How well do you know the Breastfeeding Definitions?

1. Mother says her baby has been breastfed since birth apart from a ‘teaspoon of formula’ given two days after birth. She is now three weeks old.
   What breastfeeding definition would you allocate to this baby today?
   a) Exclusively breastfeeding
   b) Fully breastfed
   c) Partially breastfed

2. A four month old baby has been breastfed from birth. Mother had given some ‘gripe water’ for ‘wind pains’ when the baby was six weeks old.
   What breastfeeding definition would you allocate to this baby today?
   a) Exclusively breastfeeding
   b) Fully breastfed.
   c) Partially breastfed

3. Baby born four days ago. She was charted panadol for pain after a forceps delivery. She had two doses within the first twenty four hours of birth.
   What breastfeeding definition would you allocate to this baby today?
   a) Exclusively breastfeeding
   b) Fully breastfed
   c) Partially breastfed

4. Newborn baby admitted to the neonatal unit for a low blood sugar. Paediatrician prescribed formula to be given (60mls/kg/day) until blood sugars stabilized. Baby breastfeeds well and required only one feed of formula (25mls) on the first day. Discharged at five days of age breastfeeding well.
   What breastfeeding definition would you allocate to this baby today?
   a) Exclusively breastfeeding
   b) Fully breastfed
   c) Partially breastfed

5. Baby being discharged this morning (day three) – breastfeeding well. Was given 20mls of formula thirty six hours ago because mother was tired and her milk supply had not yet established.
   What breastfeeding definition would you allocate to this baby today?
   a) Exclusively breastfeed
   b) Fully breastfed
   c) Partially breastfed
Answers:

1. Fully breastfed (Baby cannot be classed as exclusively breastfed because she had exposure to formula on day two. This was some days ago – so she can be classified as ‘fully breastfed’)

2. Fully breastfed. Baby cannot be classed as exclusively breastfed because he was given an unprescribed medicine. It was given longer than forty-eight hours ago therefore this baby is classified as fully breastfed. (see Medicines Act 1981)

3. Exclusively breastfeeding. Baby is classified as exclusively breastfed because she was given a prescribed medicine which is acceptable for this classification.

4. Fully breastfed. Baby cannot be classed as exclusively breastfed because she had exposure to formula on day one. While this was prescribed for a medical reason the formula is not classified as a drug. It is classified as a food. Because it was longer than forty-eight hours ago this baby is classified as fully breastfed.

5. Partially breastfed. Baby cannot be classed as exclusively breastfed because she had exposure to formula early on day two. Because it was within the past forty-eight hours this baby is classified as partially breastfed. However, if this baby continues to breastfeed (without any additional food or fluid) for another 24 hours the classification (at that future point) would move to ‘fully’ breastfeeding.