

'Fortifiers with human milk is very nutritious for preterm babies'

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Pune: Along with mother's milk, preterm babies require more protein and fats which sometime may not be adequately provided by the breast milk. Hence, fortifiers along with human milk are helpful for preterm babies to nutritional care, said Saurabh Aggarwal, Managing Director of NeoLacta Life Sciences during an interaction with Sakal Times. NeoLacta Life Sciences are introducing human breast milk enhancers and fortifies for premature babies.

Aggarwal said that preterm birth is significant is the world number one cause of neonatal death and the second leading cause of all child deaths amongst children under 5 years of age.

"According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), India has the greatest number of preterm births with nearly 35,19,100 preterm births every year. A preterm baby is mostly underweight and hence spends more time in the Neo-natal Intensive Care University (NICU) and needs more care," said Aggarwal.

He said that the products his company is launching will be developed with 100 per cent mother's milk-based products. "As a preterm mother, many face the challenge of low or no lactation. Our products are the best alternative for them. So far, we have launched the products to save the

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lives of premature babies, who are at risk of developing complications such as Necrotising Enterocolitis (NEC), diarrhoea, etc. NeoLacta provides nutritional products that meet the needs of these children, thereby helping them lead healthy lives," said Aggarwal.

So far the company has launched its products in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and doctors have reported a decrease in the number of death of preterm babies who have used the products.

He said that so far the products available in the market are bovine-based. "The performance of the human milk products is more effective. Volunteering mothers who have excess lactation, express milk which is then stored in minus 20 degrees Celsius and stored in a safe environment for further use. The mothers before donating the milk also undergo required tests to ensure that the milk is safe. After expressing milk, it is also screened for pathogens, hence maintaining high quality and safety," said Aggarwal.