Human Donor Banked Breast Milk Patient Survey

**BACKGROUND**
- Medical indications for newborn nutritional supplementation include excessive weight loss, hyperbilirubinemia, hypoglycemia, and inadequate output.
- Mothers of infants requiring medically indicated supplementation with an inadequate milk volume may be faced with the decision to provide additional supplementation.
- Research supports the many health benefits of human donor banked breast milk (HDBBM) rather than artificial breast milk (ABM) supplementation including:
  - Healthy gut formation
  - Reduced allergic response & risk of asthma
  - Improved immunology
- Offering HDBBM for medically indicated supplementation:
  - Decreases formula utilization
  - Does not impact the biological mother’s rate of providing breast milk
  - Improves exclusive breastfeeding success rates
- Increasing/maintaining the percentage of mothers exclusively breastfeeding fulfills The Joint Commission’s perinatal care quality measure of “exclusive breast milk feeding during the newborn’s entire hospitalization”

**PURPOSE**
- Determine perceptions and knowledge of HDBBM of expecting women delivering at Providence St. Joseph, Orange
- Data will be used to develop and conduct ongoing patient education

**METHODS**
- Design: Evidence-based quality improvement project
- Setting: Maternal Fetal Testing
- Participants: Expectant mothers scheduled for maternal fetal testing prior to delivering at Providence St. Joseph, Orange
- Procedure: Survey 50 mothers to determine patient perceptions and knowledge of HDBBM

**RESULTS**
- 86% expect to exclusively breastfeed their newborns
- 52% have never heard of HDBBM
- 82% would consider using HDBBM if supplementation was required
- 68% feel that their significant other will impact their decision to utilize HDBBM

**RESULTS**
- How likely would you be to use HDBBM as opposed to formula?
- How Important are the following in your decision to use HDBBM if needed?

**IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE**
- The survey identified opportunities for patient education
- Understanding indications and processes for HDBBM will facilitate informed utilization and consent

**DISCUSSION**
- The survey indicated that 86% of mothers expect to exclusively breastfeed their newborns
- 52% of mothers have never heard of HDBBM
- 82% of mothers would consider using HDBBM instead of formula if medically indicated supplementation is required
- Although friends and family have some influence on the decision to utilize HDBBM, significant others’ views and opinions have the greatest impact
- Understanding the health benefits, screening process, pasteurization and processing, safe handling and storage and future availability of HDBBM are important in maternal decision making
- Education regarding HDBBM should be developed to support informed consent for mothers whose newborns require medically indicated supplementation

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