderful husband stepped in and went and got me some nipple shields from the chemist. He had remembered them talking about it on the radio at some stage. No one else had suggested these and they were fantastic, no more tears from child or mother. I then feed my child with great success until he was 18 months old. What I did work out was that my 2nd child had what is called an undershot gore, which I have found out my father and grandfather also had and it was my mother who picked this up and once showing this to the Dr. they agreed that this was the problem. The good part about this story is that I have been able to help quite a few mothers now and that is very rewarding. I think the hospitals encourage mothers to give up too easily, so as they don't have to bother with the crying baby.

Regards Fiona Walker