

What is the MOM Initiative

Initiative through Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative (FPQC) that focuses on increasing the number of VLBW infants in the NICU who receive feedings of $\geq 50\%$ of Mothers Own Milk at Discharge

Why are we participating in this FPQC Initiative?

- ♦ Human milk is recognized as the optimal feeding for all infants because of its proven health benefits to infants and their mothers. The World Health organization (WHO), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), and the United States Preventive Services Task Force all recommend breastfeeding for the first six months of life.
- ♦ Mothers of vulnerable infants, such as preterm infants, encounter a variety of unique breastfeeding barriers and challenges that result in a decreased rate of breastfeeding in preterm compared with term infants. As an example, one study found that, breastfeeding initiation rates were 77, 70, and 63 percent in term infants, infants born between 32 and 36 weeks gestation, and those born between 24 and 31 weeks, respectively
- ♦ Maternal feeding goals are not fixed. This was shown in a prospective study of 352 mothers (53 percent black; 70 percent low-income) of preterm infants. Prior to delivery, 55 percent of mothers had planned to provide exclusive breast milk. However, during the NICU hospitalization, only 10 percent of mothers chose exclusive at-breast feeding, and rates were especially low for black mothers.



Did you know?

- ♦ In the U.S., studies show that \$13 billion in medical costs and preventable deaths could be saved each year by breastfeeding. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), only about 14% of U.S. mothers continue to breastfeed for the recommended six months.
- ♦ Mothers who pump within 6 hours of delivery are more likely to continue to breastfeed their babies for the recommended 6 months
- ♦ 75% of all our NICU families see a lactation consultant within 24 hours of birth
- ♦ Combining hand techniques with electric pumping increases milk production in moms of preterm infants