

## **Breastfeeding Interview**

- I. Breastfeeding information should be collected and updated at every WIC contact.
- II. The interview process should be interactive between the staff person and the participant.
  - a. The interview should incorporate VENA and the 3 – Step Counseling method (listen, affirm, and then educate) in providing breastfeeding counseling, support and education.
  - b. As information is obtained at the WIC contact through dialogue and conversation, fields can be completed in the applicable panels and screens.
  - c. Use “starters/prompts” under each section to help start conversation.
- III. All pertinent breastfeeding questions of the Nutrition Interview and Breastfeeding Panel, as part of a comprehensive nutrition assessment, must be completed at every certification and recertification visit for all categories, and at the mid-certification visit for infants. Breastfeeding information should be updated at these visits as well as when infant breastfeeding status changes.
- IV. Use the list below on the conversion of months to weeks, when completing breastfeeding frequency fields. To convert months to weeks:

1 month = 04 weeks  
2 months = 09 weeks  
3 months = 13 weeks  
4 months = 17 weeks  
5 months = 22 weeks  
6 months = 26 weeks  
7 months = 30 weeks  
8 months = 35 weeks  
9 months = 39 weeks  
10 months = 43 weeks  
11 months = 48 weeks  
12 months = 52 weeks  
13 months = 56 weeks  
14 months = 61 weeks  
15 months = 65 weeks

16 months = 69 weeks  
17 months = 74 weeks  
18 months = 78 weeks  
19 months = 82 weeks  
20 months = 87 weeks  
21 months = 91 weeks  
22 months+ = 96 weeks+

V. Use the list below for Breastfeeding Panel questions.

Days/weeks:

0- 6 days = 0 weeks (Note counting the day of birth as Day 0)  
7-13 days = 1 week  
14-20 days = 2 weeks  
21-37 days = 3 weeks  
28-34 days = 4 weeks  
35-41 days = 5 weeks  
42-48 days = 6 weeks  
13 weeks = 3 months

VI. Definitions for Breastfeeding Panel Formula and Foods columns:

- a. Nothing- has not been fed anything other than human milk, vitamins, minerals, and/or medications.
- b. Rarely- has been fed something other than human milk, vitamins, minerals, and/or medications.
- c. Regularly- is breastfeeding and receiving something other than breast milk, vitamins, minerals, and/or medications (including formula, rice cereal) on a regular basis.

VII. Breastfeeding Category and Description must be changed <6 months: in the situation when a mother and infant are certified as not breastfeeding and return at a subsequent visit as breastfeeding, or in the rare situation when a mother and infant have been identified incorrectly and entered into VISION. Use the following steps:

- a. Add a row to the Breastfeeding Panel for the infant and update the description of the infant's breastfeeding status. Note: this will require you

to choose Prim Excl/No F Pkg if the infant has received formula/foods previously and you are switching to a form of Exclusive Breastfeeding. System will force you to put in either formula or food when Prim Exclu/No F Pkg is selected. Select formula rarely and enter a comment in the care plan. If Part BF choose Part BF. Fill in the rest of the pertinent information in the Breastfeeding Panel. Create a new nutrition interview for the infant and answer “Yes” to the question “Is the infant currently breastfeeding?”. Note: the interview questions will change from Nutrition Practices (Not Breastfeeding) to Nutrition Practices (Breastfeeding).

- b. It is important to follow the steps listed below for the mother to change her category:
    - i. Access the Certification panel, create a new record and terminate the participant's certification with the appropriate termination reason (Postpartum to Breastfeeding) and with a certification effective date of today's date.
    - ii. Under the Application panel, select New to create a new application.
    - iii. Access the Participant Category panel and create a new category record (Breastfeeding) for the participant.
  - c. Continue with the certification for the mother only. Complete all applicable information for certification. Proof of Income, Residency and Identity will need to be brought to the clinic and reentered if older than 30 days. Anthropometric data older than 60 days must be taken again.
  - d. Refer to the Food Package policy document for additional information.
- VIII. Breastfeeding Category and Description must be changed < 6 months: in the situation when a mother and infant are certified as breastfeeding and return at a subsequent visit as not breastfeeding, or in the rare situation when a mother and infant have been identified incorrectly and entered into VISION. Use the following steps:
- a. Create a new nutrition interview for the infant and respond No to the question, Is the infant currently breastfeeding? Note: the interview questions will change from Nutrition Practices (Breastfeeding) to Nutrition Practices (Not Breastfeeding). Add a row to the Breastfeeding Panel for the infant and update the description of the infant's breastfeeding status. Note: this will give you a pop-up box saying “Are you sure you want to

continue with the automatic participant category update for the breastfeeding woman associated with the infant?" Select Yes. This will give an automatic participant category update for the breastfeeding mother (changes her to not breastfeeding or terminated). Fill in the rest of the pertinent information in the Breastfeeding Panel.

- b. Refer to the Food Package policy document for additional information.

IX. Pregnant to Breastfeeding or Not Breastfeeding/Postpartum:

- a. Access the Certification panel and terminate the participant's certification with the appropriate termination reason (e.g., pregnancy ended) and with a certification effective date of today's date.
- b. Create new Application
- c. Access the Participant Category panel and create a new category record for the participant.
- d. Continue a certification for the new category.

X. Breastfeeding or Not Breastfeeding to Pregnant:

- a. Access the Certification panel and terminate the participant's certification with the appropriate termination reason and with a certification effective date of today's date.
- b. Create new Application.
- c. Access the Participant Category panel and create a new category record for the participant.
- d. Continue a certification for the new category.