

# Early Versus Late Progression of Enteral Feeding in Very Low Birth Weight (VLBW) Infants.

## A Randomized, Controlled, Multicenter Trial

ACTRN12611000419965

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**Status** RECRUITING  
**Sponsor** Buon Consiglio Fatebenefratelli Hospital  
**Enrollment** 120 participants

### Plain Language Summary

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This study is comparing two approaches to feeding very premature babies: starting milk feeds early (within the first 24 hours) versus starting later. Very small babies (under 1,500 grams) need careful feeding decisions because starting too early might increase the risk of a serious bowel condition (called NEC), but starting too late may also cause harm. This multicenter trial aims to find the safest and most beneficial approach.

You may be eligible if:

- Your baby was born weighing between 750 and 1,500 grams
- Your baby was just admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit

You may NOT be eligible if:

- Your baby has a major birth defect or chromosomal abnormality
- Your baby has twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome
- Your baby has significant multi-organ failure
- Your baby has already received any milk feeds before the trial

Talk to your doctor about whether this trial might be right for you.

### Key Eligibility Criteria

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#### Inclusion (2)

- Infants with birth weight between 750 and 1500 gr, consecutively admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit of the recruited Institutions

#### Exclusion (1)

- major congenital abnormality including known chromosomal abnormality, twin-twin transfusion, significant multi-organ failure prior to trial entry, already received any enteral feeding

### Locations (1 total)

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Italy