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Breastfeeding practices in Virginia

By Times-Dispatch Staff

Breastfeeding practices in Virginia

Strengths

- Percent of hospitals providing prenatal breastfeeding instruction: 100 percent
- Percent of facilities where staff offer patients advice and counseling on breastfeeding: 96 percent

Weaknesses

- Percent of hospitals that adhere to practice guidelines against routinely supplementing infant feeding with formula, glucose water or water: 30 percent
- Percent of hospitals where healthy, full-term infants room-in with mother at least 23 hours per day during hospital stay: 14 percent
- Percent of hospitals with comprehensive breastfeeding policies: 13 percent
- Percent of hospitals that provide post-hospital support, including a phone call to the new mother at home, referral to community breastfeeding support and the opportunity for a follow-up visit: 14 percent

2009 Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care Survey, CDC

Information

Baby Friendly Hospitals: www.babyfriendlyusa.org

Virginia Health Information obstetrics report: www.vhi.org/ob_guide/ob_intro.asp

Statistics

Based on a random survey of households with children age 19-35 months. Surveyors asked if the child was ever

breastfed or fed breast milk, and how long.

U.S.: ever breastfed 74.6 percent; breastfeeding at six months 44.3 percent

Virginia: ever breastfed 79.1 percent; breastfeeding at six months 40.8 percent

Breastfeeding Report Card — United States, 2011, CDC.

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