Malnutrition is responsible, directly or indirectly, for half of the 10.5 million deaths each year among children under five years of age. Two-thirds of these deaths occur during the first year of life, and are closely associated with poor breastfeeding and poor complementary feeding practices. Only a minority of infants worldwide are exclusively breastfed during the first months of life, and complementary feeding is often unsafe, inappropriate and inadequate. Malnourished children who survive
Complementary feeding and the control of iron deficiency anaemia in the Newly Independent States: presentation by WHO at a WHO/UNICEF consultation, Geneva, Switzerland 4 February 1999

World Health Organization. Regional Office for Europe; UNICEF (EUR/ICP/LVNG 01 01 07, 1999)

The WHO Working Group on Complementary Feeding and the Control of Iron Deficiency was invited to present an overview of current infant and young child feeding practices in the WHO European Region at a Joint UNICEF/WHO Consultation on Iron Deficiency Anaemia. A number of nutritional recommendations from the former Soviet era, which differ from international standards, were identified. Poor complementary feeding practices help to explain the poor iron status of infants and young children in the WHO European Region, particularly in the countries of ...