

World Breastfeeding Week: August 1-7, 2011

MCH Section - Letter on Breastfeeding Week

8/4/11

TO: AHA Maternal and Child Health Section Members

As this is World Breastfeeding Week (August 1-7), I wanted to share three links with you: 1) a recent CDC report, specific to the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) and hospital progress in meeting the voluntary BFHI 10 Steps; 2) a JCAHO press release on their new effort to educate mothers on decision making related to breastfeeding during the pregnancy, in hospital, and post charge; and 3) information on provisions in the ACA that require employers (greater than 50 employees) to provide private space and time for breastfeeding mothers returning to work. Hospital implementation of this requirement is a first priority for DHHS/DOL given the hospital is a major employer in most communities and the workforce is largely female.

Please review these documents and/or share with your relevant hospital staff.

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CDC reports on hospital practices to support breastfeeding

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm60e0802a1.htm?s_cid=mm60e0802a1_w

Joint Commission Campaign Helps Support and Prepare Mothers to Successfully Breastfeed

http://www.jointcommission.org/joint_commission_campaign_helps_support_and_prepare_mothers_to_successfully_breastfeed/

Here is the link to the US Dept of Labor page that has some of the information you are looking for:

<http://www.dol.gov/whd/nursingmothers/>