#### **Breastfeeding: Best Practices-What Every Physician needs to know** March 24 2015 Dr. Elske Hildes-Ripstein- Child Health and Pediatrics

### Outline

- 1. To review the physiology of breast milk production and lactation
- 2. To understand the nutritional benefits of breastfeeding and the health benefits for both infant and mother
- 3. To become aware of common barriers to successful breastfeeding
- 4. To understand how the 10 steps of BFI "Baby Friendly Initiative" supports breastfeeding in hospital settings
- 5. To acknowledge what can be done in an individual practice

Physiology of Breastfeeding

#### The breast



#### Mammogenesis

- During puberty alveolar budding starts within mammary gland/tissue
- It continues under the influence of menstrual cycle estrogen and progesterone until type 1, 2 and 3 lobules are present.
- Type 4 lobules develop only under the influence of Human Chorionic Gonadatropin during pregnancy

#### Hormonal influences on Mammogenesis, Lactogenesis I,II and Galactogenesis



#### **Development of mammary gland**



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### Lactogenesis I (Secretory initiation; late pregnancy >20 weeks)

- HCG from placenta causes terminal budding (type4 lobules of breast with secretory acini)
- High Progesterone from placenta influences further differentiation and beginning of secretory activity (colostrum secretion begins and colostrum accumulates within aveoli). Insulin, cortisol, human Placental Lactogen also necessary.
- Colostrum is the "first milk" a yellowish watery substance containing casein and lactose and secretory IgA;
- The high pregnancy levels of Progesterone and Estrogen inhibit prolactin stimulated milk secretion until delivery

#### Lactogenesis-time line and hormonal influences



#### Lactogenesis II

- During Labour and delivery there is a peak of cortisol and prolactin which results in a burst of mitotic activity in mammary gland and milk secretion/production.
- The rapid decline of progesterone and estrogen after the placenta is delivered allow the prolactin stimulation of milk supply and secretion.
- The transition between colostrum and "breastmilk" is usual between day 2-3 but may be as late as 7 days.
- This phase can be delayed with diabetes, C-section, placental retention, stressful vaginal birth etc as they affect hormonal feedback loop

#### Galactogenesis or Lactogenesis III

- This phase is the maintenance phase of lactation extending from the production of mature milk until weaning.
- Local mechanisms for hormonal release and feedback such as infant suckling- mechanical stimulation; infant cryneuroendocrine receptors brain ; removal of milkpressure receptors in breast down regulate prolactin receptors etc
- Prolactin is released from anterior pituitary in bursts in response to infant suckling (stimulation of milk supply and production ) while oxytocin is released from post pituitary (ejection reflex-myoepithelial cell contraction)



Nutritional and Immunologic Features of Breastmilk- Health Benefits

#### Human Br Milk Composition

- Nutritional quality is highly conserved across individuals and populations
- Mainly lactose, protein and fat
- 3 sources of major components of Breast Milk; either synthesized in lactocyte via receptor mediated transport across mammary epithelium from maternal stores occ influenced by maternal diet-eg fatty acids, produced by cells in Br milk

#### **Bioactive Factors in Human Milk**

Factors	Examples	Role
Immunoglobulins	Ig G, IgM, sIgA	Anti bacterial
Cytokines	TGF-Beta, IF 6- 10, TNF- alpha	Immune activation and anti- inflammatory
Cellular components	Macrophages, stem cells	Anti bacterial
Growth Factors-	Intestinal GF (Epidermal GF and neuronal GF, tissue GF, vascular endoth GF, Erythropoetin)	Promotes Intestinal maturation and healing, vascular and erythrocyte growth/production
Cytokine Inhibitors		Anti-inflammatory
Antimicrobial proteins	lactoferrin, lactadherin	Anti- bacterial properties
Oligosaccharides,	glycans; mucins, Human Milk Oligosaccharide	Anti-infective properties Non-nutritive, promotes probiotic organisms
Hormones,	ghrelin, adiponectin, leptin, calcitonin and	Anti- infant obesity, energy control, appetite

#### **Good For Infant**

• Decrease Infectious Morbidity (innate immune factors)

OM 3.6 fold increase Formula vs Br fed infants GI infections 2.8 x risk Formula vs Br fed NEC in premature infants 2.4x risk Formula vs Br fed

- Decreases asthma, atopic dermatitis 1.4 1.7x risk Formula vs Br
- Decreases risk of obesity? inconclusive studies but Breast milk contains adipokines and may regulate energy intake.
- Decreases SIDS 1.6-2.1 x risk Formula vs Br fed.

#### **Good For Mom**

- Decreases Risk Breast Cancer (Never Br fed 2.4 x risk premenopausal Br Ca)
- Decreases Ovarian Ca (Never Br fed 1.3x risk)
- Metabolic cost = 500 kcal/day for breastfeeding. promotes weight loss and favorable glu level, lipid metabolism and BP.
- Differences in metabolism persist- (Never br fed metabolic syndrome 1.3 x risk, Myocardial infarction 1.3x risk and Type 2 DM 1.7 x risk )

## Canadian Pediatric Society Guidelines

#### Recommend:

• Exclusive Breast feeding for the first 6 months (plus Vit D supplement)

"however introduction of complementary foods should also be led by infant's signs of readiness and may occur few weeks before or after 6 months. Beyond 6 months- delay increases risk of iron deficiency"

• Encourage Breastfeeding for 2 years and beyond (while providing appropriate nutritional guidance)

www.cps.ca - position statements Paediatr Child Health 2013;18(4)

#### Factors influencing success of

#### lactation (initiation and duration)

- Skin to skin contact at delivery for first hour. (increases prolactin)
- No limit to infant suckling; frequent feeds
- Rooming in and Feeding on demand
- Support Exclusive Br Feeding no formula marketing packs(volume interferes with freq suckling)
- No artificial nipples until lactation established (bottle or pacifiers- different tongue action and flow)
- Resources (Peer support; lactation consultants in hosp and community- la leche league-midwife )

#### WHO 1981 International Code of

#### Marketing Breast Milk substitutes

• The Member States voted to approve 118-yes with 1 abstention:

"Conscious that breast-feeding is an unequalled way of providing ideal food for the healthy growth and development of infants; ...... protects infants against disease; and that there is an important relationship between breast-feeding and child-spacing;

Recognizing that the *encouragement and protection of breast-feeding* is an important part of the health, nutrition ..... and that breastfeeding is an important aspect of primary health care;

Considering that, when mothers do not breast-feed, or only do so partially, there is a legitimate market for infant formula..... but that (it) should not be marketed or distributed in ways that may interfere with the protection and promotion of breast-feeding;"

### **Baby Friendly Initiative**

- Born from the "Innocenti Declaration 1990" promoting and helping to establish exclusive Breast Feeding as the norm
- In 1991 the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative was established by WHO and UNICEF; and updated 2009 based on recent evidence
- Canada's Program is known as the *Baby Friendly Initiative and is composed of 10 steps* that are known to improve Breastfeeding outcomes . For BFI accreditation hospital or community program has to comply with all 10 steps

### 10 Components/Steps of BFI "Baby Friendly Initiative"

- 1.Written Br Feeding Policy in place
- 2. Train all Health Care Providers in Br Feeding Support
- 3. Inform all pregnant women of the benefits Br feeding
- 4. Place infant skin to skin for at least 1 hour immediately after birth
- 5. Show how to Br feed and maintain lactation (hand expression)
- 6. No food or drink other than breastmilk to Br feeding infant (unless medical indication)
- 7. Practice infant and mother rooming-in
- 8. Encourage Br feeding on demand-mothers alert to feeding cues
- 9. Support mothers to care for and feed with no artificial nipples/ pacifiers
- 10.Establish Br feeding support groups for discharged mothers
- BFI supports initiation and duration of Breastfeeding

## Manitoba Data

Recent data from Manitoba Hospital discharge abstracts by region

No recent Manitoba Data on Duration of Breast feeding

# Breastfeeding at discharge from birth hospitalization (MB 2012/13)\*

	Wpg		The Pas	Thompson	Brandon	Boundry
	HSC n= 5400	St B n= 5700	n= 339	n= 806	n= 1666	n= 944
Any Breast feeding	8 <u>3</u> 79 %	3% 87%	70%	65%	84%	93%
<i>Exclusive</i> Breast Feeding	41%	3% 44%	51%	20%	49%	74%

\*Source Excel sheet from Linda Romphf (Lactation Consultant and BFI advisor

#### 2009/10 Canadian Community Health Survey- duration Excl Breast Feeding



#### 2009/10 Canadian Community Health Survey-Mat Reasons discontinuation Excl Breast Feeding



Opportunities for Promoting/Supporting Breastfeeding – a Physician's role

- **1.** During Pregnancy or at delivery
- **2.** During Birth Hospitalisation

- 3. During Health Visits within 1<sup>st</sup> yr
- **4.** Community Advocacy

### 1. During Pregnancy or delivery

- explore mother's knowledge level about Br feeding and Dispel myths,
- Ensure skin to skin time and first feed within 1 hour.
- Support colostrum transport as necessary for prems/ IDM
- Ensure no physical/medical barriers to br feedinghypotonia, cleft palate etc

### 2. During Birth Hospitalisation

- Impart knowledge and correct misconceptions; (not enough milk, want others to be able to feed baby,)
- Support and reassure- go over normal weight patterns (10-15% loss not uncommon)
- Ensure safe feeding plan for infant. Adequate calories provided to each infant for growth (can use cup or supplemental system for EBM or formula.)
  Avoid hypoglycemia-but can trial glucose gel rather than

formula

• Ensure access to community supports/resources (Public Health, Breastfeeding hotline and clinics, la leche league)

# 3. Health Visits within 1<sup>st</sup> yr

- Ask about and Support Sustained Br Feeding every visit. Answer questions and trouble shoot or give mother adequate resources for info/help.
- Support Exclusive Breast feeding until 6 months age
- Remind any amount of breast is beneficial!; (prevents infection; many benefits and conveniences-always warm, never run out, no need to sterilize items
- Discuss the amazing capacity and flexibility of milk production (right amount at the right time for the right age)

## 4. Community Advocacy

Aside from individual patient advocacy:

- Support your hospital to become BFI certified
- Be aware of and avoid formula company marketing
- Advocate for Human Milk Banking;
- Provide Public and Society with current knowledge to support normalization of breast feeding for 2 yrs and beyond (work place accommodations for Br feeding moms; roots of empathy program in schools etc, public health benefits education etc).

# Working with Healthcare team, Nursing Lactation consultants, Public health

- Proud and grateful for the team approach!
- Depend on nurses/midwives skin to skin; first colostrum and feed at 30 minutes age; teach how to position and latch a newborn.
- Grateful for the LC team *medications* in breast milk, helping *premature infants*, or unique or *difficult cases*
- Public Health *early home visit*, weigh, monitor jaundice and trouble shoot feeding issues

#### Lactogenesis- hormonal influences



#### Human Milk Composition (Ped Clinics N America Feb 2013)

	Protein g/dl (Casein )	Fat g/dl	Lactose g/dl	Energy mean kcal/dl
Term infants Mature milk n=581 (1991)	1.2 (0.9-1.5)	3.6 (2.2-5.0)	7.4 (7.2-7.7)	70 (57-83)
Donor milk N=415 (2009)	1.2 (0.7-1.70)	3.2(1.2-5.2)	7.8(6.0-9.6)	65 (43-87)
Mature milk Ref Std n=2553 (1990)	0.9 (0.6-1.4)	3.6 (1.8-8.9)	7.2 (6.4-7.6)	67 (50-115)
Prem infant <29 weeks N=52 (2011)	2.2 (1.3-3.3)	4.4 (2.6-6.2)	7.6 (6.4-8.8	78 (61-94)
32-34 weeks N=20	1.9 (1.3-2.5)	4.8(2.8-6.5)	7.5 (6.5-8.5)	77 (64-89)
Donor prem n=47 (2012)	1.4 (0.8-1.9)	4.2(2.4-5.9)	6.7 (5.5-7.9)	70 (53-87)

### Breast feeding at Birth and 4 months 1996

#### % Exclusive Breast Fed

% Any Breast Fed



### % Mothers continued Breastfeeding of those initiating



#### 2009/10 Canadian Community Health Surveyduration Breast Feeding 6 months-ethnicity



#### 2009/10 Canadian Community Health Surveyduration Breast Feeding 6 months by mat age



### WHO 1981 International Code of Marketing Breast Milk substitutes

- WHO and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) emphasized the importance of maintaining the practice of breast-feeding—and of reviving the practice where it is in decline—as a way to improve the health and nutrition of infants and young children
- noted decline of breastfeeding for a variety of reasons: "including the promotion of manufactured breast-milk substitutes, and urged "Member countries to review sales promotion activities on baby foods to introduce appropriate remedial measures, including advertisement codes and legislation where necessary"

#### **Credentials:**

- Pediatrician at Children's Hospital of Wpg- Dept of Pediatrics and Child Health- (inpatient wards and outpatient clinic)
- Service Chief for the Healthy Newborn Wards at Women's Hospital (2008-present)
- Faculty at University of Manitoba-teach med students, interns and pediatric residents about well infant and child care
- MSc thesis on "infant care practices" '95/96 (as related to SIDS; included some breastfeeding survey data)
- Proud mother of 4 breastfed children!