

(A.) Dentition: The "milk" teeth are 20 in number. A simple method of remembering the ages at which they appear is to learn in sequence the numbers as given in the diagram: 7, 9, 18, 12, 24. There are wide differences in the time, but not in the order of appearance.

Teething should be painless, but may be accompanied by severe symptoms, especially if the child is subjected to careless feeding and bad environment.

The first teeth should be kept in perfect order, and never allowed to decay, as the second are lying close beneath them in the gums.

Chocolates and biscuits do most damage to the teeth.

Syphilis causes early dentition, and deforms the permanent incisors.

Permanent teeth begin to erupt at 6 or 7 years, and the set is completed at 17 to 25 years. A child should visit the dentist regularly and learn to keep its teeth in perfect order.

Incisor  
 24—12—18—9—7—7—9—18—12—24  
 Incisor  
 Canine  
 1st Premolar  
 2nd Premolar

(B.) Saliva in infants is weak, its function during the first months being to lubricate the passages and bathe and cool the gums.

(C.) Pancreatic Juice is almost absent during the first three months and weak until sixth month. It has the power of emulsifying fats, however, so that the child can absorb the cream in its milk.

The lack of saliva and pancreatic juices account for the inability of the child to digest carbohydrates (bread, patent foods, biscuits, porridge, etc.), during the first six months of life.

(D.) The Liver is very large at birth. Bile assists in digesting and absorbing fats. Its absence causes loss of colour in the motions.

(E.) Stomach.—Not fully developed until late in childhood; takes only a small share of work in infancy; acts more as a reservoir for passing milk into intestines, where digestion chiefly takes place. Perfect digestion is possible only when a child is fed on human milk; cow's milk contains so much

casein in proportion that curd is certain to pass through the intestines and appear in the motions.

Capacity of Stomach:—

At birth	1 to 1½	ounces
„ 1 month	2 to 2½	„
„ 2 months	3½	„
„ 3 months	4½	„

A full table will be given in the lecture on feeding.

Intestines at birth measure about 9 feet, the large intestine being 18 inches. The sigmoid flexure is nearly half the length of the large intestine. In studying intestine remember bile gastric and pancreatic juices.

“Wind” in a baby is caused by gases due to undigested and decomposing food lying in the intestines.

Faeces.—Normal motions are soft, yellow, and smooth, acid reaction, healthy odour. There should be two or three daily, and, in later months, one or two.

“Artificial food” motions are larger firmer, paler, and may be alkaline (through decomposition of curd). Excess of casein (curd) makes motions hard, white, dry, and of foul odour.

Colour of Motions—“Green” indicates bowel irritation in a normal baby; if green and liquid (chopped spinach), a dose of castor oil should be given, and sterile water for castor oil acts as an aperient first, and an astringent afterwards. It soothes the intestinal tract in a child better than any other drug. It is NOT the drug for treating constipation, and its dose should not be repeated; rather give olive oil night and morning if necessary

Calomel, albumen, and sometimes standing more than an hour makes motions green.

Patent foods cause brown colour.

Bismuth and iron cause blackish colour.

Blood gives a tarry appearance.

Froth indicates fermentation in the tract.

Slime denotes bowel irritation, usually of the small intestine.

Urine.—Usually pale and turbid; acid or neutral; contains deposit of cells, crystals and even casts in young infants. May get sugar during first two months.

Daily Quantity: Infants pass relatively more than older children. Control of bladder is obtained by 18 to 24 months.