

# COVER

To: Office of Management and Budget  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
[omb@cdc.gov](mailto:omb@cdc.gov)

From: *Pat Lindsey, IBCLC, RLC*  
*Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc.*  
*office@flbreastfeeding.org*

Re: Public Comments [60Day-09-0743] on the Assessment and Monitoring of  
Breastfeeding-Related Maternity Care Practices in Intra-partum Care Facilities in  
the United States and Territories (OMB Control No. 0920-0743, Exp. 7/31/2009)

Pages: 2

Date: March 12, 2009

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Comments:

Please find attached comments from the Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc.

Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc.  
**Babies are born to breastfeed.**

Breastfeeding —the gold standard.

[www.flbreastfeeding.org](http://www.flbreastfeeding.org)

March 12, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc., I strongly urge the renewal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care* (mPINC) survey. As you know, despite governmental recommendations, national health outcome targets, mounting scientific evidence, and national promotion campaigns, breastfeeding rates in the United States continue to fall short of national goals.

While completing the initial mPINC survey provided a *snapshot* of maternity practices in the U.S. (and found widespread use of maternity practices that are *not* evidence-based and are known to interfere with breastfeeding), the initial survey offered only the beginning steps toward what health care organizations need to achieve the national breastfeeding goals. It will be a waste of taxpayer money and a wasted opportunity to promote the health of mothers and babies if the mPINC survey is not continued. It is only with the information provided by ongoing data collection that maternity care facilities will be able to set quality improvement goals and benchmark with similar facilities in their states and across the country to improve breastfeeding care.

Of particular note is that one of the National Quality Forum's 15 Perinatal Measures includes "exclusive breastfeeding at hospital discharge". With more pressure on maternity facilities to report breastfeeding outcomes as a measure of quality, the ability to benchmark maternity practices and share best practices across the nation becomes more important than ever.

The Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc. is a consortium of local coalitions and organizations in Florida, representing governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, health professional associations, and individuals. Guided by its mission to improve the health of Floridians by working collaboratively to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding, the Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc. continues to work to achieve the national breastfeeding goals.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can answer any questions.

Sincerely,  
*Pat Lindsey, IBCLC, RLC*  
*President of Florida Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc.*  
*office@flbreastfeeding.org*