CHAMPS Conference Addresses Sustainability of Baby Friendly Designation

Several local hospitals have already achieved the Baby-Friendly designation and several others are in D3 of the pathway. Hospitals expend much time and energy achieving this designation. Once a facility has achieved the Baby-Friendly designation, it lasts for five years. Years one through three post-designation are the Annual Quality Improvement Phase. The fourth year after designation is known as “Re-Designation – Year 1” and the fifth year is referred to as “Re-Designation – Year 2.” Baby-Friendly hospitals must constantly remain mindful of maintaining their Baby-Friendly status. CHAMPS addressed sustainability of the Baby-Friendly designation at their 2019 Conference held October 30, 2019. A panel of several hospitals located throughout Mississippi shared steps they each take to ensure they remain compliant with Baby-Friendly designation guidelines. Hospitals reported continuing to avoid artificial nipples, including pacifiers. One hospital places pacifiers in bags labeled with the risks associated with introducing a pacifier to a breastfed baby. One hospital has prepared bags containing alternative feeding methods, including a syringe, medicine cup, and spoon, which it stores in front of its ready to feed formula bottles to constantly remind staff to promote an alternative feeding method when they are retrieving formula to bring to a postpartum mother. Staff can also keep these bags handy, in their pockets, to frequently promote alternative feeding methods when interacting with patients.

https://www.medelabreastfeedingus.com/for-professionals/Education/Programs/Detail/724.

Breastfeeding Coalition Meeting

December 12: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. at the Mississippi Public Health Institute at 829 Wilson Dr., Ste. C, Ridgeland, MS 39157. This will be our Christmas potluck. Dress to impress for a holiday picture.