

## **I. Purpose**

To establish and promote a philosophy and policy on breastfeeding that is congruent with the recommendations and breastfeeding policy statements published by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and American Academy of Family Physicians.

## **II. Policy**

### **A. Responsibility**

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The perinatal program leadership will assign a director to chair a multi-specialty task force that will be responsible for the implementation of the written breastfeeding policy. The task force will meet quarterly to develop and revise breastfeeding policies and procedures as needed and develop strategies for their implementation. This written policy will be regularly communicated to all health care staff who provide care for mothers and their newborns.

### **B. Staff Training for Policy Implementation**

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All providers for the mother-baby dyad will be responsible for acquainting themselves with the breastfeeding policy statement and acquiring the knowledge and skills to support the policy. Nursing staff will take responsibility for completing continuing education related to breastfeeding and should be capable of passing an annual competency evaluation. Identifiable members of the professional staff of the hospital (such as physicians, nurses, and licensed certified lactation consultants) will assume primary responsibility for supervising this continuous educational process.

## **III. Process**

### **III-a. Process for Pregnant Mothers and**

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## C. Management of Lactation

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### Staff Assistance and Maternal Education

Nursing staff will be encouraged to provide the following assistance and education to breastfeeding mothers:

- 1. Encourage the mother to breastfeed on demand.
- 2. Encourage the mother to breastfeed frequently and on both breasts.
- 3. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a comfortable position.
- 4. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a quiet, relaxed environment.
- 5. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a private, comfortable setting.
- 6. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a clean, safe environment.
- 7. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a comfortable, well-lit room.
- 8. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a room with a view of the outdoors.
- 9. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a room with a view of the sky.
- 10. Encourage the mother to breastfeed in a room with a view of the water.

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**B. Initiating Pumping**

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