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| --- | --- |
|  | Colostrum transitional or mature milk categories |
| C | TM | MM |
| Gestational age group |
| EP | VP | MP | Term | EP | VP | MP | Term | EP | VP | MP | Term |
| Lactoferrin (mg/mL) | 6.45 | 6.39 | 5.90 | 5.71 | 6.63 | 4.65 | 4.34 | 4.32 | 2.63 | 2.38 | 2.94 | 3.64 |
| Protein (mg/mL) | 17.94 | 16.08 | 16.01 | 15.05 | 13.96 | 14.42 | 13.46 | 13.50 | 12.74 | 13.03 | 12.42 | 12.99 |
| sIgA (µg‎/mL) | 2,686 | 3,265 | 2,780 | 1,182 | 1,461 | 1,016 | 995 | 858 | 628 | 594 | 806 | 716.78 |
| Lysozyme (µg‎/mL) | 110.0 | 98.9 | 86.8 | 81.7 | 115.4 | 102.1 | 85.1 | 81.9 | 105.7 | 96.1 | 99.5 | 84.41 |
| sCD14 (µg‎/mL) | 42.69 | 53.66 | 40.15 | 40.67 | 29.22 | 38.11 | 24.94 | 30.80 | 16.68 | 18.12 | 16.19 | 21.20 |
| LL37 (pg‎/mL) | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 | 390.63 |
| HBD1 (ng‎/mL) | 659.7 | 175.3 | 176.5 | 110.9 | 173.9 | 173.6 | 156.8 | 185.4 | 39.6 | 58.8 | 184.5 | 66.9 |
| HBD2 (ng‎/mL) | 1,177.9 | 696.7 | 265.3 | 745.6 | 442.0 | 307.6 | 217.0 | 397.5 | 330.4 | 80.9 | 188.8 | 197.8 |
| HD5 (pg‎/mL) | 78.13 | 78.13 | 78.13 | 78.13 | 78.13 | 188.18 | 424.11 | 78.13 | 452.31 | 206.94 | 78.13 | 78.13 |
| TGF-β2 (pg‎/mL) | 63.5 | 19.0 | 21.5 | 9.8 | 21.5 | 12.1 | 11.5 | 19.3 | 7.0 | 8.5 | 26.9 | 10.9 |
| IL-6 (pg‎/mL) | 194 | 95 | 208 | 101 | 58 | 19 | 42 | 38 | 13 | 22 | 33 | 26.42 |
| IL-10 (pg‎/mL) | 6 | 8 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3.00 |
| IL-13 (pg‎/mL) | 10 | 13 | 10 | 17 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10.00 |
| TNF-α (pg‎/mL) | 48 | 30 | 105 | 103 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 79 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30.00 |
| IFN-γ (pg‎/mL) | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30.00 |

Supplementary Table 1. Data show median values of breast milk proteins and peptides measured in breast milk collected in the first month postpartum, separated into gestational age categories. Abbreviations: extremely preterm (EP), very preterm (VP), moderately preterm (MP) and term gestation mothers’ milk. C=colostrum (n=10 extremely preterm, 13 very preterm, 13 preterm and 12 term donors, respectively); TM=transitional milk (n=11 extremely preterm, 15 very preterm, 14 preterm and 15 term donors, respectively); MM=mature milk (n=10 extremely preterm, 12 very preterm, 9 preterm and 15 term donors, respectively). sIgA=secretory immunoglobulin A; sCD14= soluble cluster of differentiation receptor 14; HBD1/2=human beta defensin 1/2; HD5= human alpha defensin 5; TGF=transforming growth factor; IL=interleukin; TNF=tumour necrosis factor; IFN=interferon.