# **Evidence Synthesis**

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# Primary Care Interventions to Support Breastfeeding: An Updated Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force

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## Structured Abstract

**Objective:** We conducted this systematic review to support the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force in updating its 2009 recommendation on counseling for breastfeeding. Our review addressed three questions: 1) What are the effects of prenatal, peripartum, and postpartum individual- and health care system-level interventions to promote and support breastfeeding on child and maternal health outcomes? 2) What are the effects of interventions on the initiation, duration, and exclusivity of breastfeeding? 3) Are there adverse events associated with interventions to promote and support breastfeeding?

**Data Sources:** We performed a search of MEDLINE, PubMed Publisher-Supplied, Cumulative Index for Nursing and Allied Health Literature, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, and PsycInfo for studies published between January 1, 2008, and September 25, 2015. Studies included in the original U.S. Preventive Services Task Force review were re-evaluated. We supplemented searches by examining bibliographies from retrieved articles and consulting outside experts. We searched federal and international trial registries for ongoing trials.

**Study Selection:** Two researchers reviewed 2769 abstracts and 211 articles against the prespecified inclusion criteria. Eligible studies included English-language studies conducted in a developed country that evaluated the effectiveness of an individual- or system-level breastfeeding intervention among pregnant women or mothers of full- or near-term infants. We included randomized or cluster randomized controlled trials for individual-level interventions and controlled before-and-after or prospective cohort studies for health system or policy interventions that reported health or breastfeeding outcomes. We conducted dual, independent critical appraisal of all provisionally included studies and abstracted all important study details and results from fair- and good-quality studies. Data were independently abstracted by one reviewer and confirmed by another.

**Data Analysis:** We qualitatively synthesized the results for health outcomes and adverse events. For breastfeeding outcomes, we synthesized the results by population (adults separately from adolescents or young adults) and intervention focus (individual- versus system-level approaches). Because of the small number of system-level interventions, we report those results narratively and do not pool the data. For individual-level interventions, we conducted random effects meta-analyses using the DerSimonian and Laird method and calculated pooled risk ratios for breastfeeding initiation and for any or exclusive breastfeeding at postpartum time points less than 3 months, 3 to 6 months, and 6 months. We explored potential effect modification by various population and intervention characteristics, such as intention to breastfeed and intervention type, and timing through stratified analyses and meta-regression. We generated funnel plots and conducted tests for small-study effects for all pooled analyses.

**Results:** We included 52 studies that were reported in 57 publications. The included studies were highly variable in terms of the country, study population, intervention and control conditions, specific outcome measures, and timing of measurements.

*Infant and Maternal Health Outcomes*. Six trials reported inconsistent effects of the interventions on a range of infant health outcomes, such as gastrointestinal illness, otitis media, respiratory tract illness, and healthcare use. None of the studies reported maternal health outcomes.

Breastfeeding Outcomes. On the basis of 43 trials, breastfeeding support and education interventions targeting individuals were associated with a statistically significant higher likelihood of any and exclusive breastfeeding at less than 3 months and at 3 to 6 months compared with usual care among adults. Pooled estimates indicated beneficial associations for any breastfeeding at less than 3 months (risk ratio [RR], 1.07 [95% confidence interval {CI}, 1.03 to 1.11]; k=26) and at 3 to 6 months (RR, 1.11 [95% CI, 1.04 to 1.18]; k=23) and for exclusive breastfeeding at less than 3 months (RR, 1.21 [95% CI, 1.11 to 1.33]; k=22) and at 3 to 6 months (RR, 1.20 [95% CI, 1.05 to 1.38]; k=18). At 6 months, individual-level interventions with adults were associated with a 16 percent higher likelihood of exclusive breastfeeding (RR, 1.16 [95% CI, 1.02 to 1.32]; k=17) but not with any breastfeeding. The association between individual-level interventions and breastfeeding initiation was not statistically significant based on the pooled point estimate, but the confidence interval did not rule out potential benefit (RR, 1.00 [95% CI, 0.99 to 1.02]; k=14). There was some suggestion that interventions that took place during a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum time periods were more effective than those that took place only during one time period. There was no indication of effect modification by other intervention characteristics or by population subgroups. All four trials of individual-level interventions among adolescents or young adults reported higher rates of breastfeeding among intervention versus control group participants. For system-level interventions, there was limited, mixed evidence of an effect on rates of breastfeeding initiation or the duration of any or exclusive breastfeeding from well-controlled studies.

Adverse Events. Two trials among adults reported on adverse events related to a breastfeeding support intervention. One trial found no significant differences between groups in maternal anxiety at 2 weeks. The other reported that a few mothers expressed feelings of anxiety and decreased confidence in their breastfeeding abilities despite breastfeeding going well and therefore discontinued their participation in the peer counseling intervention.

**Limitations:** There were a number of threats to internal validity within the included studies. Detail regarding the measurement of breastfeeding outcomes, sociodemographic and breastfeeding-related population characteristics, and intervention and usual care characteristics were lacking. Our pooled analyses relied on unadjusted breastfeeding rates and did not control for potential confounding.

**Conclusions:** The body of fair-to-good quality evidence related to primary care interventions to support breastfeeding has nearly doubled since the release of the 2009 U.S. Preventive Services Task Force review and recommendation. The updated evidence confirms that breastfeeding support and education provided by professionals and peers to individual women, regardless of the mother's age, is associated with an increase in the duration of any and exclusive breastfeeding. There are limited well-controlled studies examining the effectiveness of system-level policies and practices.

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# **Chapter 1. Introduction**

# **Purpose**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) requested an updated evidence report on counseling interventions in primary care to promote and support breastfeeding. This report will be used by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) to update its 2009 recommendation on breastfeeding counseling and support interventions.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Condition Definition**

Breastfeeding is typically described based the exclusivity of breastfeeding (breastfeeding without supplementation) and on how long the infant is fed breast milk. Supplementation typically refers to giving the infant formula or other breast milk substitutes. Various sources define exclusive breastfeeding differently, sometimes allowing vitamins, medicines, or ritualistic feedings as part of the definition.<sup>2, 3</sup> Infants may consume breast milk by direct breastfeeding (baby-to-breast), bottle- or cup-feeding breast milk expressed by the mother or obtained through formal or informal breast milk donation, or both. In this review, we use the term "breastfeeding" to refer to both direct breastfeeding and feeding expressed breast milk unless specifically noted. Various definitions of breastfeeding are further described in our methods section.

# Recommendations for Breastfeeding and Breastfeeding Support

Multiple national and international organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) (2012), the American Academy of Family Physicians (2012), the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology (2007), and the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (2003), recommend exclusive breastfeeding up to or around 6 months, followed by continued breastfeeding for at least 1 year as mutually desired by mother and infant while complementary foods are introduced. As part of their recommendation, the American Academy of Pediatrics suggests peripartum policies and practices that support breastfeeding initiation and maintenance. Specifically, the AAP recommends direct skin-to-skin contact between the infant and the mother immediately after delivery until the first feeding is accomplished and contact throughout the postpartum period, delaying routine procedures such as weighing and bathing and the administration of intramuscular vitamin K until after the first feeding is completed (but within 6 hours in the case of vitamin K), ensuring 8 to 12 feedings at the breast every 24 hours, ensuring formal evaluation and documentation of breastfeeding by trained providers (including position, latch, milk transfer, and examination) for at least each nursing shift, giving no supplements (i.e., water, glucose water, commercial infant formula, or other fluids) to the breastfeeding infant unless medically indicated, beginning daily oral vitamin D drops at hospital discharge, and avoiding routine pacifier use for the first 3 or 4 weeks of the postpartum period. Furthermore, the AAP recommends that a pediatrician see a breastfeeding

infant at 3 to 5 days old (which is within 48 to 72 hours of discharge from the hospital), evaluate the child for hydration and body weight gain, and observe breastfeeding and to discuss maternal and infant issues with the family.<sup>4</sup>

These same organizations also endorse the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BHFI). The BHFI is a global program sponsored by the WHO and UNICEF to encourage and recognize hospitals and birth centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding. The initiative was launched in 1991 and is based on the WHO/UNICEF Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding for Hospitals (**Table 1**). In the United States, Baby-Friendly accreditation is awarded by Baby-Friendly USA, Inc., to birthing facilities that successfully implement the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding and the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes and pass an intensive site visit. Designations expire after 5 years, at which time facilities must go through a re-designation process. As of August 2015, 286 hospitals and birthing centers in 47 states and the District of Columbia held the BFHI designation and 14.1 percent of U.S. births occurred in BFHI-accredited facilities.

Healthy People 2020 targets for initiating breastfeeding, breastfeeding to 6 months, and breastfeeding to 12 months are 81.9 percent, 66.6 percent, and 34.1 percent, respectively (**Table** 2). Targets for exclusive breastfeeding are 46 percent at 3 months and 25 percent at 6 months. Other Healthy People 2020 objectives related to breastfeeding include increasing the proportion of employers that have worksite lactation support programs, reducing the proportion of breastfed newborns who receive formula supplementation within the first 2 days of life, and increasing the proportion of live births that occur in facilities that provide recommended care for lactating mothers and their babies. In addition, the 2011 Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding outlines 20 specific actions and related implementation strategies to improve rates of breastfeeding in the United States. 11 Actions specific to the health care sector include: ensuring that maternity care practices throughout the United States are fully supportive of breastfeeding; developing systems to guarantee the continuity of skilled support for lactation between hospitals and health care settings in the community; providing education and training in breastfeeding for all health professionals who care for women and children; including basic support for breastfeeding as a standard of care for midwives, obstetricians, family physicians, nurse practitioners, and pediatricians; ensuring access to services provided by International Board Certified Lactation Consultants; and identifying and addressing obstacles to greater availability of safe banked donor milk for fragile infants.

# Association Between Breastfeeding and Breast Milk and Child and Maternal Outcomes

To date, the most comprehensive and widely cited systematic review on the relationship between breastfeeding and infant and maternal health outcomes is a 2007 report prepared by Ip and colleagues for the AHRQ Effective Health Care Program. <sup>12, 13</sup> This report, which synthesized both primary studies and existing systematic reviews, was evaluated by the USPSTF as part of their deliberations in making their 2009 recommendation. A number of more recent systematic reviews have been published that present findings consistent with those from the 2007 report and provide additional data for outcomes with previously limited or otherwise insufficient data. <sup>14-25</sup>

The synthesized evidence for child and maternal outcomes are summarized in **Table 3** and **Table 4**, respectively, and narrated below.

#### Infant and Child Outcomes

A history of being breastfed has been found to be associated with a reduced risk of a variety of health outcomes in infancy and childhood, including acute otitis media; 12, 17 asthma and atopic dermatitis; <sup>12, 24, 26</sup> gastrointestinal infection<sup>27, 28</sup> and the incidence of diarrhea; <sup>23</sup> hospitalizations due to lower respiratory tract infection; <sup>29</sup> sudden infant death syndrome; <sup>12, 14</sup> childhood leukemia; <sup>12, 15</sup> type 1 diabetes; <sup>18, 30</sup> type 2 diabetes; <sup>21, 31</sup> and obesity. <sup>21, 32</sup> In addition, a 2015 review reported a statistically significant benefit of being breastfed (versus never being breastfed) on systolic blood pressure in childhood, but no association between a history of breastfeeding and diastolic blood pressure or total cholesterol.<sup>21</sup> Another recent review reported a 1.8- to 3.9-fold higher risk (depending on infant age) of all-cause mortality in children who were never breastfed compared with those who were ever breastfed, although the number of studies available for these analyses were limited (two to six studies). <sup>25</sup> Several recently published systematic reviews have also reported positive child health benefits of being breastfed that were not part of the earlier AHRQ review. These benefits include reduced risk of pneumonia morbidity and mortality, 33 celiac disease, 34 *Helicobacter pylori* infection, 35 dental caries, 36 and malocclusions.<sup>37</sup> The breastfeeding comparisons used to estimate the relative associations with health outcomes were highly variable (for example, ever breastfed versus never breastfed, exclusively breastfed for 3 or more months versus exclusively breastfed for less than 3 months), but generally suggest that a history of any breastfeeding is more beneficial than no breastfeeding and that a longer duration, particularly for exclusive breastfeeding, confers greater benefits than a shorter duration does (Table 3).

#### **Maternal Outcomes**

In terms of maternal health outcomes, a history of breastfeeding has been found to be associated with a reduced risk for maternal breast and ovarian cancer<sup>12, 19, 38, 39</sup> and for type 2 diabetes (**Table 4**). In contrast, no clear relationship between a history of breastfeeding and the risk of osteoporosis has been found to date, and the associations between breastfeeding and the mother's return to pre-pregnancy weight, postpartum weight loss, and prevalence of postpartum depression have been negligible or unclear. 12, 19, 20

# Limitations of Body of Evidence Linking Breastfeeding and Health Outcomes

The evidence regarding the relationship between breastfeeding and health outcomes is almost exclusively based on observational research given that it is unethical to randomize women to breastfeed or not breastfeed. This observational research has well-recognized sources of potential bias, including possible selection bias, misclassification, unmeasured or uncontrolled confounding, reverse causality, and publication bias. In addition, exposure to breastfeeding is measured and reported differently across these studies including what comparisons are used (e.g., ever breastfeeding versus never, or breastfeeding for 6 months versus 3 months), the

definition of breastfeeding (including not distinguishing between any versus exclusive breastfeeding), and the age at which infant and child outcomes were measured. The studies also differ in their measurement and operationalization of the infant and maternal outcomes, the study setting, and the adjustment for potential confounders. While Ip and colleagues<sup>12</sup> limited their review to studies conducted in developed countries, much of the updated evidence also included studies in developing and middle-income countries, which may represent a larger set of confounding factors and may not be generalizable to the United States. A few studies have used sibling comparisons to more accurately estimate the impact of breastfeeding on long-term childhood health (mostly childhood obesity), but these have shown generally inconsistent findings. 40-44

Lastly, there is little evidence regarding differences in the health benefits of breastfeeding directly and feeding expressed breast milk. None of the studies in the 2007 AHRQ review explicitly examined the differential association between baby-to-breast breastfeeding versus bottle-feeding breast milk on health outcomes. The majority of the health benefits of breastfeeding are thought to be conferred via specific biological aspects of breast milk (for example, antibodies and beneficial bacteria in the breast milk, nutritive values of breast milk, or effects of breast milk on energy metabolism or insulin response) that are absent from infant formula. However, breastfeeding directly from the breast may confer additional benefits. For example, it may help reduce the risk of malocclusions because the process of sucking at a breast is different than the process used to suck from a bottle.<sup>37</sup> Likewise, the strong negative pressure generated by breastfeeding, as opposed to bottle-feeding, may help reduce the risk of acute otitis media.<sup>17</sup> There is also some evidence that direct breastfeeding during early infancy is associated with greater appetite regulation later in childhood, which has implications for childhood obesity.<sup>45</sup>

# **Prevalence of Breastfeeding**

The estimates for any breastfeeding for infants born in 2012 in the United States were 80.0 percent for initiation, 51.4 percent for infants breastfed at 6 months, and 29.2 percent for infants breastfed at 12 months. The rates of exclusive breastfeeding through 3 months and through 6 months were 43.3 percent and 21.9 percent, respectively (**Table 2**). There is generally a steady decline in any and exclusive breastfeeding with increasing child age (**Figure 1**).

A number of sociodemographic factors are associated with an increased likelihood of breastfeeding initiation and continuation. These factors include older maternal age, being married, Asian or white race, Hispanic ethnicity, higher maternal education, higher socioeconomic status, access to private insurance, and geography. For instance, the rate of any breastfeeding at 6 months for non-Hispanic black infants is only 35.3 percent but 51.4 percent for Hispanic or Latino infants, 55.8 percent for white infants, and 65.6 for Asian infants. With regard to education, women who have a high school education are almost half as likely (38.2%) to breastfeed at 6 months than are women with a college education (70.3%). Further, women who are part of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) are less likely to breastfeed at 6 months than are women ineligible for the program (39.1% and 68.4%, respectively). Married women are more likely to breastfeed

at 6 months than are those who are unmarried (62.3% versus 33.1%). Finally, women less than 20 years old are far less likely to breastfeed at 6 months than are those aged 20 to 29 years or 30 years and older (17.4% versus 40.6% and 60.2%). 46

There are also large variations in the rates of breastfeeding initiation and continuation around the world, although the specific indicators and dates in which the data were collected differ.<sup>50, 51</sup> In a recent systematic review, the highest prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding initiation was observed in Norway (99%), Denmark (99%), and Japan (98%) and the lowest initiation rates were observed in the United Kingdom, the United States, and France (70%, 70%, and 63%, respectively). With regard to any breastfeeding, New Zealand (81%), Canada (71%), and Italy (66%) had the highest rates of breastfeeding maintenance at 3 to 4 months and the United Kingdom and France had the lowest rates (43% and 16%, respectively). <sup>51</sup>

# **Facilitators and Barriers to Breastfeeding**

According to the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding, the primary barriers to breastfeeding include the lack of maternal knowledge about the benefits and management of breastfeeding, social norms supporting bottle feeding infant formula versus breastfeeding, poor family and social support, embarrassment about breastfeeding in public, lactation problems, issues related to returning to work and child care, and deficits in hospital policies and clinical practices related to supporting breastfeeding. <sup>11</sup> Among women who initiate breastfeeding, early discontinuation is often accompanied with a higher prevalence of selfreported problems, such as painful nipples, concerns about the adequacy of milk supply, and concern about the baby's behavior or weight. Factors reported to be associated with lower breastfeeding initiation and duration among ethnic minorities and those of low socioeconomic status include ambivalence about breastfeeding, the availability of free formula from WIC, a high level of comfort with the idea of formula feeding, and limited availability and lower intensity of breastfeeding support.<sup>52</sup> Other factors that have been linked with lower rates of breastfeeding initiation and continuation include multiparity, body mass index (underweight, overweight, or obese), and a history of depression or anxiety during pregnancy. 53-57 Conversely, non-smokers, women who initiate prenatal care earlier in their pregnancy, and women who complete a higher number of prenatal visits are more likely to breastfeed. 58 There is also a growing recognition that inequity in access to breastfeeding support, including maternity care practices<sup>59</sup> and credentialing of lactation care providers,<sup>60, 61</sup> based on factors such as race, ethnicity, class, sexual or gender identity, and income level is an important contributor to disparities in rates of breastfeeding and should be addressed. <sup>62, 63</sup>

# **Breastfeeding Interventions**

Health care interventions to encourage and support breastfeeding can include individual-level interventions delivered directly to women and their support persons and also system-level policies or maternity care practices aimed at creating an environment supportive of breastfeeding (**Table 5**). Interventions can occur over the course of pregnancy (prenatal), the time around and shortly after delivery (peripartum), and/or after birth (postpartum).

Individual-level interventions can include professional or peer support or structured education. Breastfeeding support can include psychological and social support (encouraging the mother, providing reassurance, discussing the mother's questions and problems) and direct support during breastfeeding observations (helping with the positioning of the infant, observing latching) and is typically offered in addition to general education. This type of support usually begins shortly after birth in the hospital setting or other birthing facility and may continue after the hospital stay. Breastfeeding education, on the other hand, typically includes a formalized program aimed at conveying non-tailored breastfeeding knowledge and most often occurs in the prenatal period. Education is usually offered in group sessions and may involve telephone support, electronic interventions, and print materials. Individual-level interventions may be conducted by medical, nursing, or allied professionals (such as lactation care providers) or lay people (such as peer supporters).

System-level interventions include policies or maternity care practices such as implementation of the BFHI or all or some of the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding (**Table 1**). These interventions may include a written breastfeeding policy for the facility, provider or staff training in breastfeeding support, policies for implementing breastfeeding support groups, encouragement of rooming-in, restricted or delayed pacifier use, maintenance of skin-to-skin contact between the mother and baby after birth, and encouragement of early breastfeeding initiation (**Table 5**).

Non-health care breastfeeding support interventions may include community breastfeeding promotion or support, worksite policies and programs, child care policies and practices, and legislation including family leave policies.<sup>67</sup>

# **Current Clinical Practice in the United States**

Clinicians providing care to pregnant and postpartum women play a potentially critical role in influencing decisions regarding breastfeeding initiation and continuation. Despite current recommendations encouraging primary care providers to promote and support breastfeeding, a recent study with a nationally representative sample of mothers of infants aged 2 to 6 months (n=1031) found that many women either did not receive any advice on breastfeeding or were receiving advice that was inconsistent with recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics.<sup>68</sup> When the doctor or nurse was the source of advice, 21.8 percent and 13.3 percent of mothers, respectively, did not receive any guidance on breastfeeding while 15.4 percent and 14.9 percent, respectively were given advice that was inconsistent with recommendations. Black and Hispanic mothers were more likely than white mothers to report receiving breastfeeding advice consistent with recommendations from doctors or nurses.

This low rate of provider counseling could be due to a variety of barriers encountered by the health care team. A prospective cohort study comprised of mother-newborn pairs and a cross-sectional study of their healthcare providers in Boston reported on barriers identified by providers in their ability to support breastfeeding.<sup>69, 70</sup> The most common barriers identified as very important by physicians were a limited amount of time during preventive visits to address breastfeeding problems (56%) and a lack of time to give routine advice on feeding (45%). A recent cross-sectional survey of practicing primary care physicians in Nebraska (n=262) found

that physicians felt that they lacked adequate education regarding assisting patients in solving breastfeeding-related problems, which hindered their ability to provide counseling.<sup>71</sup> In this sample of physicians, only 9 percent felt their education regarding breastfeeding support was adequate. These identified barriers provide insights into provider behavior and suggest opportunities for improvement at the level of the individual as well as the health system.

# **Health Policy Context**

Under the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), women's preventive health care—including breastfeeding support, supplies, and counseling—are covered by Health Insurance Marketplace plans and private non-grandfathered health plans (plans created or sold after March of 2010 or older plans that have been updated). Specifically, health insurance plans must cover the costs associated with providing breast milk to infants, including costs for renting breastfeeding equipment (a breast pump) and comprehensive lactation support and counseling by a trained provider during the pregnancy and/or postpartum period. ACA also amended section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act to require employers to provide reasonable break time and a private space (not a bathroom) for breastfeeding employees to express breast milk for her nursing child for 1 year after the child's birth. Currently, the reasonable break time provision only applies to non-exempt employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act, but advocacy groups are working to expand this provision to exempt employees as well.

# **Previous USPSTF Recommendations**

In 2006, the AHRQ Effective Health Care Program commissioned a review to evaluate the impact of breastfeeding on infant and maternal health outcomes. <sup>12</sup> Shortly after the publication of this evidence report, AHRQ requested a related systematic review on the effectiveness of *interventions* to promote breastfeeding so that the USPSTF could update their 2003 recommendation. Thus, in 2008, an updated review was conducted by Chung and colleagues <sup>64, 65</sup> that addressed the effects of primary care-initiated interventions to support or promote breastfeeding on child and maternal health outcomes and breastfeeding rates.

Based on the 2008 review, the USPSTF concluded that there was adequate evidence that primary care interventions to promote and support breastfeeding during pregnancy and after birth increased the rates of initiation, duration, and exclusivity of breastfeeding. No harms associated with the interventions were reported in the included studies. Thus, in 2009 the USPSTF recommended interventions during pregnancy and after birth to promote and support breastfeeding (Grade B recommendation).<sup>1</sup>

# **Chapter 2. Methods**

# **Review Scope**

The current review is an update of the 2008 review<sup>64, 65</sup> that supported the previous USPSTF recommendation. Our update focuses on the effectiveness of breastfeeding support interventions on breastfeeding initiation, duration, and exclusivity; child health outcomes; and maternal health outcomes. Our update included all studies from the previous USPSTF review that met our current inclusion criteria as well as newly identified studies. The USPSTF will use this review to update its 2009 recommendation. We did not systematically update the evidence on the association between breastfeeding and child and maternal health outcomes as was reviewed in 2007 for the AHRQ Effective Health Care Program.<sup>12</sup>

# **Key Questions and Analytic Framework**

With input from the USPSTF, we developed an Analytic Framework (**Figure 2**) and three key questions (KQs) to guide the literature search, data abstraction, and data synthesis.

# **Key Questions**

- 1. What are the effects of prenatal, peripartum, and postpartum individual- and health care system-level interventions to promote and support breastfeeding on short- and long-term child and maternal health outcomes?
  - a. Does the effectiveness of breastfeeding interventions differ by the population subgroups based on age, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status?
  - b. Are there intervention characteristics that influence the effectiveness of breastfeeding interventions?
- 2. What are the effects of prenatal, peripartum, and postpartum individual- and health care system-level interventions to promote and support breastfeeding on initiation, duration, and exclusivity of breastfeeding?
  - a. Does the effectiveness of breastfeeding interventions differ by the population subgroups based on age, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status?
  - b. Are there intervention characteristics that influence the effectiveness of breastfeeding interventions?
- 3. Are there adverse events associated with interventions to promote and support breastfeeding?

## **Data Sources and Searches**

In addition to re-evaluating the 41 studies (in 42 articles) included in the 2008 review, we also searched the following databases for relevant English-language literature published between January 1, 2008, and September 25, 2015: MEDLINE, PubMED (for Publisher-Supplied records only), PsycINFO, Cumulative Index for Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), and

the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL). We worked with a medical librarian to develop our search strategy (**Appendix A**). We also examined the reference lists of all of our included studies and previously published reviews to identify other studies for inclusion. We supplemented our searches with suggestions from experts and articles identified through news and table-of-contents alerts. We also searched ClinicalTrials.gov (<a href="https://ClinicalTrials.gov/">https://ClinicalTrials.gov/</a>) and the World Health Organization International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) (<a href="www.who.int/ictrp">www.who.int/ictrp</a>) for ongoing trials. We imported the literature from these sources directly into EndNote® X7 (Thomson Reuters, New York, NY).

# **Study Selection**

We developed criteria for including or excluding studies based on the original review<sup>64, 65</sup> and our understanding of the literature (Appendix A, Table 1). We included randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and cluster RCTs for individual-level interventions and before and after studies with concurrent controls and prospective cohort studies for health system or policy interventions. The population of interest included mothers of full or near-term infants as well as members of the mother-infant support system (e.g., partners, grandparents, or friends). Included studies targeted the effects of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum breastfeeding interventions that were initiated in, feasible for, or referable from primary care settings. Infant health outcomes included, but were not limited to, gastrointestinal illness, otitis media, respiratory illness, asthma, atopic dermatitis, and infant healthcare utilization. Maternal health outcomes were those such as postpartum weight loss and the incidence of breast cancer. Breastfeeding outcomes included selfreported or observed initiation of breastfeeding, the prevalence and duration of any breastfeeding and the prevalence and duration of exclusive breastfeeding. Definitions of these outcomes are provided below. For adverse events, we specifically looked for harms that could be related to a breastfeeding intervention (e.g., feeling criticized by the interventionist, guilt related to not starting breastfeeding or stopping breastfeeding, increased anxiety about breastfeeding) rather than harms related to breastfeeding itself (e.g., cases of mastitis, nipple pain). We required that studies take place in developed countries as defined as "very high" on the 2014 human development index of the United Nations (http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics) to ensure that the evidence was applicable to a US setting.<sup>75</sup> We limited included studies to those that were deemed good or fair quality by the USPSTF quality rating standards (described below). <sup>76</sup> Studies of poor quality were excluded.

Two independent reviewers independently screened all records in the updated searches on the basis of their titles and abstracts, using the inclusion and exclusion criteria as a guide. Subsequently, at least two reviewers assessed the full text of potentially relevant studies, including all of the previously included studies, using a standard form that outlined the eligibility criteria. Disagreements were resolved through discussion and consensus. We kept detailed records of all included and excluded studies, including the reason for their exclusion.

# **Quality Assessment and Data Abstraction**

Two reviewers independently assessed the methodological quality of all eligible studies,

including the original studies, by using USPSTF criteria. We assigned each study a quality rating of "good," "fair," or "poor" according to study design-specific criteria (**Appendix A, Table 2**). Good-quality RCTs had adequate randomization procedures and allocation concealment, similar groups at baseline, well-defined interventions, reliable outcome measures, blinded outcome assessment, and low attrition (≥90% of participants had followup data, with a <10 percentage-point difference in loss to followup between groups), and they used conservative data substitution methods if for missing data. Trials were given a quality rating of fair if they were unable to meet the majority of the good quality criteria but were not of poor quality. Trials were rated as poor quality if attrition was greater than 40 percent or differed between groups by 20 percentage points, or if there was any other flaw that seriously affected internal validity, as agreed upon by two independent reviewers.

Good-quality observational studies included a representative exposed cohort and comparable groups on the basis of the design or analysis, adequate ascertainment of the exposure, and no other important threats to internal validity. Observational studies were downgraded to fair if they were unable to meet the majority of these criteria. Poor-quality studies had multiple threats to validity. Discordant quality ratings were reviewed and discussed by two independent reviewers and a third reviewer adjudicated as necessary. Studies rated as poor quality and those that presented incomplete data were excluded from the review.

We abstracted descriptive and outcome data from each included study (both the original and update studies) into detailed abstraction forms using Microsoft Access® 2010 (Microsoft, Redmond, WA). One reviewer completed primary data abstraction and a secondary reviewer checked all data for accuracy and completeness. Data collection included general characteristics of the study (for example, author, year, and study design), characteristics of the sample (e.g., age and clinical characteristics of a population, setting, or country), description of the intervention (type, provider, frequency, and duration), definitions of outcomes (initiation and exclusivity), analytic methods, and results. We contacted authors when data reporting was incomplete or particular data points required clarification.

# **Breastfeeding Definitions Used in the Report**

We noted the specific definition of breastfeeding initiation, any breastfeeding, and exclusive breastfeeding as described by each individual study. We considered breastfeeding *initiation* to include any breastfeeding reported around the time of delivery up to 1 week postpartum. There are three main definitions of *exclusive* breastfeeding used in the literature: "exclusive breastfeeding" according to Labbok and Krasovec (breast milk only, without any other food, fluids, water, juice, or other liquids including vitamins or medicines); "exclusive breastfeeding" according to the WHO (breast milk only, without any food, water, juice, or other liquids but including vitamins, minerals, and medicines); and "full breastfeeding," as defined by Labbok and Krasovec which includes both predominant breastfeeding (infant may consume water, waterbased drinks, fruit juice, or ritualistic fluids but no infant formula) and exclusive breastfeeding (**Figure 3**). Within each study, we preferred measures of exclusive breastfeeding over predominant or full breastfeeding when more than one measure was reported. In many cases, the studies did not describe what they considered as exclusive breastfeeding and we assumed they

generally meant that the infant did not receive any supplementary feeding with infant formula or with complementary solid foods if before 6 months of life. We considered the prevalence of *any* breastfeeding to include the infant receiving any breast milk with or without supplemental feeding with infant formula or complementary feeding with solid foods. Where provided, we noted whether the measure of breastfeeding was based on the previous 24 hours or since birth.

# **Data Synthesis and Analysis**

We synthesized data separately for each key question. The data on health outcomes (KQ1) and adverse events (KQ3) did not allow for quantitative analyses, so we summarized those data qualitatively. For breastfeeding outcomes (KQ2), we synthesized the results of studies with adolescents or young adults (i.e., women 21 years or younger) and those with adults separately. We organized the results for adults by the level of intervention (individual vs. system) and, due to the clinical heterogeneity between them, did not pool the results across these intervention types. Because of the small number of studies available for system-level interventions, we report those results narratively and without pooling the data.

For individual-level interventions with breastfeeding outcomes, we entered the raw number of events (prevalence of breastfeeding initiation, any breastfeeding, or exclusive breastfeeding) in each treatment group and the total number of participants randomized for each group into random effects meta-analyses using the DerSimonian and Laird method<sup>78</sup> to calculate a pooled risk ratio (RR). We grouped the breastfeeding results into five distinct cross-sectional time points to correspond with national objectives: 10 breastfeeding initiation (at birth up through 1 week postpartum) and breastfeeding less than 3 months (2 through 11 weeks), 3 to 6 months (12 through 23 weeks), 6 months (24 through 26 weeks), and 12 months (52 weeks). <sup>10</sup> Each study could be included within more than one meta-analysis if it reported corresponding data. Within each study, however, we chose data from the longest time point within a given time category if more than one time point was reported (e.g., if a study reported both 12- and 20-week outcomes, we pooled the 20-week results); with this approach, an individual trial never contributed to more than one data point for a given pooled estimate. In addition, if a trial had more than one active intervention arm, we plotted the most intensive arm (based on the number and duration of the sessions) or the arm that was the most similar with other interventions included in the analysis. We compared our estimated RR for each study with the study-reported crude or adjusted between-group relative risks. We adjusted for the cluster randomization of six trials, <sup>79-84</sup> by applying a design effect to the number of events, which was based on an estimated average cluster size (the total number of participants analyzed at baseline divided by the total number of clusters) and an estimated intraclass correlation. When not reported, we estimated the intraclass correlation to be 0.035, based on published literature. 85 We were unable to pool data on continuous measures of absolute breastfeeding duration given the variability in the reported measures (means or medians), followup durations, and direction of the time-to-event data (risk of cessation of breastfeeding versus risk of still breastfeeding); therefore, we synthesized these data in a table and narratively.

We examined statistical heterogeneity among the pooled studies using standard  $X^2$  tests and estimated the proportion of total variability in point estimates using the  $I^2$  statistic. <sup>86</sup> We applied the Cochrane Collaboration's rules of thumb for interpreting heterogeneity: less than 40 percent

likely represents unimportant heterogeneity, 30 to 65 percent moderate heterogeneity, 50 to 90 percent substantial heterogeneity, and greater than 75 percent considerable heterogeneity. <sup>87</sup> We ran sensitivity analyses for all of our meta-analyses that resulted in substantial heterogeneity (I<sup>2</sup>>50%) using a restricted maximum likelihood model with the Knapp-Hartung modification (using the metareg command in Stata), which is more conservative when there is substantial heterogeneity or a small number of studies. <sup>88</sup> All statistically significant results remained within the restricted maximum likelihood model, so we show results using the DerSimonian and Laird method. <sup>78</sup> In addition, we generated funnel plots to evaluate small-study effects (a possible indication of publication bias) and ran the Peter's test to assess statistical significance of imbalance in study size and findings that suggest a pattern. <sup>89</sup>

We calculated the number needed to treat (NNT) for selected results by first estimating the absolute risk reduction based on the pooled RR and three levels of "baseline" rates of breastfeeding (i.e., absolute risk reduction = [RR-1]\*baseline risk). Because there was a wide range of control group rates for some of the time points, we chose baseline levels empirically using the included studies and roughly corresponding to the 25th, 50th, and 75th percentiles of control group rates at each time point for any and exclusive breastfeeding. NNT was calculated as the inverse of the absolute RR.<sup>87</sup>

We investigated whether the heterogeneity among the results was associated with any prespecified population or intervention characteristics of the studies first qualitatively, using visual displays and tables grouped or sorted by these potentially important characteristics. Specifically, we examined country (United States versus others), breastfeeding status at baseline, intention to breastfeed, previous breastfeeding experience, intervention type (education, professional support, peer support), intervention timing (prenatal, peripartum, postpartum, or a combination), intervention duration, number of intervention sessions, whether the intervention included any inperson contact with the provider or telephone support, and the breastfeeding rate in the control group at baseline as they related to the effect estimates. Based on this initial assessment, we used meta-regression and subgroup analyses to examine whether the effects were different in specific subgroups, namely current breastfeeding at study inclusion, intervention type (professional support, peer support, and education), intervention timing (multiple time periods [e.g., prenatal and postpartum] versus one time period [e.g., prenatal only]), and face-to-face contact. Due to the general lack of statistically significant meta-regression results, we present overall results for all individual-level interventions at each time point. We grouped the studies within forest plots based on the timing of the intervention (multiple time points versus one time point) and sorted studies within these groups by intervention timing and number of sessions. We used Stata version 13.1 (Stata Corp LP, College Station, TX) for all quantitative analyses.

# **Expert Review and Public Comment**

A draft of the Analytic Framework, KQs, and inclusion and exclusion criteria was posted on the USPSTF website for public comment from October 9, 2014, through November 5, 2014. The majority of comments, while informative, pertained to details and considerations for background information and data abstraction and analysis. There were no changes made to the research plan that changed the scope of the review or our approach to synthesizing the evidence. A final

research plan was posted on the USPSTF website on December 18, 2014.

# **USPSTF Involvement**

We worked with four USPSTF liaisons at key points throughout this review, particularly when determining the scope and methods for this review and developing the Analytic Framework and KQs. The USPSTF liaisons approved the final Analytic Framework, KQs, and inclusion and exclusion criteria after revisions reflecting the public comment period. AHRQ funded this review under a contract to support the work of the USPSTF. An AHRQ Medical Officer provided project oversight, reviewed the draft report, and assisted in the external review of the report.

# **Chapter 3. Results**

# **Description of Included Studies**

Our literature search yielded 2769 unique citations. From these, we provisionally accepted 211 articles for review based on titles and abstracts (**Appendix A, Figure 1**). After reviewing the full-text articles, we determined that 52 studies (reported in 57 articles) met the inclusion criteria. <sup>79-84, 90-140</sup> Two independent studies were reported within one publication: the BINGO study is referred to as Bonuck, 2014a and the PAIRINGS study is referred to as Bonuck, 2014b. <sup>92</sup> Fifty of the 52 included studies were individual- or cluster-based RCTs. The remaining two studies were controlled before-after studies that examined rates of breastfeeding before and after receipt of BFHI accreditation among hospitals receiving accreditation versus matched control hospitals. <sup>107, 108</sup>

For the 211 full-text articles that were reviewed, the most common reasons for exclusion were study design (i.e., not an RCT or a controlled before-and-after design for system-level interventions; k=51), poor quality (k=33), and not reporting any relevant outcomes (k=22). **Appendix B** contains a list of all excluded studies and their main reason for exclusion, including those excluded for poor quality.

We found clinical and methodological heterogeneity across the included studies in terms of the country setting, study population, intervention and control conditions, specific outcome measures, and timing of those measures. Nineteen of the 52 included studies took place in the United States; the remaining studies occurred in Canada (k=6), Australia (k=6), the United Kingdom (k=7), other European countries (k=9), Hong Kong or Singapore (k=4), and Argentina (k=1) (**Table 6**). Sample sizes for the RCTs ranged from 36 to 17,482 mothers and the median sample size was 376. In the controlled before-and-after studies, the sample size ranged from 2,014 to more than 25,000 mothers within five U.S. states for a study comparing rates of breastfeeding before and after BFHI accreditation. Five studies had a primary aim other than promoting breastfeeding (e.g., the effect of early skin-to-skin contact on infant temperature or the effect of postpartum education on postpartum depression). <sup>105, 114, 129, 130, 132</sup> but because their interventions also targeted breastfeeding and breastfeeding outcomes were reported, we included them in our review.

# **Included Populations**

The inclusion criteria for women allowed in the studies was highly variable across individual studies and the demographic characteristics of the included samples were often sparsely reported (**Table 6**). Four studies were limited to adolescents (<18 years)<sup>132, 137</sup> or young adults (<21 years). Among the 38 studies that reported the age of included women, the average age ranged from 16 to 34 years old and the median of the average age was 29 years old. Fifteen trials were limited to primiparous mothers, <sup>82, 90, 95, 99, 103, 109, 118, 124, 128, 131, 134, 136, 137, 139, 140</sup> one trial was limited to multiparous women scheduled for a repeat Cesarean section delivery, <sup>129</sup> and the remaining trials that reported parity represented both primiparous and multiparous mothers

(23.5% to 88.7% primiparous). Where reported, the percentage of women who had reported any previous breastfeeding within the full sample (not only among multiparous women) ranged from 9 percent to 64.4 percent.

Fourteen of the 52 trials restricted inclusion to women who were currently breastfeeding at the time of recruitment or at the beginning of the intervention. <sup>80, 90, 97, 99, 100, 104, 109, 111, 115, 119, 120, 130, 131</sup> Two of these 14 trials limited inclusion to women who had been breastfeeding for at least 2 weeks <sup>115</sup> or 8 weeks <sup>80</sup> at the time of recruitment. Thirty-one of the 52 trials included only women who intended to breastfeed <sup>79, 82, 90, 91, 95-98, 101, 109, 112, 115, 117, 123, 124, 128, 130, 131, 135, 136, 140</sup> or resulted in samples where 75 percent or more of the women intended to breastfeed at baseline. <sup>83, 84, 92, 93, 99, 103, 104, 106, 122</sup> The remaining 21 studies did not report breastfeeding intentions among the expectant mothers or reported that less than 75 percent intended to breastfeed. Almost all of the studies explicitly stated the exclusion of women or infants with conditions that would preclude or complicate breastfeeding, such as an infant congenital abnormality.

Two trials were limited to overweight or obese women <sup>97, 98</sup> and one trial to women who had a family history of asthma. <sup>84</sup> One study was limited to women who had a male partner who could participate in the study because the focus of the intervention was effective co-parenting. <sup>90</sup> Two studies that evaluated the effect of skin-to-skin contact interventions on maternal and infant outcomes were limited to women scheduled for a Cesarean section delivery. <sup>105, 129</sup> One study specifically excluded women who delivered by Cesarean section. <sup>104</sup> Of the remaining studies that reported the percentage of women who delivered by Cesarean section, the rate ranged from 2.8 percent to 46.0 percent within treatment arms.

Among the studies that took place in the United States (k=19), most of them included predominantly Hispanic or black low-income women (e.g., the majority of participants received Medicaid or were enrolled in WIC). Within the Canadian trials (k=6) most women were well educated (i.e.,  $\geq$ 70% with at least a college education) but the race and ethnicity of participating women was rarely reported. Very little demographic detail was provided on women participating in the studies that took place in Europe or Australia: two studies in the United Kingdom described the samples as drawn from "deprived urban areas," with one predominantly including women of Asian or Middle Eastern origin, 79,83 and one Australian trial used a sample of high-risk, predominantly low socioeconomic status adolescents, of whom nearly a quarter were indigenous.

# **Included Interventions and Usual Care Control Groups**

The included interventions were also highly variable, including the timing of the intervention (i.e., prenatal, peripartum, and/or postpartum); combination of intervention components; frequency, length, and duration of intervention sessions; providers; content; and implementation (**Table 7**; **Appendix C**, **Table 1**). Given the variability in the interventions, we categorized each intervention arm into five groups based on the level of the intervention (i.e., individual-level or system-level), type of intervention, and type of provider (i.e., professional or peer). The 52 studies included 58 different intervention arms as shown in **Table 8**. We describe the detailed results for breastfeeding outcomes according to the level of the intervention (individual versus system) and by the specific type of intervention where appropriate.

**Appendix C, Figure 1** shows an illustration of the dose of each intervention in terms of their timing, duration, and number of sessions within these five groups. For interventions that had components extending into the postpartum period, only women who continued breastfeeding continued to receive the intervention. This is in contrast to other health behavior interventions (e.g., physical activity interventions) in which participants receive the intervention regardless of their subsequent change in behavior.

#### **Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education**

#### **Professional Support**

Twenty-nine intervention arms within 26 trials provided individual-level breastfeeding support by a clinician such as a physician, midwife, or lactation care provider (**Appendix C, Figure 1**). 80-82, 84, 92, 93, 95, 97, 101, 102, 104, 109, 111, 114, 120, 122-124, 130-132, 135, 136, 139, 140 All but three of the interventions had components that took place during the peripartum and/or postpartum periods. Only 11 of the 29 arms included prenatal contact. The intensity of the interventions ranged from one 30-minute in-hospital support session <sup>109</sup> to an intervention where women received 20 weeks of support from both a physician or midwife as well as an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) during seven in-person prenatal sessions, up to 12 postpartum phone calls, an optional postpartum home visit, and a nursing bra and breast pump. <sup>92</sup> Most interventions were delivered by a physician, midwife, nurse, or lactation care provider. Three studies explicitly stated that the lactation care providers were IBCLCs <sup>92, 97, 137</sup> and five studies did not report any licensing of the lactation care providers who had provided the intervention. <sup>81, 90, 93, 122, 135</sup>

#### Peer Support

Nine treatment arms were individual-level breastfeeding support interventions provided by peer counselors. <sup>83, 91, 98-100, 106, 126, 133, 137</sup> Six of these interventions took place in the prenatal and postpartum periods, three of which also involved in-hospital sessions with peer counselors (**Appendix C, Figure 1**); <sup>83, 91, 98, 126, 133, 137</sup> the other three studies were limited to one prenatal clinic visit, <sup>106</sup> at least one postpartum home visit, <sup>99</sup> and seven postpartum telephone calls. <sup>100</sup> Two of the interventions were strictly limited to telephone support <sup>100, 133</sup> whereas the remaining seven included face-to-face contact with peer counselors. Five of the studies included planned or optional home visits by peer counselors, including one relatively intense study in the United States that included three prenatal home visits, daily in-hospital visits, and nine postpartum home visits. <sup>91</sup> In all cases, peer counselors were recruited specifically for the study: they were chosen to represent the sample population (e.g., adolescents, <sup>100</sup> WIC recipients <sup>133</sup>) and had previous breastfeeding experience. All but one study <sup>99</sup> explicitly mentioned specialized training for peer counselors on breastfeeding and/or counseling techniques. Most of the training appeared to be relatively intense. For example, one study reported 8 weeks of peer counselor training using the WHO/UNICEF Breastfeeding Counseling Training Course. One study of adolescents used both a peer counselor (a trained, teen mother) and a certified lactation care provider. <sup>137</sup>

#### Formal or Structured Education

We categorized as formal breastfeeding education 11 intervention arms within 10 trials. 79, 90, 103,

<sup>116, 118, 119, 122, 128, 134, 135</sup> All but one <sup>116</sup> of the interventions took place outside the United States. Six of the arms included group education and the others provided one-on-one education, with or without a support person. Eight of the 11 interventions took place during the prenatal period only, whereas the others took place only during the peripartum stay or spanned prenatal and postpartum periods (Appendix C, Figure 1). All but two interventions were a single educational session ranging from 15 minutes to 3 hours. The remaining two interventions consisted of two 60-minute prenatal group sessions <sup>103</sup> and three 3-hour prenatal group sessions, of which only one focused on breastfeeding. <sup>118</sup> Education sessions were provided by midwives, lactation care providers, or community educators. The content of most of the educational interventions centered on the benefits of breastfeeding, practical breastfeeding skills (e.g., attachment), and the management of common breastfeeding complications, and most of the interventions encouraged a support person to attend the expectant mother. One intervention was a "co-parenting" intervention in which elements were designed to help couples work cooperatively toward meeting their mutually-desired child health outcomes, including breastfeeding. 90 Two interventions did not include face-to-face contact with an interventionist and instead consisted of educational videos that introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, and explained breast care. 116, 122

#### **System-Level Policies and Practices**

#### Policies, Programs, and Staff Training

Three good-quality studies evaluated system-level policies on rates of breastfeeding. <sup>107, 108, 110</sup> Two studies by the same research group compared the rates of breastfeeding before and after BFHI accreditation between mothers who gave birth in hospitals that became accredited during the study period and mothers who gave birth in matched non-BFHI facilities in the United States. <sup>107, 108</sup> The studies gathered information on the month and year of BHFI accreditation directly from Baby-Friendly USA, the accrediting body for the BHFI in the United States. The third study, in Scotland, implemented a local policy to standardize and increase the availability of breastfeeding support groups provided to pregnant women and mothers. <sup>110</sup>

#### Other Maternity Care Practices

The six remaining studies focused on system-level maternity care practices that included three trials focused on maintaining mother and baby contact (including skin-to-skin contact following delivery<sup>96, 105, 129</sup>) and three trials focused on delaying or restricting pacifier use. <sup>112, 115, 117</sup> In the studies that evaluated skin-to-skin contact, babies were place naked against the mother's skin as soon as possible after birth or upon returning to their room following Cesarean delivery and continued until the baby showed signs of readiness to feed or the mother chose to end the contact. In the control groups for these studies, mother-infant contact was interrupted for bathing, weighing, and other newborn procedures and the infant was wrapped in a towel and handed to a parent. Similar individual-level breastfeeding support was offered to both treatment groups. In the restricted pacifier studies, families were encouraged to avoid pacifier use until the infant's fifth week of life<sup>112</sup> or until breastfeeding was well established<sup>115, 117</sup> and were instructed about alternative methods for soothing infants. In two of these studies, women in the control groups were given pacifiers and were instructed to use the pacifier as soon as possible or according to

their preference. 112, 115 In the other study, women were not given pacifiers but no mention was made to avoid pacifier use.

#### **Usual Care Control Groups**

All of the studies included usual care control groups, although what constituted usual care was not fully described or was highly variable given the various settings, countries, and time frames in which the interventions took place (**Appendix C, Table 1**). Five of the studies <sup>91, 98, 103, 115, 134</sup> explicitly mentioned that the studies took place in BFHI-accredited facilities, two described their facilities as adopting most of the 10 steps but not yet accredited, <sup>118, 123</sup> and one as holding an "active certificate of intent to become baby-friendly." Other studies simply stated that, given the study population's diversity, it was too difficult to describe a usual care "standard" regarding breastfeeding education and support.

A number of studies mentioned routine or mandatory prenatal education, but none described the extent to which breastfeeding was covered as part of that education. Others explicitly stated that there was no routine prenatal education within the study facilities. For studies that described usual postpartum care, most included routine peripartum and/or postpartum contact with lactation care providers. This support, that was provided face to face or by telephone, was part of the routine services of the health system or was provided as an option for the mother (who had to initiate contact through a "warm-line" to the lactation care provider). Many of the non-U.S. studies included routine postpartum home visits as part of usual care. 81, 83, 103, 118, 123, 126, 132, 139 A few studies mentioned discharge materials routinely given to families, including videos or print materials on infant care and breastfeeding, manual breast pumps, lanolin cream, and a water bottle. Only one study 95 explicitly stated that the hospital discharge bag included infant formula.

In all cases, mothers in both the intervention and control groups received usual care. The intervention components were either in addition to those usual care services or replaced specific pieces. For example, in the U.S. study by Chapman and colleagues, <sup>98</sup> the peer counseling intervention replaced the optional peer counseling program that was available to control subjects.

# **Quality of Included Studies**

We rated 20 out of the 52 included studies as good quality and the remaining 32 as fair quality (**Table 6**). In general, the limitations for trials rated as fair quality included a lack of reporting details about randomization methods, including allocation concealment; small differences in baseline characteristics between intervention arms on variables that may relate to breastfeeding outcomes and were not accounted for in the analyses (such as intentions to breastfeed, parity, previous breastfeeding experience, percent delivering by Cesarean section, marital status, income level); a lack of blinding of outcome assessors; attrition greater than 10 percent but less than 35 percent; differential attrition between study arms; a lack of reporting on how missing data were handled or having completers-only analyses accompanied with high attrition; and problematic intervention fidelity of and/or adherence to the intervention. In addition, while all studies relied on self-reported measures of breastfeeding and breastfeeding duration with or without verification from clinical records, the studies we rated as fair quality rarely noted the specific instruments, questions, or definitions used to measure breastfeeding, including whether the

measure was based on a 24-hour recall or since birth. Studies that measured breastfeeding duration or time to weaning were especially prone to recall bias, and very few fair quality studies described how observations were censored in the analyses.

# Key Question 1. What Are the Effects of Prenatal, Peripartum, and Postpartum Individual- and Health Care System-Level Interventions to Promote and Support Breastfeeding on Short- and Long-Term Child and Maternal Health Outcomes?

#### **Overall Results**

Six of the 52 included studies reported the effects of an individual-level breastfeeding intervention on infant health outcomes (the majority focusing on health care utilization as a proxy). 91, 93, 95, 98, 104, 111 In general, there was mixed evidence on the effectiveness of the interventions on gastrointestinal outcomes (2 trials) and no evidence of a benefit on otitis media (1 trial) or the number of health care visits for respiratory tract illnesses (1 trial). Three out of four trials that reported rates of infant health care utilization found higher use among those in the usual care control groups than those who received intervention. None of these three trials, however, reported an effect of the intervention on the rates of breastfeeding. We did not identify any studies that reported the effects of a breastfeeding intervention on maternal health outcomes, such as postpartum weight loss and incidence of breast cancer.

#### **Detailed Results**

Of the six trials that reported infant health outcomes, five were rated as fair quality and one<sup>111</sup> as good quality. One trial was conducted in Canada<sup>104</sup> and the remaining in the United States; all of the U.S. studies were among predominantly low-income Hispanic women. Four of the six trials assessed individual-level breastfeeding support interventions provided by clinicians. <sup>93, 95, 104, 111</sup> The other two trials assessed interventions provided by peer counselors (**Table 7**). <sup>91, 98</sup>

Two studies of fair quality studies reported on infant gastrointestinal outcomes with conflicting results. <sup>91, 93</sup> Anderson and colleagues reported that the risk of infants experiencing one or more diarrheal episodes during the 3-month followup period was more than two-fold higher in the usual care group than in a peer counseling intervention group (risk ratio [RR], 2.15; 95% confidence interval [CI],1.16 to 3.97); this study also found lower rates of exclusive breastfeeding at both 2 and 3 months in the control group compared with the intervention group. <sup>91</sup> Bonuck and colleagues, however, reported no significant differences in gastrointestinal illnesses in infants of women who attended a prenatal and postpartum support intervention and in infants in the usual care group at 52 weeks despite the intervention group breastfeeding for a statistically significant longer duration than the women in the control group. <sup>93, 94</sup>

Bonuck and co-authors (2006) also reported infant outcomes for otitis media and respiratory tract illnesses for up to 52 weeks. <sup>93, 94</sup> In a priori analyses, infants in the usual care group who did not receive Medicaid had significantly more cases of otitis media (p<0.03) than infants in the

intervention group; there was no effect among infants who did receive Medicaid. Within this study, however, there was no statistically significant difference between treatment groups in the number of visits for respiratory tract illnesses.

Four studies reported outcomes on infant healthcare utilization, including pediatric visits, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations. <sup>95, 98, 104, 111</sup> Despite finding a statistically significantly higher rate of exclusive breastfeeding at 4 weeks between groups, the good quality study by Hopkinson and colleagues found no significant difference in the number of infant visits to the pediatrician or emergency room at 4 weeks postpartum between women randomized to a lactation care provider-led postpartum breastfeeding support intervention (76.3% visited pediatrician, 8.9% visited emergency room; n=255) and those receiving usual care (82.1% visited pediatrician, 9.2% visited emergency room; n=267). Bunik reported that infants born to mothers assigned to a nurse-delivered brief telephone postpartum support intervention were less likely to have a sick visit by 4 weeks postpartum than were infants born to mothers in the usual care group (25% vs. 36%, respectively; p=0.05); however, there were no significant differences between treatment groups with respect to well-baby and sick care visits at 3 and 6 months postpartum or between any or exclusive breastfeeding at 1, 3, and 6 months. 95 Gagnon observed that infant hospital admission for multiple conditions (including fever/viral episodes, jaundice, ear infection, and lethargy) during the first 8 weeks postpartum was more than two-fold higher in the usual care group (n=7/254; 2.8%) than in the intervention group receiving a postpartum inhome nursing visit and optional phone support (n=3/259; 1.2%); however, there was no significant difference in the rate of any breastfeeding between groups at 2 weeks. <sup>104</sup> Likewise, Chapman and colleagues reported that infants of mothers who received a breastfeeding peer counseling intervention were significantly less likely to be hospitalized during the first 3 and 6 months after birth after adjustment for maternal age, delivery mode, infant birth, previous breastfeeding experience, maternal pregnancy body mass index, and gender (6-months adjusted odds ratio [aOR]=0.24; 95% CI, 0.01-0.86). There were no statistically significant differences, however, in the prevalence of otitis media, diarrhea, or emergency department visits between groups at 3 or 6 months. This study also did not find an effect on rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding beyond 2 weeks.<sup>98</sup>

Key Question 2. What Are the Effects of Prenatal, Peripartum, and Postpartum Individual- and Health Care System-Level Interventions to Promote and Support Breastfeeding on Initiation, Duration, and Exclusivity of Breastfeeding?

#### **Overall Results**

All 52 of our included studies reported a breastfeeding outcome. Individual-level support and education interventions provided by professionals or peers (43 trials; n=21,973) were associated with a statistically significant higher likelihood of any and exclusive breastfeeding at less than 3 months and at 3 to 6 months and for exclusive (but not any) breastfeeding at 6 months in pooled analyses (**Table 9**). There was no evidence of a relationship between individual-level support and education interventions and breastfeeding initiation. In addition, none of the three trials that

reported breastfeeding rates at 1 year found a statistically significant difference between treatment groups. Results appeared consistent across various adult subgroups and specific intervention characteristics. The four trials that were limited to adolescents or young adults found higher rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding or a longer duration of breastfeeding among mothers receiving professional or peer support compared with those receiving usual care.

There was no consistent effect on the rate of any or exclusive breastfeeding from nine studies of system-level policy or maternity care practices. Among the three studies that evaluated the effect of a system-level policy on rates of breastfeeding, none found a statistically significant benefit of the policy on the rate of any or exclusive breastfeeding up to 4 to 8 weeks among all women. One large observational study (n=25,327) found a statistically significantly higher rate of breastfeeding initiation and exclusive breastfeeding at 1 month among women with a lower education, but not among women overall or among those with higher education after implementation of the BHFI. Likewise, there was no clear benefit from establishing and maintaining mother-and-baby contact following delivery or restricted pacifier use on the rate of breastfeeding initiation or the continuation of any or exclusive breastfeeding based on six trials. These 6 trials had limited applicability to U.S. health care practices and breastfeeding was a secondary outcome within many of these trials.

## **Detailed Results Among Adults**

### **Individual-Level Breastfeeding Education and Support**

Breastfeeding Initiation

Fourteen trials reported the effects of a breastfeeding education or support intervention on the rate of breastfeeding initiation. <sup>79, 81, 83, 91, 92, 98, 103, 106, 116, 118, 126, 139, 140</sup> All of the interventions had a prenatal component that was intended to increase the proportion of women starting to breastfeed compared with usual care. The breastfeeding initiation rate among women in the usual care control groups ranged from 53.1 percent in a trial conducted among women in Scotland 126 among whom only slightly more than half (51.6%) intended to breastfeed—to 98.7 percent among a sample of women in the United States who intended to breastfeed (**Table 10**). 98 Despite nearly all of the trials generally showing improved rates of breastfeeding initiation among mothers receiving the intervention compared with mothers receiving usual care, none of the individual trials found a statistically significant benefit. When all 14 trials were pooled, the results showed no association between receiving an individual-level breastfeeding prenatal intervention and breastfeeding initiation (RR, 1.00 [95% CI, 0.99 to 1.02];  $I^2=22.8\%$ ; n=9428) (Figure 4). Although power could be an issue, the relatively high control group initiation rates and the small overall benefit suggested by the pooled results are consistent with ceiling effects for breastfeeding initiation in women similar to those selected for these interventions. In all but four of these trials. 81, 116, 118, 126 more than 80 percent of enrolled women intended to initiate breastfeeding (range: 51.6% to 100%).

Breastfeeding at Less Than 3 Months

Our meta-analysis combining the 26 trials that reported the prevalence of any breastfeeding at

less than 3 months (that is, from 2 weeks through 11 weeks) among adults found a statistically significant pooled relative risk for mothers assigned to a breastfeeding support or education intervention compared with women in the usual care control groups of 1.07 (RR, 1.07 [95% CI, 1.03 to 1.11];  $I^2=72.0\%$ ; n=11,588) (**Figure 5**). Examined individually, only five of the 26 trials showed a statistically significant effect on the prevalence of any breastfeeding at less than 3 months, with an increased likelihood of breastfeeding in favor of the intervention groups over the control groups (**Appendix C, Table 2**). 92, 93, 133, 135 Nineteen of these 26 trials plus an additional three studies 91, 104, 134 also reported the proportion of mothers exclusively breastfeeding at less than 3 months. All but two of these 22 trials suggested a greater benefit of the intervention over usual care on exclusive breastfeeding up to 3 months, but statistical significance was not reached in all trials. The pooled RR demonstrated a slightly stronger relationship between individuallevel support interventions versus usual care in the rate of exclusive breastfeeding at less than 3 months (RR, 1.21 [95% CI, 1.11 to 1.33];  $I^2=52.4\%$ ; k=22; n=8246) (**Figure 6**) than that seen for any breastfeeding; however, the same set of trials was not represented in both outcomes. Among these trials, the absolute difference in the rate of exclusive breastfeeding between groups ranged from -0.8 percentage points (in favor of the control group)<sup>83</sup> to 22.4 percentage points in favor of the intervention group.<sup>91</sup>

The funnel plot for exclusive breastfeeding at less than 3 months revealed asymmetric patterns and the results of the Peter's test for small study effects was statistically significant (p=0.047), so we cannot exclude potential publication bias. A sensitivity analysis excluding the five studies that had total samples sizes of less than  $200^{91,\,98,\,124,\,128,\,134}$  resulted in a slightly attenuated effect with greater precision while reducing statistical heterogeneity (RR, 1.17 [95% CI, 1.08 to 1.26];  $I^2$ =36.6%; k=17; n=7508). Thus, the effect size for exclusive breastfeeding at 3 months may be slightly overestimated due to small study effects, including potential publication bias.

Due to a lack of reporting of within-group event rates, we did not include one study in our meta-analysis of exclusive breastfeeding at less than 3 months or 3 to 6 months (see paragraph below). However, the results of this trial were generally consistent with the pooled results although with higher point estimates. The fair-quality study by Carlsen and colleagues in Denmark randomized 226 obese women who were already breastfeeding at the start of the intervention to a 6-month postpartum telephone support intervention provided by an IBCLC or with usual postpartum care. Obese women were the target of the intervention given the difficulties they often experience in initiating and continuing breastfeeding. The intervention resulted in statistically significantly higher odds of exclusive breastfeeding at 1, 2, 4, and 12 weeks after birth after adjustment for pre-pregnancy body mass index, gestational weight gain, parity, birth weight, gestational age, and infant sex (**Appendix C, Table 2**). For instance, at 4 weeks, the odds of exclusive breastfeeding was three times higher among women receiving postpartum telephone support than among women in the control group (aOR: 2.99 [95% IC, 1.61 to 5.50]).

#### Breastfeeding at 3 to 6 Months

Slightly fewer studies reported the proportion of adult women performing any (k=23) or exclusive (k=18) breastfeeding at 3 to 6 months (12 through 23 weeks) (**Appendix C, Table 2**). Overall, individual-level breastfeeding support and education interventions were statistically

significantly related to both any and exclusive breastfeeding at 3 to 6 months in pooled analyses (**Figure 7** and **Figure 8**, respectively). The pooled risk ratio among 23 trials with 8942 women reporting any breastfeeding at 3 to 6 months was 1.11 (95% CI, 1.04 to 1.18) with evidence of moderate heterogeneity (I<sup>2</sup>=46.5%). The control group breastfeeding rate was highly variable (17.7% to 88.6%), as was the intervention group rate (23.2% to 96.2%). These findings appear to be partly due to the breastfeeding rates at 12 weeks usually being higher than those reported at 16 weeks with a few exceptions. The study by Elliott-Rudder in Australia that reported 88.6 percent of women in the usual care control group still breastfeeding at 16 weeks (4 months) was unique in that only women who were successfully breastfeeding at 8 weeks postpartum were included; intervention participants took part in one structured conversation with a primary care nurse when they brought their infant in for their scheduled immunizations at 2, 4, or 6 months old (**Appendix C, Figure 1**). Likewise, the study by Abbass-Dick in Canada included only women who were exclusively breastfeeding in the hospital and intended to breastfeed for more than 12 weeks. This study reported any and exclusive breastfeeding rates among the control group participants to be 87.6 percent and 60.0 percent, respectively.

The pooled point estimate for exclusive breastfeeding between 3 to 6 months also suggested a statistically significant benefit of the intervention compared with usual care (RR, 1.20 [95% CI, 1.05 to 1.38]; I²=44.6%; k=18; n=7,027) (**Figure 8**). When examined individually, one good-quality study in the United States (Bonuck, 2014b PAIRINGS)<sup>92</sup> and four fair-quality studies (including two conducted in Singapore) demonstrated a statistically significant effect of individual-level professional or peer support interventions on exclusive breastfeeding at 12 weeks. Funnel plots for any or exclusive breastfeeding at 3 to 6 months did not suggest the presence of small study effects.

#### Breastfeeding at 6 Months

Among adults, 20 trials (n=9715) reported the proportion of women performing any breastfeeding at 6 months (24 or 26 weeks). When pooled, the association was not statistically significant but the CI did not rule out potential benefit (RR, 1.07 [95% CI, 0.98 to 1.16];  $I^2$ =57.5%) (**Figure 9**). The forest plot shows a lack of consistent effects across the individual trials but some suggestion of a benefit of up to a two-fold increase in any breastfeeding among women exposed to a professional support intervention compared with usual care (for example, Bonuck 2014b [PAIRINGS]<sup>92</sup> and Labarere, 2005<sup>120</sup>) and others suggesting a decreased probability of any breastfeeding although not ruling out benefit (for example, Chapman, 2013).<sup>98</sup>

In contrast, the pooled risk ratio demonstrated a positive association between individual-level support or education interventions and exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months, although the CI only narrowly excluded 1.0 (RR, 1.16 [95% CI, 1.02 to 1.32];  $I^2=14.3\%$ ; k=17; n=7690) (**Figure 10**). The range of exclusive breastfeeding rates at 6 months among control group participants was 0 percent to 42.5 percent, the latter in a sample of women from Australia. The funnel plot for exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months presented asymmetric patterns and the results of the Peter's test for small study effects was statistically significant (p=0.015). After three studies with fewer than 100 women per arm  $^{84, 98, 131}$  were removed from the meta-analysis, the pooled risk ratio was slightly attenuated and the confidence interval included 1.0 (RR, 1.09 [95% CI, 0.99 to 1.21];  $I^2=0\%$ ; k=14; n=7409). Wide CIs suggested power was an issue and indicated the potential for

#### benefit was not eliminated.

Only four of the trials that reported 6-month outcomes had intervention components that extended up to 6 months postpartum. <sup>80, 93, 99, 139</sup> There did not seem to be a pattern, however, between the duration of the intervention and the effects seen at 6 months. For instance, the good-quality trial by Labarere and colleagues in France consisted of one lactation-focused outpatient visit with the infant's primary care physician at 2 weeks postpartum yet reported 39.3 percent and 26.3 percent of mothers in the intervention versus usual care groups, respectively, still breastfeeding at 6 months (RR, 1.49 [95% CI, 1.02 to 2.19]). <sup>120</sup>

#### Breastfeeding at 12 Months

Only three of the trials reported the prevalence of any breastfeeding among intervention and control group participants at 12 months (**Appendix C, Table 2**). <sup>79,93,139</sup> None found a statistically significant effect of the intervention at 12 months, and the data were too sparse and heterogeneous to pool. The reported breastfeeding rates at 12 months within these studies were quite low (9.3% to 21.0%) and clearly below the U.S. national average of 29.2 percent. <sup>46</sup> Thus. these populations may represent particularly challenging groups for achieving long-term breastfeeding continuation. Among the 52 included studies, the two studies with the longest interventions were conducted by Bonuck and colleagues<sup>93</sup> and Wen and colleagues<sup>139</sup> who reported breastfeeding at 12 months (**Appendix C, Figure 1**). The lactation support intervention by Bonuck and colleagues in the United States spanned approximately 68 weeks: it began in the second trimester of pregnancy and provided optional telephone support to breastfeeding mothers for up to 1 year. 93, 94 In that study of predominantly low-income Hispanic and black women, 18.3 percent of intervention mothers and 15.2 percent of control mothers reported still breastfeeding their infants at 1 year (RR, 1.21 [95% CI, 0.63 to 2.32]). Similarly, the good quality study by Wen and colleagues in Australia found no significant effect on the rates of any breastfeeding at 1 year among mothers receiving a home visiting intervention versus usual care (21.0% vs. 14.9%, respectively) (RR, 1.39 [95% CI, 0.96 to 2.01]) despite up to five postpartum home visits lasting 1 to 2 hours for up to a year after birth. 139 Very wide CIs associated within the individual studies may reflect power issues and cannot rule out potential benefits that could be clinically meaningful. On the other hand, one of the least intense studies by Lavender and colleagues in the United Kingdom (n=1249) also found no effect of one 2.5-hour prenatal group education session compared with usual care on rates of any breastfeeding at 1 year (9.3% vs. 10.1%); in that study, power was less likely to be an issue.<sup>79</sup>

#### Absolute Duration of Breastfeeding

Twelve individual-level intervention trials among adults reported continuous measures of the duration of any and/or exclusive breastfeeding or time-to-event data (**Table 11**). 84, 97, 103, 106, 114, 118, 119, 126, 128, 131, 139, 140 In these studies, breastfeeding duration was equal to the infant age when the mother completely stopped breastfeeding or stopped exclusively breastfeeding. All 12 studies reported that the intervention group participants breastfed longer or exclusively breastfed longer than those in the control groups; however the results were only statistically significant in four trials. 84, 97, 119, 139

#### Differences in Population Subgroups

We explored potential differences in the effects of the interventions as they related to specific settings and population characteristics. Specifically, we examined possible effect modification by country (United States vs. other), breastfeeding status at baseline (whether the trial only included women who had already attempted or established breastfeeding), intention to breastfeed, and previous breastfeeding experience. Our subgroup analyses and meta-regression models did not reveal any clear differences in the rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding at any time point by these study characteristics. Demographic variables such as race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status were too sparsely reported to examine possible differential effects. We report the results of four trials among adolescents and young adults below, which generally revealed effects consistent with those among adults.

We included seven trials that provided direct comparisons of the effect of the interventions among different population subgroups. 81, 94, 95, 126, 130, 133, 136 Within these seven trials, differences in the following subgroups as they related to the mother were examined: age, education, insurance status, country of origin (foreign-born or born in the United States), primary language spoken (Spanish or English), delivery type, parity, prior breastfeeding experience, and breastfeeding intentions. The only significant differences in the intervention effect by subgroup were for maternal country of origin and primary language spoken, both in studies conducted in the United States. 94, 133 In the study by Bonuck and colleagues, United States-born control group participants had the lowest breastfeeding intensity compared with United States-born intervention participants or all foreign-born women at 13 and 52 weeks. 94 Reeder and colleagues found a significant effect of the intervention on any breastfeeding among Spanish-speaking women at 4, 12, and 26 weeks but among English-speaking women only at 4 weeks. This study, however, did not report a formal test of interaction by language group. 133 Two studies examined differential effects of the intervention by breastfeeding intention and found conflicting results.<sup>81</sup> <sup>95</sup> Bunik found that women who intended to exclusively breastfeed in the intervention group were more likely to breastfeed at 1, 3, and 6 months than were women who planned to offer formula and breast milk. No significant differences were seen in the control group due to breastfeeding intention. 95 Kools reported no interaction of the effects of the intervention by maternal age, maternal education, previous breastfeeding experience, or breastfeeding intentions. 81 Thus, within-study examination of effect modification by subpopulation was inconclusive.

#### Common Elements of Efficacious Interventions

We also examined a number of specific intervention characteristics to see if they appeared to be associated with effect size including intervention type (education, professional support, peer support), intervention timing (prenatal, peripartum, postpartum, or a combination), intervention duration, number of intervention sessions, whether the intervention included any in-person contact with the provider or telephone support. On the basis of our preliminary assessment, we used stratified analyses and meta-regression to formally examine possible effect modification by intervention characteristics.

We found some evidence of a differential effect of individual-level interventions on the rates of

any breastfeeding (but not exclusive breastfeeding) based on the time periods in which the interventions were delivered and the total duration of the intervention. Interventions delivered over a combination of time points (for example, prenatal and postpartum [shown as "1, 3" within the "Intervention Timing" column in the forest plots]) showed higher relative effects on any breastfeeding than those delivered at one time point only (for example, postpartum or "3" within the "Intervention Timing" column in the forest plots). For instance, the pooled risk ratio for interventions delivered at more than one time point showed a statistically significantly association with any breastfeeding at less than 3 months (RR, 1.14 [95% CI, 1.08 to 1.19]) whereas those delivered at one time point only (for example, postpartum or "3" within the "Intervention Timing" column in the forest plots) did not show a statistically significant relationship (RR, 1.02 [95% CI, 0.99 to 1.06]) (test for subgroup difference, p=0.001) (**Figure** 5). Likewise, interventions that were longer in duration (4 or more weeks) were statistically significantly related to any breastfeeding at less than 3 months and 3 to 6 months in pooled analyses whereas interventions that were less than 4 weeks in duration were not related (p<0.05). These two intervention characteristics – timing of the intervention and total duration of the intervention – were closely related. In most, but not all cases, interventions that were delivered for 4 or more weeks also spanned more than one time period (e.g., prenatal and postpartum or prenatal, peripartum, and postpartum), so it difficult to disentangle which concept (longer duration or multiple time periods) is driving the difference.

There was no evidence of effect modification based on the specific type of intervention (professional support, peer support, or education), number of sessions, presence of face-to-face contact, or presence of telephone support.

We included five studies that had more than one active intervention arm that provided direct comparisons between the arms. 82, 92, 103, 122, 135 There were no statistically significant differences in the rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding between the active intervention arms when comparing in-hospital support versus postpartum telephone counseling, 82 one prenatal education session with a lactation care provider versus a prenatal video and booklet, <sup>122</sup> or group education focused on attitude modification versus group education focused on practical skills training. 103 All of these comparisons, while direct, could have been limited by a lack of power. Bonuck and colleagues found some evidence of stronger effects on the prevalence and intensity of breastfeeding at 3 months among women receiving brief prenatal education plus peripartum and postpartum lactation counseling compared with women receiving only brief education or lactation counseling. For instance, there was a statistically significant difference between the four groups, with 56.2, 50.7, 44.5, and 37.8 percent of the lactation support plus brief education, lactation support only, brief education only, and usual care groups, respectively, reporting any breastfeeding at 3 months (p=0.02). There were no other differences by group at other time points within this study. 92 The study by Su and colleague in Singapore similarly reported an increased relative effect of an intervention consisting of peripartum and postpartum lactation support versus a brief prenatal intervention for any breastfeeding at 6 weeks (RR, 1.16 [95% CI, 1.02 to 1.31]) but found no other differences between the two intervention arms for any or exclusive breastfeeding at any other time points. 135 The indirect and direct evidence, while not conclusive, suggests that multiple time points may be important for short-term breastfeeding outcomes.

#### **System-Level Policies and Practices**

Policies, Programs, and Staff Training

We included three good-quality studies that evaluated the impact of system-level changes on rates of breastfeeding (**Table 6; Table 12**). <sup>107, 108, 110</sup> Two studies by the same Hawkins group compared the rates of breastfeeding initiation and continuation of any or exclusive breastfeeding for 4 or more weeks before and after BFHI accreditation between mothers who gave birth in hospitals that became accredited during the study period and mothers who gave birth in matched non-BFHI facilities in the United States. <sup>107, 108</sup> First, Hawkins and colleagues (2014a) included 11723 mothers who gave birth within 13 hospitals that received accreditation prior to 1999 or became BFHI accredited during 1999 through 2009 and 13604 mothers from 19 matched non-BFHI birth facilities across five states. <sup>107</sup> Difference-of-differences analysis found that BFHI accreditation did not increase rates of breastfeeding initiation or any or exclusive breastfeeding among all women but benefited mothers with lower education (12 or less years of education) in a priori subgroup analyses (**Table 12**). Breastfeeding initiation increased by 3.8 percentage points among mothers with lower education who delivered in BFHI facilities (adjusted coefficient = 0.038; 95% CI: -0.00 to 0.08, p=0.05) but not among all mothers or mothers with higher education. BFHI accreditation was also associated with increased rates of exclusive breastfeeding for 4 or more weeks by 4.5 percentage points among mothers with lower education who delivered in BFHI facilities (adjusted coefficient = 0.045; 95% CI: 0.01 to 0.08), but there was no effect on exclusive breastfeeding overall or among those with higher education. There was no difference in the rates of any breastfeeding between groups by education subgroup or overall. 107

Similarly, the second good-quality study by Hawkins and colleagues (2014b) compared rates of breastfeeding among 915 mothers who gave birth in four hospitals that were BFHI accredited or became accredited and 1099 mothers from six matched non-BFHI accredited facilities in Maine. Results showed that there was no effect of BFHI status on the rates of breastfeeding initiation, any breastfeeding, or exclusive breastfeeding, either overall or stratified by maternal education (**Table 12**). In this study, mothers giving birth within BFHI-accredited facilities were more likely to report experiencing seven of the 10 BFHI practices than were women delivering at a non-BFHI accredited facility (34.6% vs. 27.1%); however, compliance with the individual steps was relatively low in general (compliance with the individual steps ranged from 57.2 to 96.0%) within the accredited facilities, and only one step (step 3, hospital staff gave information about breastfeeding) significantly increased after BFHI accreditation (p=0.01). The authors speculated that the lack of effect by accreditation status suggests that it may be the number of or specific hospital practices supporting breastfeeding rather than BFHI accreditation itself that impacts rates of breastfeeding.

The third good-quality study, conducted in Scotland, used a cluster RCT to compare the rates of breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks postpartum before and after implementation of a policy for providing breastfeeding support groups for pregnant women (prenatal) and breastfeeding mothers (postpartum) among seven intervention health localities (n=8991) and seven control localities (n=8491) implementing usual care. As part of the policy, intervention localities were asked to at least double their number of breastfeeding support groups, set up a minimum of two

new groups, and ensure that all main population centers had access to a breastfeeding group. The format and content of the support groups were intended to be standardized across groups and include weekly group meetings, women only, a health professional group facilitator, and pregnant or breastfeeding women; allow at least half of the meeting time to be social and interactive; and create a woman-centered approach to the structure and content of the group sessions based on the women's needs. Implementation of the policy was high: intervention localities increased the number of breastfeeding groups from 10 to 27 groups after 2 years, whereas the number of control localities was the same. The effect of the policy on rates of breastfeeding was not notable, however. After adjustment for pre-intervention breastfeeding rates, there was no statistically significant difference in rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding between groups at birth, at 5 to 7 days, or at 6 to 8 weeks (**Table 12**). 110

#### Other Maternity Care Practices

We included six trials focused on other system-level maternity care practices, including three fair-quality trials focused on maintaining mother and baby contact following delivery <sup>96, 105, 129</sup> and three good-quality trials focused on delayed or restricted pacifier use (Table 7; Appendix C, **Table 1**). 112, 115, 117 The first three trials reported mixed results (**Appendix C, Table 2**). In the fair-quality U.S. study by Nolan and colleagues, 50 women scheduled for a Cesarean section delivery were randomly allocated to receive a new protocol for minimizing maternal-infant separation following birth or usual peripartum care whereby infants were removed promptly from the operating room and transferred to the obstetric recovery room with brief or no physical contact with their mothers). This study found higher rates of any breastfeeding at hospital discharge (76.0% vs. 52.0%) and at 4 weeks (72.7% vs. 33.3%) among those receiving the intervention versus those receiving usual care. The relative effect of the intervention versus control on any breastfeeding at 4 weeks was statistically significant for the full sample of randomized women (unadjusted RR, 2.18 [95% CI, 1.17 to 4.06]), but not for only women who initiated breastfeeding at birth (p<0.05). Neither of the other two trials on maintaining mother and baby contact following delivery found statistically significant differences in the prevalence of any or exclusive breastfeeding or the absolute duration of breastfeeding between treatment arms. 96, 105

There was no evidence from the three good-quality trials that the rate of breastfeeding differed between mothers asked to avoid or delay pacifier use versus those given no such instructions or were deliberately given pacifiers (**Table 11**; **Appendix C, Table 2**). 112, 115, 117 We judged these trials to have very limited applicability to U.S. primary care, however. For instance, in the U.S. trial by Howard and colleagues, as part of their discharge packet mothers in the control group were given pacifiers and instructed to use the pacifier as soon as possible as a means of comforting their babies in addition to any other comforting mechanisms they chose. 112 The trial by Jenik and colleagues, which evaluated the effects of recommendations to offer or not to offer pacifiers once lactation was well-established, was designed as a non-inferiority trial among mothers in Argentina who were highly motivated to breastfeed. In that study, both treatment groups had extremely high rates of any and exclusive breastfeeding, with nearly 100 percent of mothers still breastfeeding at 4 months postpartum. 115

## **Detailed Results for Adolescents and Young Adults**

All four of the trials that were limited to adolescents or young adults found higher rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding or a longer duration of breastfeeding among mothers in the intervention groups than among those assigned to usual care (**Appendix C, Table 2**). 100, 102, 132, 137 The benefit was statistically significant in all three US trials, 100, 102, 137 but did not reach statistical significance in the Australian trial. 132 In the most recent trial by Edwards and colleagues, 248 low-income black mothers (mean age 18.3 years) were randomized to a 26-week intervention that consisted of 10 weekly prenatal home visits, in-hospital support, 12 postpartum home visits, and optional phone support provided by a community doula with specialized lactation support training; the other mothers were assigned to usual care (control group). Mothers in the intervention group were statistically significantly more likely to initiate breastfeeding than the usual care group was (63.9% versus 49.6%, p=0.02) and to breastfeed for at least 6 weeks (28.7% versus 16.8%, p=0.04). There was no statistically significant difference, however, in the proportion of mothers still breastfeeding at 16 weeks (8.3% versus 4.4% in the intervention and control groups, respectively). 102 In another fairly intense intervention, Wambach and colleagues randomized 289 predominantly low-income black girls (mean age 17 years) to usual care or to a breastfeeding support intervention that spanned from the second trimester of pregnancy through 4 weeks postpartum. The intervention mothers received group prenatal education classes in which support persons were encouraged to attend, in-hospital face-to-face support sessions, and at least five postpartum telephone calls. Intervention participants were also given an electric breast pump at no charge on an as-needed basis. The intervention was provided by an IBCLC and peer counselors. Girls in the intervention group reported a higher rate of breastfeeding initiation (79%) versus those in the usual care group (63%), but this difference was not statistically significant after adjustment for breastfeeding knowledge, breastfeeding intention, timing of feeding decision, positive breastfeeding sentiment, and social and professional support. However, the duration of any breastfeeding was statistically significantly longer in the intervention group (median 177 days; range 1 to 213) than in the usual care group (median 61 days; range 1 to 195) after adjustment for positive breastfeeding sentiment and social and professional support. <sup>137</sup> In a 5-week postpartum peer telephone support intervention, Di Meglio and colleagues found a statistically significant difference in the duration of exclusive breastfeeding, but not for any breastfeeding, among predominantly low-income young women in the United States (n=78). Mothers in the peer support group breastfed their infants exclusively for a median of 35 days, whereas mothers in the usual care control group exclusively breastfed for a median of 10 days (p=0.004). Finally, the trial that took place in Australia among 136 adolescent mothers (mean age 16 years) found that mothers in the intervention group breastfed for a median of 12 weeks compared with 8 weeks in the control group, a non-statistically significant difference (p=0.73). Breastfeeding duration was a secondary aim in this trial; the primary aim was reducing adverse infant outcomes and improving the adolescent mothers' knowledge regarding contraception, breastfeeding, and vaccination schedules. 132

# **Key Question 3. Are There Adverse Events Associated With Interventions to Promote and Support Breastfeeding?**

We identified only two trials 99, 104 that reported adverse events related to a breastfeeding

intervention. Both trials were of fair quality and were conducted in Canada. Gagnon and colleagues compared an intervention involving a single postpartum home visit by a nurse with usual care and found no significant difference between the groups in maternal state anxiety scores, as measured by the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory, at 2 weeks postpartum (mean difference=0.3; 95% CI=-0.5-1.1). Dennis and colleagues compared a peer support intervention with usual care and reported that a few mothers in the intervention group expressed feelings of anxiety, decreased confidence, or concerns about confidentiality. For example, one mother requested to discontinue her participation in the intervention, stating that the peer volunteer frightened her about the potential hazards of not breastfeeding and diminished her feelings of confidence, despite the fact that breastfeeding was going well for her. The study did not report any such adverse events among mothers in the control group. Another mother felt her right to confidentiality was violated after her peer volunteer contacted the public health department to request professional assistance without her knowledge.

# **Chapter 4. Discussion**

## **Summary of Evidence**

We included 52 studies that examined the effectiveness of breastfeeding interventions on rates of breastfeeding. A summary of evidence for all key questions is presented in **Table 13**. All of the studies varied widely in terms of their methodological quality, included populations and sample sizes, and the types and timing of the interventions tested.

### **Infant and Maternal Health Outcomes**

Only six studies reported results related to infant health outcomes with mixed effects of the interventions on gastrointestinal outcomes, cases of otitis media, respiratory tract illnesses, and infant healthcare use (KQ1) (**Table 13**). None of the included studies reported the intervention effect on short- or long-term maternal health outcomes, such as postpartum weight loss or the incidence of breast cancer. Despite this limited evidence on the direct effect on health outcomes from our included studies, observational evidence (as described in Chapter 1) supports the link between ever breastfeeding and the duration of any or exclusive breastfeeding and positive infant and maternal health outcomes.

We excluded one study that was included in the original review that reported infant health outcomes. To date, the Promotion of Breastfeeding Intervention Trial (PROBIT) in Belarus is the largest randomized trial (n=17,046) to have evaluated the effects of a system-level breastfeeding promotion intervention on the duration and exclusivity of breastfeeding as well as infant and child outcomes. <sup>141</sup> This study was not included in our review given the limited applicability to US health care given the country of origin. At the conception of this trial (1996-1997), Belarus was chosen rather than a North American or Western European country because maternity practices there reflected those in North America and Western Europe 30 to 40 years ago and therefore would provide greater potential contrast between intervention and control conditions. Participating sites were randomly assigned to an intervention (16 sites) modeled after the BFHI or a usual care control intervention (15 sites). Results from the primary trial data showed that infants born to mothers at the intervention sites were significantly more likely than control infants to be breastfed at 12 months (aOR for weaning at 12 months for intervention versus control: 0.47 [95% CI, 0.32 to 0.69]) and to be exclusively breastfed at both 3 (43.3% versus 6.4%, p<0.001) and 6 months (7.9% versus 0.6%, p=0.01). <sup>141</sup> The intervention also resulted in a significant reduction in the risk of gastrointestinal tract infection (aOR: 0.06 [95% CI, 0.40 to 0.91]) and the incidence of rashes, including atopic eczema (aOR: 0.54 [95%, 0.31 to 0.95]), but resulted in no significant differences the risk of respiratory tract infections or otitis media in the first year of life. 141 At the 6.5-year followup, there was no significant intervention effect among children on body mass index, waist or hip circumference, body fat, risk of overweight or obesity, or systolic or diastolic blood pressure; 142 asthma, allergic symptoms, or allergy diagnoses; 143 dental caries, 144 or children's behavior. 145 Children in the intervention arm, however, had statistically significantly higher scores on cognitive ability tests as well as higher teacherreported reading and writing abilities than did children in the control group at 6.5 years. 146

## **Breastfeeding Outcomes: Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support**

Our updated review found that individual-level breastfeeding support and education interventions increase the relative likelihood of women breastfeeding up to 6 months and exclusively breastfeeding up to and at 6 months relative to those receiving usual care (**Table 13**). Our review failed to find a statistically significant relationship between individual-level breastfeeding interventions and initiation of breastfeeding or any breastfeeding at 6 months. Three trials reported breastfeeding rates at 12 months and none found a significant benefit from the intervention.

The size of the treatment effects varied in their magnitude and precision in different trials, and average treatment effects may not be applicable in different settings. The pooled estimates from over 20 trials suggested an increase in any breastfeeding up to 6 months from 4 to 18 percent and in exclusive breastfeeding up to 6 months from 5 to 38 percent in 18 trials. The average treatment effect for exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months suggested that individual-level interventions can increase the likelihood of exclusive breastfeeding by an average of 16 percent compared with usual care (RR 1.16 [95% CI, 1.02 to 1.32]).

The NNTs for any and exclusive breastfeeding at each time point calculated from a range of "baseline" breastfeeding rates generally indicated that fewer than 30 women would need to be treated to get one more woman breastfeeding in the short term (less than 6 months) and more than 30 women for 6 months (**Appendix C, Table 3**). Among groups of women with higher rates of breastfeeding, the NNT to get one more women breastfeeding is lower. For example, among populations of women where approximately 55 percent of them breastfed from 3 to 6 months, the NNT is only 17. On the other hand, in situations where there are fewer women exclusively breastfeeding at "baseline" (e.g., 5% exclusively breastfeeding at 3 to 6 months or 6 months), more than 100 women would need to receive an intervention to see one more woman exclusively breastfeeding at this time point. In general, the NNTs varied more widely for exclusive breastfeeding than for any breastfeeding.

The relatively modest effect seen within and across trials may well be a result of the breastfeeding support provided as part of standard or usual care within many of these countries and specific clinical settings, and the magnitude of effect should be interpreted as an incremental benefit above usual care. Most studies indicated that there was a good level of breastfeeding support within the birthing facility at or around the time of delivery from hospital staff, including the provision of lactation care providers, but failed to fully describe the minimal support for breastfeeding during the prenatal and postpartum time periods.

Despite high clinical, methodological, and in some cases statistical heterogeneity, there was little evidence that the effects of individual-level interventions varied across different populations or intervention characteristics. The high variability in the interventions' approaches, however, may have masked important relationships. All three types of individual-level interventions (support provided by professionals, support provided by peers, and formal education) were associated with greater rates of any and exclusive breastfeeding compared with usual care. Interventions delivered over more than one time point (provided during the prenatal, and/or peripartum, and/or postpartum periods) may have a larger effect than interventions provided within one time period

(for example, prenatal or postpartum only), but this differential effect was only seen for any breastfeeding at less than 3 months and 3 to 6 months and was not evident for the effects on exclusive breastfeeding. Therefore, this moderation effect should be viewed as exploratory and worth pursuing further, but only if the outcome is clinically meaningful. To help explore whether intervention effects vary by these characteristics, future research should include clear descriptions of the time period or periods that an intervention takes place, the total duration of the intervention, and the number of sessions during each time period.

### **Breastfeeding Outcomes: System-Level Policies and Practices**

We included three studies that evaluated the influence of a system-level policy on the prevalence or duration of breastfeeding and six trials that focused on other system-level maternity care practices (mother-to-baby contact and delayed pacifier use). Two recent good-quality studies found no difference in breastfeeding initiation or breastfeeding at 1 month before or after BFHIaccreditation among women who gave birth in accredited facilities versus women who gave birth in matched, non-accredited facilities. There was some evidence of an effect on initiation and exclusive breastfeeding at 1 month among women with low education (12 or less years of education) but not among all women or women with more than 12 years of education. <sup>107</sup> A number of studies, including one of our included studies, have shown that the actual implementation of the individual steps (or mothers' perception of experiencing these steps) within the BFHI, rather than BFHI accreditation itself, influences rates of breastfeeding. The study by Hawkins and colleagues in Maine found that while mothers giving birth within BFHIaccredited facilities were more likely to report experiencing seven of the 10 BFHI practices (34.6%) than were women delivering at a non-BFHI accredited facility (27.1%), compliance with the practices was relatively low within the accredited facilities in general. Only one practice (step 3, hospital staff gave information about breastfeeding) significantly increased after BFHI accreditation. Other practice rates were not optimal, with only 57 to 87 percent of women giving birth in BFHI facilities reporting these variables. Overall, each additional breastfeeding practice was associated with an average increase in breastfeeding initiation of 14.6 percentage points. <sup>108</sup> Our review found no evidence of a consistent effect of maintaining mother and baby contact following delivery (k=3) or delayed pacifier use (k=3) on the prevalence of breastfeeding initiation or the duration of any or exclusive breastfeeding.

There are a number of other longitudinal evaluations of the BFHI and other system-level policies and practices in the United States and other applicable countries, but they are limited to before-and-after comparisons within single hospitals or retrospective study designs and were not included in our review. <sup>147-151</sup> For example, Philipp and colleagues were among the first to evaluate rates of breastfeeding before and after implementation of Baby-Friendly policies at the Boston Medical Center. They found that rates of breastfeeding initiation and exclusive breastfeeding increased significantly following implementation of Baby-Friendly policies. Breastfeeding initiation increased from 58 percent before implementation to 77.5 percent during implementation and 86.5 percent following implementation (p<0.001) and the increase was seen across all ethnic and socioeconomic groups. For instance, breastfeeding initiation rose from 34 percent prior to implementation to 74 percent after implementation among U.S.-born black mothers. <sup>148</sup> These higher rates of initiation and exclusive breastfeeding were maintained in the 2 years following implementation of the policies. <sup>147</sup> Likewise, in a retrospective before-and-after

design, Corriveau and coauthors found statistically significantly higher rates of initiating exclusive breastfeeding as well as exclusive breastfeeding at 1 week and 2, 4, and 6 months after implementation of a pediatric primary care protocol that included staff training, written policies, on-site lactation consultant support, and community outreach related to breastfeeding support. 150 A retrospective cohort study in Australia found that after adjustment for significant maternal, infant, clinical, and hospital variables, women who gave birth in BFHI-accredited hospitals had significantly *lower* odds of breastfeeding at 1 month compared with women who birthed in nonaccredited facilities. However, women who reported experiencing four in-hospital practices in alignment with the BFHI (early skin-to-skin contact, attempted breastfeeding within the first hour, rooming-in, and no in-hospital supplementation) had higher odds of breastfeeding at 1 and 4 months than did women who reported experiencing fewer than four of these practices. 149 Feldman-Winter and colleagues compared the mean duration of breastfeeding before and after industry-sponsored formula sample packs were no longer distributed to new mothers in one U.S. hospital. 151 Despite finding a longer duration of any breastfeeding among mothers who did not received industry-sponsored formula sample packs than those who did (49% versus 45% of intervention versus control were still breastfeeding at 2.5 months), there was no significant difference in the duration of exclusive breastfeeding up to 10 weeks postpartum. This study highlighted difficulties in implementing system-wide changes as 36 percent of mothers in the intervention group reported receiving infant formula in their discharge bags despite the instructions for staff to remove formula completely.

#### **Adverse Events**

We systematically reviewed the literature for a variety of potential adverse events associated with breastfeeding interventions, including mothers reporting feeling criticized by the interventionist, guilt related to not breastfeeding, increased anxiety about breastfeeding, and increased postpartum depression. Only two of our included studies reported adverse events that mothers experienced related to the intervention and included reports of increased anxiety, feelings of inadequacy, and concerns regarding their family's confidentiality. Although the goals of these interventions focused on initiating and continuing breastfeeding and empowering women to do so, it is important that interventionists respect family's individual decisions.

We did not examine common problems related to the act of breastfeeding itself that may be important determinants of continued breastfeeding, such as cases of mastitis or sore nipples. Interventions to support breastfeeding could either increase these problems (through the increased prevalence of breastfeeding among the population) or decrease these issues (through active management and suggestions for prevention). Given that these breastfeeding-related problems are often the impetus for stopping breastfeeding, <sup>11</sup> it is clear that part of the goal of any intervention should be to help breastfeeding mothers actively prevent and manage these common issues.

## **Applicability to US Health Care**

Only 19 of the 52 included studies took place in the United States. The remaining studies took place in Canada, Australia, Europe, Asia, or South America where we presume the standard of

care for breastfeeding support within the health care system to be quite different from that of the United States. Only five of the studies explicitly said that the intervention was offered in a Baby-Friendly-accredited facility; the other studies reported varying levels of breastfeeding support within usual care. However, most U.S. birth facilities have some policies and practices that support breastfeeding. <sup>152</sup> In 2013, over 85 percent of hospitals responding to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Survey of Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care reported adopting three to eight of the 10 Baby-Friendly recommended policies or practices. Approximately 90 percent of U.S. hospitals reported offering prenatal breastfeeding education, teaching breastfeeding techniques, and/or teaching feeding cues. Post-discharge support, having a model policy, and limiting non-breast milk feeds were less commonly implemented practices (approximately 25% of hospitals reported these practices). Nationally, the percentage of hospitals reporting implementing more than half of the Ten Steps increased from 28.7 percent in 2007 to 53.9 percent in 2013, and this increase was reported across all states. 153 Thus, it is likely that non-BFHI facilities are adopting practices similar to those of BFHI facilities and that usual care in *some* of the included studies could be equivalent to, if not more intense than, the interventions that were offered.

The interventions offered were diverse, (such as group prenatal education sessions, one individual session in the hospital, telephone support, home visits, multiple one-on-one sessions spanning the prenatal and postpartum periods), as were the provisions of usual care.

The rates of any and exclusive breastfeeding with increasing infant age among both intervention and control group participants declined steadily, as we expected. Although the U.S. rate of breastfeeding initiation among these samples was high (70% to 99%), far fewer mothers in these studies continued breastfeeding compared with the national average. In 2012, 51.4 percent of U.S. women reported breastfeeding their 6-month-olds. The rate was identical for Hispanic women only (51.4%) but higher and lower for Non-Hispanic white (55.8%) and non-Hispanic black (35.3%) mothers, respectively. 46 Within the included U.S. trials, only one study among a predominantly white, well-educated sample reported that almost half of the women in both the intervention group (49.7%) and usual care group (48.8%) were breastfeeding at 6 months. <sup>130</sup> The other U.S. trials, which were almost all among predominantly Hispanic and/or non-Hispanic black women intending to breastfeed, reported lower rates of breastfeeding at 6 months. The proportion of women in the control groups reporting breastfeeding at 6 months ranged from 25 to 38 percent. There was no pattern in the relative effects of interventions over time. Some trials affected the breastfeeding rate across time points as infants aged, and some interventions effectively increased the number of women starting to breastfed and in the early weeks but not as infants aged; others demonstrated increasing effectiveness as infants aged (for example, the intervention was effective at 6 but not 3 months). Likewise, there was no clear pattern indicating that the trials affected any but not exclusive breastfeeding and vice versa. These differences may reflect the variety of aims and the intensity of the respective interventions.

The variations in breastfeeding rates emphasize that the act of breastfeeding is not simply a physiologic transfer of nutrients from mother to baby but rather a behavior deeply rooted within a woman's specific social and cultural circumstances. Decisions regarding feeding are likely influenced by a host of factors, including family and social circumstances, the health of the baby as well as other children in the family, the mother's own health needs, previous breastfeeding

experiences, plans for returning to work or school, and the culture in which she lives. Qualitative data have highlighted the need for clinical encounters around breastfeeding to be "family centered" rather than idealistic or goal-oriented and aim to enhance mother's self-efficacy and minimize feelings of guilt and failure. <sup>154-156</sup>

## **Comparison With Other Systematic Reviews**

The results of our current review are consistent with previously published reviews suggesting a small increased relative likelihood of breastfeeding, including exclusive breastfeeding, up to 6 months related to structured individual-level support, including professional or peer support. <sup>52, 66, 157-162</sup> For example, the 2013 review by Haroon and colleagues found that both individual and group counseling interventions resulted in higher rates of exclusive breastfeeding relative to controls at 1 to 6 months (RR, 1.90 [95% CI, 1.54 to 2.34]) within developed and developing countries. <sup>157</sup> Two reviews <sup>160, 163</sup> suggested improved rates of breastfeeding initiation and continuation following system-level breastfeeding interventions such as the BFHI, but noted major limitations to the bodies of evidence and their approach to systematic review. All of these reviews cite similar challenges to this literature base, including the high risk of bias of the included studies, the lack of standardization of breastfeeding outcomes and timing of the assessment, and a dearth of well-conducted trials examining system-level interventions. Four recent Cochrane Collaboration reviews for telephone support, <sup>164</sup> prenatal education, <sup>159</sup> restricted pacifier use, <sup>165</sup> and rooming-in <sup>166</sup> all concluded that there was insufficient good-quality studies from which to draw definitive conclusions regarding the influence of these interventions on breastfeeding outcomes.

## **Limitations of Included Studies**

Several limitations of the included body of evidence deserve special attention. First, most of the studies included a number of threats to internal validity, including possible selection bias, reporting bias, and relatively high attrition. There are unique issues in the design of these trials that relate to recruiting and randomizing pregnant women who may or may not be eligible for the study after giving birth. Some studies reported as much as 25 percent of the randomized sample not being eligible for the in-hospital peripartum or postpartum intervention after delivery because of factors such as infant low birth weight, admission to a neonatal intensive care unit, or breastfeeding contraindications. The baseline characteristics were often presented for the full randomized sample, so it is not clear how comparable the groups were according to the eligible samples. In addition, while most trials did not explicitly state exclusions based on breastfeeding status, it was clear from examining trials' participant flow diagrams that women who reported stopping breastfeeding or never started breastfeeding were not included in the intervention from that point forward. More explicit information regarding participant flow, by treatment arm, through such studies is warranted.

Second, despite several calls over the last three decades for standardizing breastfeeding definitions and indicators for both surveillance and program evaluation, <sup>2, 77, 167-173</sup> there was no uniform reporting of breastfeeding outcomes across the included studies regarding definitions of

breastfeeding and timing of assessments. Most of the studies followed the WHO definition for exclusive breastfeeding, <sup>77</sup> but others used less robust definitions or did not report what counted as exclusive breastfeeding. Few studies specified whether recall was based on the previous 24 hours versus having been exclusively breastfeed since birth. Using 24-hour recall overestimates the proportion of exclusively breastfed infants, as some infants who are given formula irregularly may not have received them the day before the interview. This was evident in one of our included studies that reported rates of exclusive breastfeeding based on three different recall periods. Chapman et al. reported that at 3 months, 25.9, 24.1, and 5.0 percent of women reported exclusive breastfeeding based on the recall periods of the past 24 hours, past week, and since birth, respectively. <sup>98</sup>

In addition, there was a lack of clarity concerning the boundary point for many of the prevalence time points. That is, it was unclear if exclusive breastfeeding reported for 6 months was exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months or exclusive breastfeeding to 6 months, which is technically the recommendation (the introduction of something other than breast milk at or after 6 months among otherwise exclusively breastfed infants). We pooled the results for exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months as was reported in the individual trials, but suspect this technically means the infant was exclusively breastfed up to 6 months (that is, did not receive any milk substitutes, but may have received solids). Also, very few of the studies noted whether their definition of breastfeeding included feeding the infant expressed breast milk in addition to baby-to-breast breastfeeding. We encourage investigators of future studies to note the specific instrument that was used to capture breastfeeding behavior, describe verbatim the questions that were posed to mothers, and to noting the specific definitions (in terms of content and feeding method), recall period, and time point related to the measure. Likewise, while MOST of the studies (31 of 52) stated that they only included women who intended to breastfeed, it was unclear how this was measured and in most cases, how strong these intentions were.

Finally, as mentioned earlier, the comparator in most studies was "usual" or "routine" care. The support given for breastfeeding in these usual care groups, however, was rarely well described, making it difficult to fully interpret the reasons for differences between trials and in interpreting the overall effect. In an instance where "usual care" is very supportive, the numbers needed to detect a statistical difference would need to be inflated. We did note whether the trial setting indicated BFHI accreditation as an indicator of the usual level of breastfeeding support provided to mothers and infants, but very few studies reported this indicator. The wide range of breastfeeding rates within the control groups across studies illuminates the differences that likely exist in the content of usual care within these settings as well as underlying population and cultural differences.

# **Limitations of Our Approach**

There are also limitations to our methods that should be noted. We restricted our review to fair-and good-quality RCTs and before-after designs with concurrent control groups to reduce the potential for confounding and other sources of bias. Even with somewhat liberal standards for judging the risk of bias for this complex literature base, we excluded 33 trials for poor quality, several of which were included in the original USPSTF review. The studies excluded for

poor quality were fraught with issues related to confounding, selective recall bias, differential loss-to-followup, and handling of missing data as well as for poor or incomplete reporting of results. Given the quantity of these studies we did not contrast their findings with our included studies.

To calculate within-study risk ratios and in our pooled meta-analyses, we chose to use the raw event rates and total number of women randomized. Therefore, our analyses did not control for potential confounding factors such as socioeconomic status, employment status, education level, parity, or previous breastfeeding experience. We compared our crude relative estimates to any study-reported unadjusted and adjusted estimates and noted any differences within the narrative of our results.

Two of our funnel plots presented asymmetry and the tests for small-study effects were significant. There are a number of possible explanations for these results, including publication bias, poor methodological quality leading to spuriously inflated effects in the smaller studies, true heterogeneity in the size of the effects, and chance.

We did not systematically review the relationship between ever versus never breastfeeding or the duration of any or exclusive breastfeeding and short- and long-term child or maternal health outcomes. Thus, we did not complete the entire chain of evidence. We instead focused only on the direct evidence related to interventions to increase breastfeeding and health outcomes. The evidence on the associations between breastfeeding and health outcomes was previously systematically reviewed <sup>12</sup> and was found to adequately support the USPSTF recommendation. We informally reviewed more recent evidence from existing systematic reviews as part of our introduction; however, a systematic update might have revealed more data than we found.

Our review was limited to studies taking place in countries listed as "very high" on the 2014 United Nations Human Development Index to ensure that the evidence was applicable to a US setting. This index is based on three key indicators – life expectancy, education, and standard of living – rather than on economic growth alone. Relying on alternative lists for country level of development (e.g., the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD] member countries, the World Bank classifications by gross national income) may have resulted in a slightly different list of included countries and therefore, slightly different included studies. We also limited the review to studies conducted within, in conjunction with, or referable from a health care setting. We did not include interventions taking place within worksites or other community settings. We acknowledge, however, that other non-health care settings may play very important roles in a woman's decision to start and breastfeeding her child and her ability to continue.

## **Future Research Needs**

Several areas warrant further research in light of the results of this review. In general, future research on breastfeeding interventions in the clinical setting should be more rigorously conducted, with adequate sample sizes, clear descriptions of the included populations including women's breastfeeding status at the time of recruitment, intentions to breastfeed, previous

experience breastfeeding, and sociodemographic characteristics. Future trials should also describe in detail the characteristics of the both the intervention and control arms, including the extent to which usual care is supportive of breastfeeding (for example, BFHI accreditation or not, staff trained in breastfeeding or not). In order to compare breastfeeding outcomes between various studies, it would be helpful to standardize the reporting of breastfeeding rates at critical time points. Given the recommendations for exclusive breastfeeding up to 6 months and any breastfeeding for at least 1 year, rates of exclusive breastfeeding and any breastfeeding should be measured at these points, at a minimum. In addition, studies should include a detailed description of how breastfeeding was measured (for example, via self-report or based on clinical records, definition of any and exclusive breastfeeding used, and recall period). Only one of our included trials included a measure of partial breastfeeding or breastfeeding "intensity" based on the proportion of feeds that were breastmilk; future research should consider this more nuanced breastfeeding indicator to further distinguish the effects of breastfeeding interventions.<sup>2</sup> Trials should also include reliable and valid measures of infant and maternal health outcomes and be powered to detect potential effects on these outcomes. Likewise, studies should further explore maternal satisfaction with the intervention and any potential negative feelings or feelings of inadequacy that could result from the intervention if mothers choose not to or are unable to breastfeed.

More research is also needed to better understand the root causes of breastfeeding disparities and how they can be addressed through health care and community interventions. We did not identify any trials evaluating interventions targeting Native Americans and found only few that specifically targeted non-Hispanic black women. These women show marked differences in their rates of breastfeeding initiation and continuation, particularly for exclusive breastfeeding where only a third of black women and a quarter of American Indian/Alaska Native women reported exclusively breastfeeding through 3 months. It is evident that effective interventions tailored to the unique barriers for these women deserve increased attention.

There is also a need for more adequately controlled studies that evaluate the impact of system-level changes on rates of breastfeeding, including comparing birth facilities that are BFHI-accredited or are implementing the full suite (or majority) of policies required of BFHI accreditation versus those who are not adopting any or very few of the 10 steps required for accreditation

Our review included no fair- or good-quality trials that used internet- or other computer-based interventions to increase the proportion of new mothers initiating breastfeeding or continuing to breastfeed. There is a wealth of web-based resources for parents regarding infant health and development, including breastfeeding. However, the effectiveness of these resources as a forum for educating new families and supporting those who have started breastfeeding remains understudied. These resources have the potential to reach large numbers of women at low cost and at the mother's convenience. Numerous informational websites, web-based videos, and web-based applications related to tracking breastfeeding sessions, establishing proper breastfeeding techniques, managing common breastfeeding-related issues, preparing for going back to work or school, and connecting with other moms and lactation care providers through discussion forums are available, such as latchME, Breastfeeding Central, Kellymom. These sites could be widely promoted or disseminated through health care providers if there were found to influence the

duration or exclusivity of breastfeeding.

We identified 10 ongoing studies that may be relevant for updates of this review, including three trials taking place in the United States (**Appendix D**).

### Conclusion

The body of fair-to-good quality evidence on the effectiveness of individual- and system-level interventions to support breastfeeding has nearly doubled since the previous USPSTF recommendation in 2009. Although there was substantial variation between the settings, participants, and interventions among the included studies, there is consistent evidence that individual-level support and education interventions that take place during the prenatal, peripartum, and/or postpartum periods can increase the prevalence of breastfeeding, including exclusive breastfeeding, for up to 6 months. Interventions provided by both professionals as well as peers were effective. There is limited evidence from well-controlled studies of the effect of system-level policies and maternity care practices on rates of breastfeeding. Finally, there is a large need for more research on these system-level interventions as well as interventions among population subgroups for which breastfeeding rates lag behind national goals.

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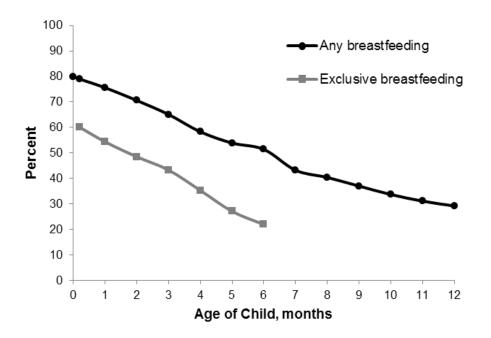
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Figure 1. Rates of Any and Exclusive Breastfeeding by Age Among Children Born in the United States in  $2012^{46}$ 



 $Source: http://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/nis\_data/index.htm$ 

Figure 2. Analytic Framework

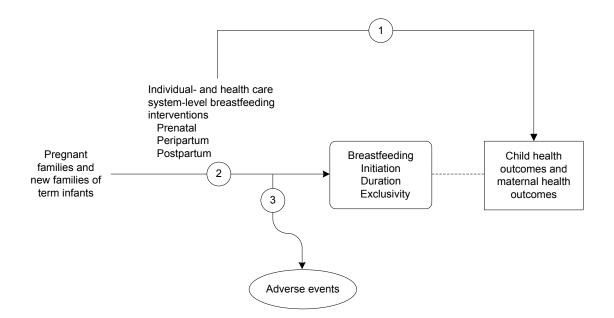
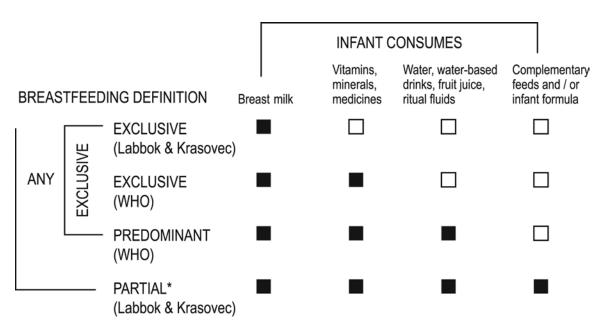


Figure 3. Definitions of Breastfeeding<sup>2,77</sup>



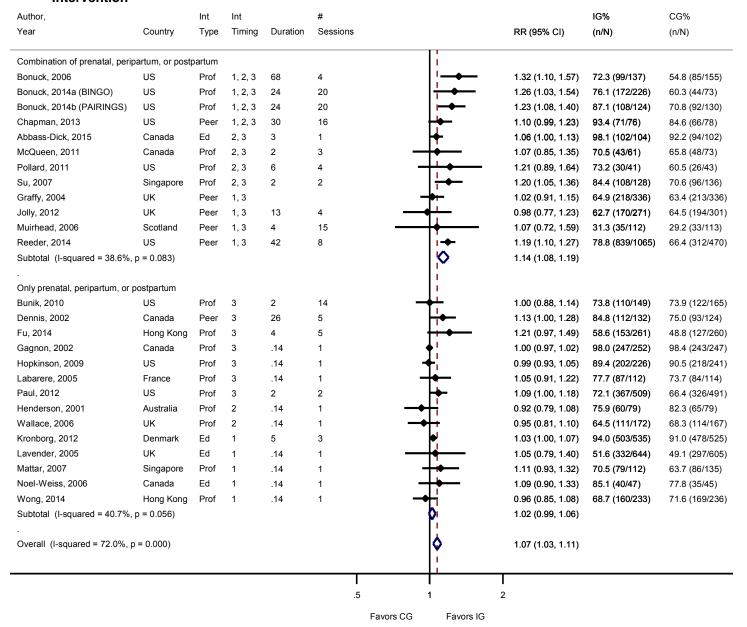
\*Partial breastfeeding includes high intensity (>80% of feeds are breastfeeds), medium intensity (20-80% of feeds are breastfeeds), low intensity (<20% of feeds are breastfeeds), and token breastfeeding (i.e., minimal, occasional, irregular breastfeeds)

Figure 4. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Any Breastfeeding Initiation Among Adults, by Author

Author,		Int	Intending				IG%	CG%
Year	Country	Туре	to BF			RR (95% CI)	(n/N)	(n/N)
Anderson, 2005	US	Peer	100		-	1.14 (0.97, 1.34)	87.3 (55/63)	76.4 (55/72)
Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO)	US	Prof	87.6		<b> -</b>	1.08 (1.00, 1.18)	96.5 (218/226)	89.0 (65/73)
Bonuck, 2014b (PAIRINGS)	US	Prof	94.3		+	1.04 (0.99, 1.09)	98.4 (122/124)	94.6 (123/130)
Chapman, 2013	US	Peer	100	•	<b> </b>	1.00 (0.96, 1.04)	98.7 (75/76)	98.7 (77/78)
Forster, 2004	Australia	Ed	92.5	•	-	0.99 (0.95, 1.02)	94.5 (291/308)	95.8 (297/310)
Graffy, 2004	UK	Peer	96.9	•	1	0.99 (0.96, 1.02)	95.2 (320/336)	96.4 (324/336)
Jolly, 2012	UK	Peer	81.4	_	-	1.01 (0.91, 1.12)	69.0 (747/1083)	68.1 (896/1315)
Kellams, 2015	US	Ed	67.4	_	-	1.01 (0.90, 1.13)	69.9 (174/249)	69.4 (172/248)
Kools, 2005	Netherlands	Prof	68.3	<b>→</b>	<u> </u>	0.95 (0.80, 1.14)	68.5 (254/371)	72.1 (238/330)
Kronborg, 2012	Denmark	Ed	NR	•	}	0.98 (0.96, 1.00)	96.6 (533/552)	98.3 (529/538)
Lavender, 2005	UK	Ed	100	_	<b>├</b>	1.05 (0.90, 1.22)	80.0 (515/644)	76.5 (463/605)
Muirhead, 2006	Scotland	Peer	51.6		<b>—</b>	1.03 (0.81, 1.31)	54.5 (61/112)	53.1 (60/113)
Wen, 2011	Australia	Prof	NR	-	-	1.00 (0.96, 1.05)	92.6 (312/337)	92.1 (304/330)
Wong, 2014	Hong Kong	Prof	100		-	1.02 (0.97, 1.07)	94.4 (220/233)	92.4 (218/236)
Overall (I-squared = 22.8%,	p = 0.206)			(		1.00 (0.99, 1.02)		
				I		I		
				5	1	2		
				Favors CG	Favors IG			

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; BF = breastfeeding; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; NR = not reported; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

Figure 5. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Any Breastfeeding at <3 Months Among Adults, by Timing of Intervention\*

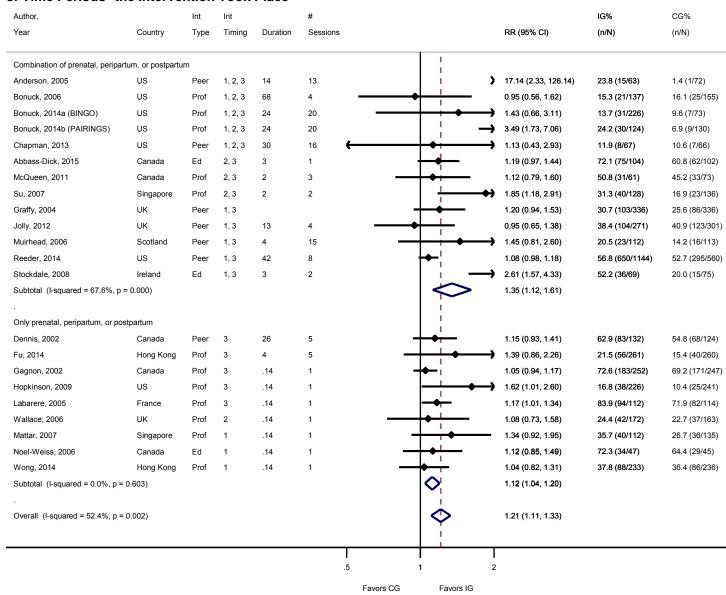


Significant difference in risk ratios between groups (b=1.11, SE=0.03, p=0.001, 95% CI [1.05, 1.17])

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; int = intervention; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; SE = standard error; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>\*</sup> Interventions that took place over a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum periods versus interventions that only took place during the prenatal or peripartum or postpartum time periods.

Figure 6. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Exclusive Breastfeeding at <3 Months Among Adults, by Number of Time Periods\* the Intervention Took Place

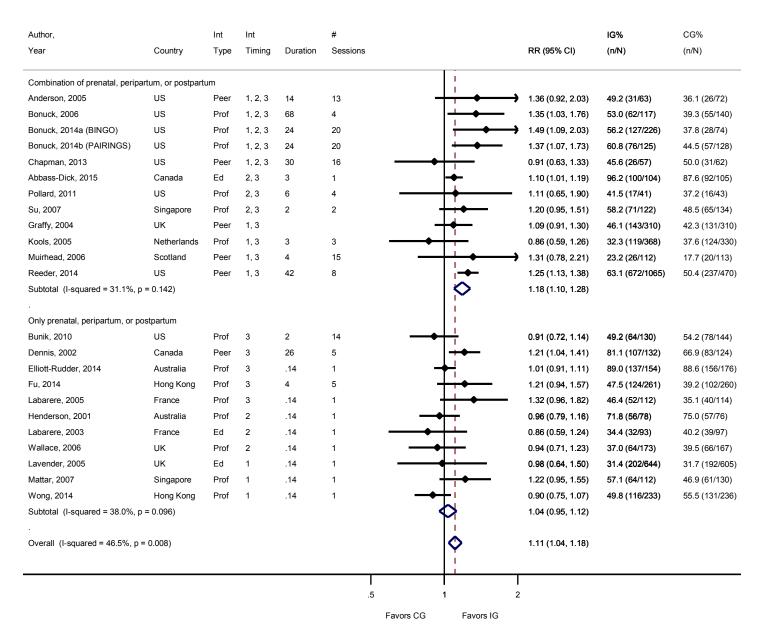


No significant difference in risk ratios between groups (b=1.08, SE=0.11, p=0.424, 95% CI [0.88, 1.34])

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; int = intervention; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; SE = standard error; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>\*</sup> Interventions that took place over a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum periods versus interventions that only took place during the prenatal or peripartum or postpartum time periods.

Figure 7. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Any Breastfeeding at 3 to 6 Months Among Adults, by Number of Time Periods\* the Intervention Took Place

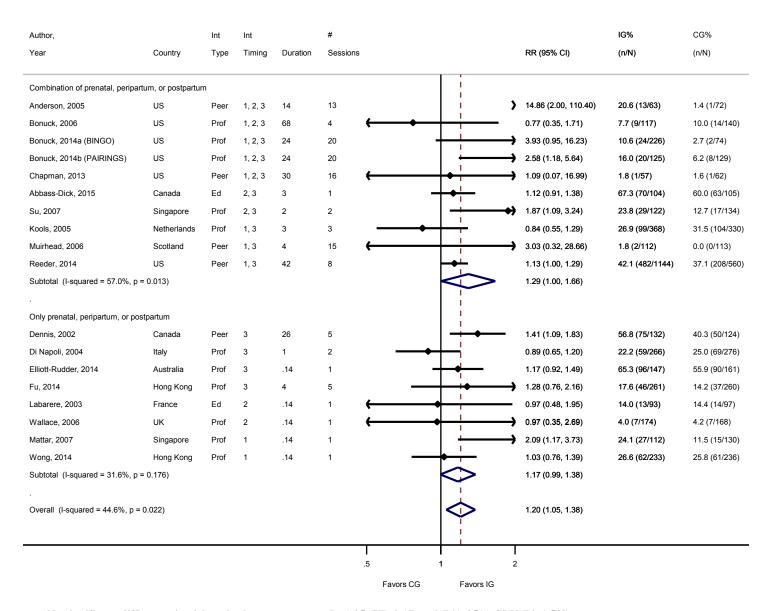


Significant difference in risk ratios between groups (b=1.14, SE=0.06, p=0.026, 95% CI [1.02, 1.29])

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; int = intervention; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; SE = standard error; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>\*</sup> Interventions that took place over a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum periods versus interventions that only took place during the prenatal or peripartum or postpartum time periods

Figure 8. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Exclusive Breastfeeding at 3 to 6 Months Among Adults, by Number of Time Periods\* the Intervention Took Place

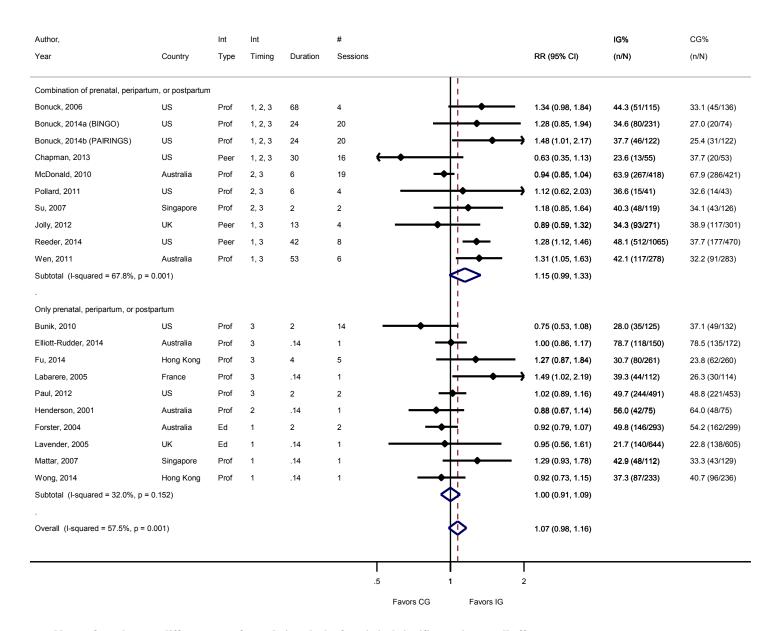


No significant difference in risk ratios between groups (b=1.05, SE=0.17, p=0.761, 95% CI [0.74, 1.50])

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; int = intervention; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; SE = standard error; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>\*</sup> Interventions that took place over a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum periods versus interventions that only took place during the prenatal or peripartum or postpartum time periods

Figure 9. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Any Breastfeeding at 6 Months Among Adults, by Timing of Intervention\*

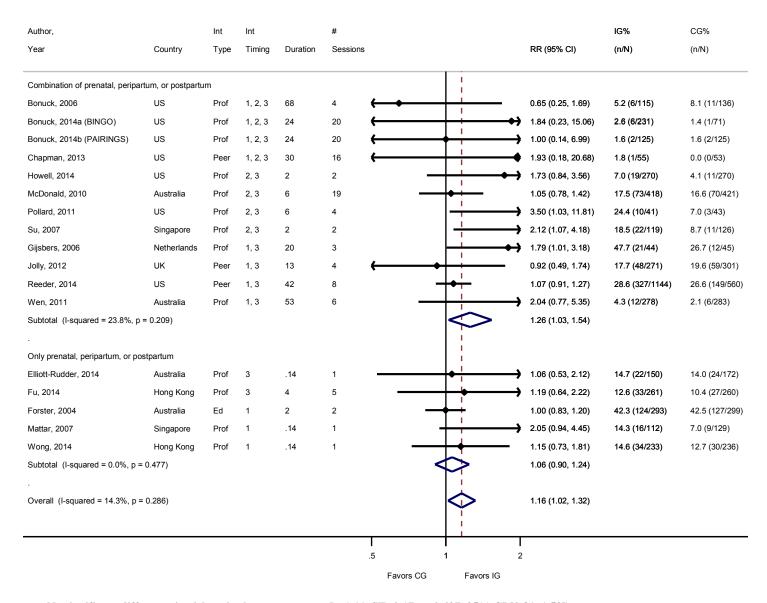


No test for subgroup differences performed given lack of statistical significance in overall effect.

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; int = intervention; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; SE = standard error; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>\*</sup> Interventions that took place over a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum periods versus interventions that only took place during the prenatal or peripartum or postpartum time periods.

Figure 10. Forest Plot of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions Compared With Usual Care for Exclusive Breastfeeding at 6 Months Among Adults, by Timing of Intervention\*



No significant difference in risk ratios between groups (b=1.11, SE=0.17, p=0.497, 95% CI [0.81, 1.53])

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; CG = control group; Ed = education; IG = intervention group; int = intervention; n = number; N = number analyzed; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; Peer = peer support; Prof = professional support; RR = risk ratio; SE = standard error; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>\*</sup> Interventions that took place over a combination of prenatal, peripartum, or postpartum periods versus interventions that only took place during the prenatal or peripartum or postpartum time periods.

#### Table 1. WHO/UNICEF 10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding

- 1. Have a written breastfeeding policy that is routinely communicated to all health care staff.
- 2. Train all health care staff in skills necessary to implement this policy.
- 3. Inform all pregnant women about the benefits and management of breastfeeding.
- 4. Help mothers initiate breastfeeding within one hour of birth.
- 5. Show mothers how to breastfeed, and how to maintain lactation even if they should be separated from their infants.
- 6. Give newborn infants no food or drink other than breast milk, unless medically indicated.
- 7. Practice rooming in (allow mothers and infants to remain together) 24 hours a day.
- 8. Encourage breastfeeding on demand.
- 9. Give no artificial teats or pacifiers (also called dummies or soothers) to breastfeeding infants.\*
- 10. Foster the establishment of breastfeeding support groups and refer mothers to them on discharge from the hospital or clinic.
- \*The AAP does not support a categorical ban on pacifiers because of their role in sudden infant death risk reduction and their analgesic benefit during painful procedures when breastfeeding cannot provide the analgesia. Pacifier use in the hospital in the neonatal period should be limited to specific medical indications such as pain reduction and calming in a drug-exposed infant, for example. Mothers of healthy term breastfed infants should be instructed to delay pacifier use until breastfeeding is well-established, usually about 3 to 4 weeks after birth.<sup>4</sup>

Table 2. Healthy People 2020 Objectives<sup>10</sup> for Breastfeeding and Current Prevalence<sup>46</sup>

	2012 Overall Prevalence (%)								
Objective	2020 Target (%)	U.S. National	Maternal age less than 20 years	White§	Black§	Hispanic	Asian§	Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander§	American Indian/ Alaska Native§
Any breastfeeding*									
Ever <sup>T</sup>	81.9	80.0	58.6	83.0	66.4	82.4	83.2	83.9	71.5
At 6 months	66.6	51.4	17.4	55.8	35.3	51.4	65.6	32.6	28.8
At 1 year	34.1	29.2	4.3	32.8	16.9	27.9	42.3	14.4	17.9
Exclusive breastfeeding‡ Through 3 months	46.2	43.3	28.3	48.0	33.4	40.3	46.5	43.3	27.4
Through 6 months	25.5	21.9	8.0	24.4	13.9	20.8	26.9	11.8	12.5
Reduce the proportion of breastfed newborns who receive formula supplementation within the first 2 days of life	14.2	19.1							
Increase the proportion of live births that occur in facilities that provide recommended care for lactating mothers and their babies	8.1	14.1 <sup>9</sup>				<u></u>			

<sup>\*</sup> Any breastfeeding or being fed breast milk

<sup>†</sup> Ever breastfed or fed breast milk

<sup>‡</sup> Child receives no solids, water, or other liquids.

<sup>§</sup> Non-Hispanic

Table 3. Association Between Breastfeeding and Infant/Child Outcomes

	Evidence from 2007 AHRQ EHC Report*			Recent Evidence from Existing Systematic Reviews				
Infant outcome	k	Breastfeeding Comparison	Pooled Adjusted OR (95% CI)	k	Breastfeeding Comparison	Pooled OR (95% CI)		
	2 <sup>12</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.77 (0.64, 0.91)	5 <sup>17</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.67 (0.56, 0.80)		
Acute otitis media	3 <sup>12</sup>	Exclusive ≥3 mo or ≥6 mo vs. never	0.50 (0.36, 0.70)	5 <sup>17</sup>	Exclusive 6 mo vs. non- exclusive	0.57 (0.44, 0.75)		
			0.73 (0.59, 0.92) <sup>†</sup>	13 <sup>24</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.88 (0.82, 0.95)		
Asthma	18 <sup>12</sup>	≥3 mo vs. never	0.73 (0.39, 0.92)	13 <sup>24</sup>	Exclusive >3 or 4 mo vs. <3 mo	0.94 (0.69, 1.29)		
Atonio dormatitio	18 <sup>26</sup>	Exclusive ≥3 mo vs. <3	0.58 (0.41, 0.92) <sup>‡</sup>	6 <sup>24§§</sup>	≥3-4 mo vs. "other"	0.74 (0.57, 0.97)		
Atopic dermatitis	10	mo	0.56 (0.41, 0.92)	17 <sup>24§§</sup>	"More" vs. "less"	0.95 (0.85, 1.07)""		
Cardiovascular risk factors: Systolic blood pressure	24 <sup>190</sup>	Ever vs. never	NR <sup>††</sup>	18 <sup>21</sup>	Ever vs. never	-0.70 mm/Hg (-1.18, - 0.21) <sup>¶¶</sup>		
Cardiovascular risk factors: Diastolic blood pressure	23 <sup>190</sup>	Ever vs. never	NR <sup>††</sup>	19 <sup>21</sup>	Ever vs. never	-0.34 mm/Hg (-0.76, 0.09) <sup>¶¶</sup>		
Cardiovascular risk factors: Cholesterol	37 <sup>191</sup>	Ever vs. never	NR <sup>#</sup>	26 <sup>21</sup>	Ever vs. never	-0.01 mmol/L (-0.05, 0.02) <sup>¶¶</sup>		
Childhood loukomia	3 <sup>12</sup>	≤6 mo vs. never	0.91 <sup>§</sup> (0.83, 1.00)	18 <sup>15</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.89 (0.84, 0.94)		
Childhood leukemia	3 <sup>12</sup>	>6 mo vs. never	0.80 <sup>§</sup> (0.71, 0.91)	18 <sup>15</sup>	≥6 mo vs. <6 mo	0.81 (0.73, 0.89)		
Cognitive development	48 <sup>12</sup>	Ever vs. never	NR <sup>¶</sup>	17 <sup>22##</sup>	Varied by study; 7/17 included studies were ever vs. never	3.44 points (2.30, 4.58) <sup>¶¶</sup>		
Diabetes mellitus:	17 <sup>30</sup>	Ever vs. never	NR**	14 <sup>18</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.81 (0.72, 0.92)		
Type 1	17 <sup>30</sup>	<3 mo vs. ≥3 mo	1.23 <sup>§</sup> (1.12, 1.35)	28 <sup>18</sup>	≥2 wk vs <2 wk	0.93 (0.81, 1.07)		
Diabetes mellitus: Type 2	7 <sup>31</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.61 (0.44, 0.85)	11 <sup>21</sup>	Varied	0.65 (0.49, 0.86)		
Gastrointestinal infection	14 <sup>27</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.36 (0.32, 0.41)	2 <sup>23</sup>	Never vs. ever	1.32 (1.06, 1.63)***		
Lower respiratory tract infection	7 <sup>29</sup>	Exclusive ≥4 mo vs. never	0.28  (0.14, 0.54)	No updated evidence synthesis identified				
Obesity	9 <sup>32</sup>	Varied <sup>‡‡</sup>	0.78 (0.71, 0.85)	113 <sup>21</sup>	Varied	0.74 (0.70, 0.78)		
	Ü	varied	,	26 <sup>21</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.77 (0.69, 0.86)		
SIDS	7 <sup>12</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.64 (0.51, 0.81)	20 <sup>14</sup>	Varied	NR <sup>†††</sup>		
All-cause mortality		Ever vs. never		2 <sup>25</sup>	None vs. partial (infants 0 to 5 mo)	3.89 (2.28, 6.65) <sup>‡‡‡</sup>		
	1 <sup>12</sup>		0.79 (0.67, 0.93)	4 <sup>25</sup>	None vs. partial (infants 6 to 11 mo)	1.76 (1.28, 2.41) <sup>‡‡‡</sup>		
				6 <sup>25</sup>	None vs. partial (children 12 to 23 mo)	1.97 (1.45, 2.67) <sup>‡‡‡</sup>		

<sup>\*</sup> The 2007 AHRQ EHC Report<sup>12</sup> was based on original or updated systematic reviews as well as a review of existing systematic reviews or meta-analyses. We note the citation for the source of the data for each outcome alongside the number of studies

<sup>†</sup> Among those without a family history

### Table 3. Association Between Breastfeeding and Infant/Child Outcomes

- ‡ Among those with a family history
- § Unadjusted
- | Hospitalization for lower respiratory tract infection
- ¶ Authors concluded there was little or no evidence for an association between breastfeeding in infancy and cognitive performance in childhood based on qualitative synthesis
- # Authors concluded the relationships between breastfeeding and adult cholesterol levels, cardiovascular disease (CVD) mortality, or ischemic heart disease (IHD) mortality cannot be characterized due to limited data
- \*\* For risk of type I diabetes for breastfeeding less than 3 months versus3 months or more
- †† Authors concluded an association between history of breastfeeding and small reduction in adult blood pressure exists, but the clinical or public health implication of the finding is unclear
- ‡‡The pooled adjusted odds ratio of obesity was 0.76 (95% CI, 0.64 to 0.86) in studies comparing ever to never breastfeeding (number of studies not reported) versus 0.74 (95% CI, 0.64 to 0.85) in studies that used other comparisons (number of studies not reported).
- §§ Eczema/atopic dermatitis
- II In children less than 2 years of age; ORs also reported for children older than 2 years
- ¶¶ Mean effect
- ## Studies in this review were limited to those with the specific outcome of performance on intelligence tests
- \*\*\* Risk ratio for the effect of not breastfeeding as compared to any breastfeeding on diarrhea incidence among infants 6 to 11 months of age
- ††† Pooled odds ratio not reported. Breastfeeding was reported to have a protective effect on SIDS in 10 of 17 observational studies as well as 3 of 3 meta-analyses included in the review
- ‡‡‡ Reported as risk ratio

**Abbreviations:** AHRQ = Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; CI = confidence interval; EHC = Effective Healthcare Program; k = number of studies; L = liter; mm/Hg = millimeter of mercury; mmol = micromole; mo = month; NR = not reported; OR = odds ratio; SIDS = Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; vs. = versus; wk = week.

**Table 4. Association Between Breastfeeding and Maternal Health Outcomes** 

	Evid	dence from 2007 AHRQ E	HC Report*		Recent Evidence from Existing Systematic Reviews				
Motornal autoomo	l.	Breastfeeding	Pooled OR		l <sub>e</sub>	Breastfeeding	Pooled OR		
Maternal outcome	K	Comparison	(95% CI)	10	K	Comparison	(95% CI)		
Breast cancer	47 <sup>39</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.96 <sup>†</sup> (99% SE 0.2,	98 <sup>19</sup>		Ever vs. never	0.78 (0.74, 0.82)		
			p=0.04)				•		
	23 <sup>38</sup>	Lifetime BF >12	0.72 (0.65, 0.80)	50 <sup>19</sup>		Lifetime BF ≥12 mo vs.	0.74 (0.69, 0.79)		
		mo vs. never	,			never	•		
Ovarian cancer	9 <sup>12</sup>	Ever vs. never	0.79 <sup>†</sup> (0.68, 0.91)	41 <sup>19</sup>		Ever vs. never	0.70 (0.64, 0.77)		
	6 <sup>12</sup>	Lifetime BF ≥12	0.72 <sup>†</sup> (0.54, 0.97)	29 <sup>19</sup>		Lifetime BF ≥12 mo vs.	0.63 (0.56, 0.71)		
		mo vs. never				never			
Diabetes mellitus: Type 2	2 <sup>12</sup>	Ever vs. never	NR <sup>‡</sup>	6 <sup>16</sup>		"Longer" vs. "shorter" duration of lifetime BF	0.68 (0.57, 0.82)		

<sup>\*</sup>The 2007 AHRQ EHC Report<sup>12</sup> was based on original or updated systematic reviews as well as a review of existing systematic reviews or meta-analyses. We note the citation for the source of the data for each outcome alongside the number of studies.

**Abbreviations:** AHRQ = Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; BF = breastfeeding; CI = confidence interval; EHC = Effective Healthcare Program k = number of studies; mo = month; NR = not reported; OR = odds ratio; SE = standard error; vs = versus.

<sup>†</sup> Adjusted risk ratio reported

<sup>‡</sup> Longer duration of lifetime breastfeeding was associated with reduced risk of developing type 2 diabetes among parous women without a history of gestational diabetes in two large U.S. cohort studies.

**Table 5. Interventions to Support or Promote Breastfeeding** 

Intervention	Types	Examples				
Individual-level support and	Professional support	One-to-one support during hospital stay or outpatient visits, home visits, or telephone support from health professionals				
education	Peer support	Peer counseling or social support from peers or lay persons				
	Formal or structured education	Structured education sessions or classes directed at mothers or other family members (workshops, didactic teaching session, booklets), typically provided in group sessions				
System-level policies and	Policies, programs, and staff training	Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, implementation of a new policy or protocol, or training of health professionals				
practices	Other maternity care practices	Encouragement of skin-to-skin contact,† rooming-in,‡ restricted pacifier use, distribution of breast pumps				

<sup>†</sup>After birth, the newborn is weighed and then immediately placed naked in a prone position between the mother's breasts until the mother chooses to stop the contact or the newborn seems to be ready for feeding.

<sup>‡</sup> The hospital practice where postnatal mothers with healthy infants (including those born by caesarean section) stay together in the same room 24 hours a day, from the time they arrive in their room after delivery. They remain together until discharge unless there is a specific medical indication which warrants separation. During rooming-in the infant is placed close to the mother by bed-sharing, an attached side-car crib, or a stand-alone cot by her bedside.

Table 6. Study and Population Characteristics for All Studies, by Author

Author, Year, Quality	Country	n Rand	Key Inclusion Criteria	Primiparous (%)	Previously Breastfed (%)*	Currently BF	Intending to BF (%)	Population Characteristics
Abbass-Dick, 2015 <sup>90</sup> Good	Canada	214	≥18 years old; primiparous; exclusively breastfeeding in hospital and intending to breastfeed >12 weeks; living with male partner who is available to participate in study	100	NA	Y	100 <sup>†</sup>	Predominantly well educated (72.9% attended university), race/ethnicity NR
Anderson, 2005 <sup>91</sup> Fair	US	182	≥18 years old; considering breastfeeding; living in a household earning <185% of the federal poverty level	51.9	40	N	100	Predominantly inner city, Hispanic (71.9%), low- income, not married or cohabiting
Bonuck, 2006 <sup>93</sup> Fair	US	382	Not on chronic therapy with medications incompatible with breastfeeding	39.8	42.4	N	76.6	Predominantly low-income Hispanic (56.6%) or black (36.2%), 39.3% foreign- born
Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup> Good	US	666	≥18 years old	39.2	45.2	N	87.6	Predominantly urban, low- income Hispanic (56.8%) or black (28.5%)
Bonuck, 2014b (PAIRINGS) <sup>92</sup> Good	US	275	≥18 years old	43.5	49.2	N	94.3	Predominantly Hispanic (55.7%) or black (28.2%)
Bunik, 2010 <sup>95</sup> Fair	US	341	≥18 years old; willing to consider breastfeeding	100	NA	N	100	Predominantly low-income, Spanish-speaking (65.1%), Hispanic (87.7%)
Carfoot, 2005 <sup>96</sup> Fair	UK	204	Intending to breastfeed; did not request either skin-to-skin contact or no skin-to-skin contact after delivery	43.6	48.0	N	100	NR
Carlsen, 2013 <sup>97</sup> Fair	Denmark	226	Infant postnatal age <48 hours; began breastfeeding at start of intervention and intending to continue; history of breast surgery; pre- pregnancy BMI ≥30 kg/m²	60.4	NR	Y	100	Obese; demographic data sparse; race/ethnicity NR
Chapman, 2013 <sup>98</sup> Fair	US	206	≥18 years old; considering breastfeeding; prepregnancy BMI ≥27.0; income <185% of federal poverty level	NR	NR	N	100	Overweight or obese, predominantly low-income and unemployed Hispanic (81.8%), 50% of Puerto Rican origin

Table 6. Study and Population Characteristics for All Studies, by Author

Author, Year, Quality	Country	n Rand	Key Inclusion Criteria	Primiparous (%)	Previously Breastfed (%)*	Currently BF	Intending to BF (%)	Population Characteristics
Dennis, 2002 <sup>99</sup> Fair	Canada	258	≥16 years old; currently breastfeeding in the hospital; primiparous	100	NA	Y	99.6	Well educated (74.6% at least college education), race/ethnicity NR
Di Meglio, 2010 <sup>100</sup> Fair	US	78	<21 years old; currently breastfeeding (1 day postpartum)	87.2	9.0	Υ	70.8 <sup>‡</sup>	Young adults (<21 years), predominantly low-income black (50.0%) or white (47.4%)
Di Napoli, 2004 <sup>101</sup> Fair	Italy	605	Began breastfeeding at start of intervention and intending to continue	44.3	37.2	Y	100	Well educated (61.0% high school or college degree), race/ethnicity NR
Edwards, 2013 <sup>102</sup> Fair	US	248	<21 years old; not planning on having a Cesarean section	88.7	NR	N	62.1	Young adults (<21 years), low-income African American, predominantly currently in school (54.4%) and residing with parent (78.2%)
Elliott-Rudder, 2014 <sup>80</sup> Good	Australia	330	Currently breastfeeding for ≥8 weeks; planning to receive postnatal care at a participating general practice	36.2	44.1	Y	NR	Currently breastfeeding for ≥8 weeks, well educated (53.1% college degree or higher), race/ethnicity NR
Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup>	Australia	984	Primiparous	100	NA	N	92.5	Low-income, culturally diverse, sparse demographic data
Fu, 2014 <sup>82</sup> Fair	Hong Kong	724	≥18 years old; primiparous; Hong Kong Chinese; intending to breastfeed	100	NA	N	100	Hong Kong Chinese
Gagnon, 2002 <sup>104</sup> Fair	Canada	586	Participating in hospital's short stay program; infant breastfed at least once in the hospital	32.6	NR	Y	89.1 <sup>‡</sup>	General, race/ethnicity NR
Gijsbers, 2006 <sup>84</sup> Fair	Netherlands	91	≥1 first-degree relative had asthma that had been diagnosed by a doctor	41.6	53.9	N	86.5	Family history of asthma, well educated (53.9% highest level of secondary education or university), race/ethnicity NR
Gouchon, 2010 <sup>105</sup> Fair	Italy	36	Scheduled for elective Cesarean section	23.5	58.8	N	NR	General, race/ethnicity NR
Graffy, 2004 <sup>106</sup> Fair	UK	720	Considering breastfeeding; had not breast fed a previous child for 6 weeks or more	74.9	NR	N	96.9	General, predominantly white (69.7%)

Table 6. Study and Population Characteristics for All Studies, by Author

Author, Year, Quality	Country	n Rand	Key Inclusion Criteria	Primiparous (%)	Previously Breastfed (%)*	Currently BF	Intending to BF (%)	Population Characteristics
Hawkins, 2014a <sup>107</sup> Good	us	25,32 7	Gave birth at BFHI-accredited hospital (or non-accredited for CG) in Alaska, Maine, Nebraska, Ohio, or Washington during 1999-2009	41.9	NR	NR	NR	General, predominantly white (50.7%)
Hawkins, 2014b <sup>108</sup> Good	US	2,014	Gave birth at BFHI-accredited hospital (or non-accredited for CG) in Maine during 2004-2008	NR	NR	NR		General, predominantly white (95.6%)
Henderson, 2001 <sup>109</sup>	Australia	160	Primiparous; planning on breastfeeding	100	NA	Y	100	General, race/ethnicity NR
Good Hoddinott, 2009 <sup>110</sup> Good	Scotland	17,48 2	Pregnant or breastfeeding; registered at participating general practices in 2002	NR	NR	NR	NR	Predominantly living in deprived areas **
Hopkinson, 2009 <sup>111</sup>	US	522	Mixed feeding in the hospital	NR	NR	Y	NR	Majority (98%) born in Mexico or Central America
Good Howard, 2003 <sup>112</sup> Good	US	807	Intending to breastfeed for ≥4 weeks; undecided about or wanted their infants to use a pacifier	39.3	54.0	N	100	Predominantly white (86.6%), employed (77.1%), expectant father lives in household (91.0%)
Howell, 2014 <sup>114</sup> Fair	US	540	≥18 years old; black or Hispanic	40.7	NR	N	NR	Black (37.6%) or Hispanic (62.4%), predominantly low-income and welleducated (54.0% some college or more)
Jenik, 2009 <sup>115</sup> Good	Argentina	1,021	Exclusively breastfeeding at 2 weeks; intending to breastfeed for ≥3 months; not using pacifiers	NR	41.0	Y	100	Predominantly or exclusively Hispanic ††
Jolly, 2012 <sup>83</sup> Fair	UK	2,724	Estimated delivery date in study period	34.4	46.1	N	81.4	Predominantly of Asian or Middle Eastern origin, living in deprived urban areas
Kellams, 2015 <sup>116</sup> Good	US	522	Women with income < 185% of the federal poverty level	NR	NR	N	67.4	Low-income, predominantly black (45.4%) or white (41.6%)

Table 6. Study and Population Characteristics for All Studies, by Author

Author, Year, Quality	Country	n Rand	Key Inclusion Criteria	Primiparous (%)	Previously Breastfed (%)*	Currently BF	Intending to BF (%)	Population Characteristics
Kools, 2005 <sup>81</sup> Fair	Netherlands	781	Applied for maternity care in intervention or control maternity centers	55.9	28.7	N	68.3	General, race/ethnicity NR
Kramer, 2001 <sup>117</sup> Good	Canada	281	Intending to breastfeed for ≥3 months	47.3	50.8	N	100	Multicultural (66.2% English predominant language), predominantly well educated (16.0 mean years of education), employed (76.0%), married (81.4%)
Kronborg, 2012 <sup>118</sup> Fair	Denmark	1,193	≥18 year old; primiparous	100	NA	N	NR	General, most with >10 years education (90.9%), race/ethnicity NR
Labarere, 2003 <sup>119</sup> Good	France	210	≥18 year old; currently breastfeeding in the hospital	52.6	NR	Y	NR	Predominantly well educated (58.9% partial college or college degree), employed (69.2%), race/ethnicity NR
Labarere, 2005 <sup>120</sup> Good	France	231	Breastfeeding on day of discharge	52.4	NR	Y	NR	Predominantly well educated (74.0% > high school), employed (77.5%), race/ethnicity NR
Lavender, 2005 <sup>79</sup>	UK	1,312	Expressing a desire to breastfeed	51.2	NR	N	100	Predominantly deprived or low-income white (92.1%)
Mattar, 2007 <sup>122</sup>	Singapore	401	No previous Cesarean section; no obstetric complications that would contraindicate vaginal delivery	37.2	64.4	N	95.3	Asian, predominantly low- income and unemployed
McDonald, 2010 <sup>123</sup> Good	<sup>3</sup> Australia	849	≥18 years old; intending to breastfeed	50.4	NR	N	100 <sup>§</sup>	General, lower SES (33.6%), race/ethnicity NR
McQueen, 2011 <sup>124</sup> Good	Canada	150	Primiparous; intending to breastfeed	100	NA	N	100	Predominantly white (81.3%), well educated (71.3% college)
Muirhead, 2006 <sup>126</sup> Fair	Scotland	225	Received prenatal care at a participating clinic	53.3	23.6	N	51.6	NR
Noel-Weiss, 2006 <sup>128</sup> Fair	Canada	101	Primiparous; intending to breastfeed	100	NA	N	100	Predominantly high family income, well educated, in committed relationship

Table 6. Study and Population Characteristics for All Studies, by Author

Author, Year, Quality	Country	n Rand	Key Inclusion Criteria	Primiparous (%)	Previously Breastfed (%)*	Currently BF	Intending to BF (%)	Population Characteristics
Nolan, 2009 <sup>129</sup>	US	50	Scheduled for a planned, repeat Cesarean section	0	NR	N	NR	Predominantly white (72.0%), married (68.0%)
Fair								
Paul, 2012 <sup>130</sup> Fair	US	1,154	Attempting to breastfeed during the maternity stay; intent to continue breastfeeding after discharge	47.5	48.6	Y	100	Predominantly white (88.4%), well educated (57.4% college degree), higher income, married
								(79.0%)
Pollard, 2011 <sup>131</sup> Good	US	86	18-40 years old; primiparous; intending to breastfeed; initiated breastfeeding within 24 hours of delivery	100	NA	Y	100	Predominantly white (96.5%), married (80.2%), employed (59.3%)
Quinlivan, 2003 <sup>132</sup> Fair	Australia	136	≤18 years old; intending to continue with pregnancy and not relinquish the infant	NR	NR	N	NR	Adolescents (≤18 years), predominantly low SES (86.6%), 24.3% indigenous Australian
Reeder, 2014 <sup>133</sup> Fair	US	1,948	Attending a new pregnancy appointment for WIC; intending or undecided about breastfeeding	NR	NR	N	NR	Low income, predominantly less educated, Hispanic (58.3%)
Stockdale, 2008 <sup>134</sup> Fair	Ireland	182	Primiparous	100	NA	N	NR	General, race/ethnicity NR
Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>	Singapore	450	Intending to breastfeed	39.6	56.4	N	100	Asian, predominantly low income
Wallace, 2006 <sup>136</sup> Fair	UK	370	Primiparous; intending to breastfeed; able to sit out of bed at the time of first feed; no Cesarean section	100	NA	N	100	NR
Wambach, 2011 <sup>137</sup> Fair	US	390	15-18 years old; primiparous; planning to keep newborn	100	NA	N	NR	Adolescents (15-18 years), predominantly black (61.0%), low family income, in school (71.0%), living with family (74.0%)
Wen, 2011 <sup>139</sup> Good	Australia	667	≥16 years old; primiparous	100	NA	N	NR	General, race/ethnicity NR

Table 6. Study and Population Characteristics for All Studies, by Author

Author, Year,	n			Primiparous	Previously	Currently	Intending	Population
Quality	Country	Rand	Key Inclusion Criteria	(%)	Breastfed (%)	BF	to BF (%)	Characteristics
Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	Hong	469	≥18 years old; primiparous;	100	NA	N	100	Asian, predominantly well
	Kong		intending to breastfeed;					educated (54.4%
Good	_		Hong Kong resident					postsecondary or university
								degree), high family income

<sup>\*</sup> Among full sample not just multiparous

**Abbreviations:** BF = breastfeed; BFHI = Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative; BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; BMI = body mass index, CG = control group; kg/m² = kilograms per meter squared; n = number; N = no; NA = not applicable; NR = not reported; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; rand = randomized; SES = socioeconomic status; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States; Y = yes.

<sup>†</sup> Intended to breastfeed for >12 weeks

<sup>‡</sup> Intended to exclusively breastfeed

<sup>§ 76.3%</sup> intended to breastfeed >6 months

<sup>\*\*</sup> As described in study text

<sup>††</sup> Race/ethnicity NR, assume 100% Hispanic

Table 7. Intervention Characteristics for All Studies, by Intervention Type and Author

Int							Estimated Duration	of	
Type	Author, Year	Country	Group	Timing	Intervention	Intervention Summary*	(weeks)	Sessions	Provider
	Bonuck, 2006 <sup>93</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support	2 x 60 min prenatal visits In-hospital visits 1 x 90 min postpartum home visit + optional followup phone support for a year + nursing bra + manual or electronic breast pump	68	4	Lactation care provider
	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support and brief education	5 x brief prenatal education sessions 2 x 45 min prenatal sessions 1 x 15 min in-hospital visit 1 x 15 min postpartum pediatric session ≤12 postpartum phone calls + 1 x 15 min optional postpartum home visit + optional nursing bra + optional breast pump	24	20	Lactation care provider (IBCLC) and physician or midwife
Professional Support	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup>	US	IG2	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support	2 x 45 min prenatal sessions 1 x 15 min in-hospital visit 1 x 15 min postpartum pediatric session ≤12 postpartum phone calls 1 x 15 min optional postpartum home visit + optional nursing bra + optional breast pump	24	20	Lactation care provider (IBCLC)
siona	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup>	US	IG3	Prenatal	Brief education	5 x brief prenatal education sessions	24	5	Physician or midwife
Profes	Bonuck, 2014b (PAIRINGS) <sup>92</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support and brief education	5 x brief prenatal education sessions 2 x 45 min prenatal sessions 1 x 15 min in-hospital visit 1 x 15 min postpartum pediatric session ≤12 postpartum phone calls + 1 x 15 min optional postpartum home visit + optional nursing bra + optional breast pump	24	20	Lactation care provider (IBCLC) and physician or midwife
	Bunik, 2010 <sup>95</sup>	US	IG1	Postpartum	Telephone support	14 x postpartum phone calls	2	14	Nurse
	Carlsen, 2013 <sup>97</sup>	Denmark	IG1	Postpartum	Telephone support	≥9 x 5-20 min postpartum phone sessions	26	9	Lactation care provider (IBCLC)
	Di Napoli, 2004 <sup>101</sup>	Italy	IG1	Postpartum	Home breastfeeding support	1 x 30 min postpartum home visit 1 x postpartum phone call	1	2	Midwife (SLT)
	Edwards, 2013 <sup>102</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support	10 x weekly prenatal home visits In-hospital support 12 x postpartum home visits + optional postpartum phone support + optional breast pump	26	23	Doula (SLT)

Table 7. Intervention Characteristics for All Studies, by Intervention Type and Author

Int							Estimated Duration	Number of	
Type	Author, Year	Country	Group	Timing	Intervention	Intervention Summary*	(weeks)	Sessions	Provider
	Elliott-Rudder, 2014 <sup>80</sup>	Australia	IG1	Postpartum	Lactation support	1 x postpartum counseling session	0.14	1	Nurse (SLT)
	Fu, 2014 <sup>82</sup>	Hong Kong	IG1	Postpartum	Telephone support	4 x 20 min postpartum phone counseling sessions	4	5	Nurse (SLT)
	Fu, 2014 <sup>82</sup>	Hong Kong	IG2	Peripartum	In-hospital support	3 x 30 min in-hospital postpartum counseling sessions	0.42	3	Nurse (SLT)
	Gagnon, 2002 <sup>104</sup>	Canada	IG1	Postpartum	Home breastfeeding support	1 x 60 min postpartum home visit + optional followup support	0.14	1	Nurse (SLT)
	Gijsbers, 2006 <sup>84</sup>	Netherlands	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Lactation support†	2 x 60 min prenatal home sessions 1 x 60 min postpartum home session + breastfeeding booklet	20	3	Research staff
	Henderson, 2001 <sup>109</sup>	Australia	IG1	Peripartum	Positioning and attachment support	+ additional technical support sessions while in the hospital	0.14	1	Research staff
	Hopkinson, 2009 <sup>111</sup>	US	IG1	Postpartum	Lactation support	1 x 60 min postpartum session + optional follow-up visits and/or phone calls	0.14	1	Breastfeeding counselor
	Howell, 2014 <sup>114</sup>	US	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Brief education and counseling†	1 x in-hospital education session 1 x postpartum followup phone call	2	2	Social worker
	Kools, 2005 <sup>81</sup>	Netherlands	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Home breastfeeding support	1 x 17 min prenatal home visit ≥2 x 9 min postpartum home visits + optional phone sessions + booklet	3	3	Physician, nurse, and lactation care provider
	Labarere, 2005 <sup>120</sup>	France	IG1	Postpartum	Lactation support	1 x postpartum session	0.14	1	Physician (SLT)***
	Mattar, 2007 <sup>122</sup>	Singapore	IG1	Prenatal	Lactation support	1 x 15 min prenatal session with lactation consultant + prenatal video and booklet	0.14	1	Lactation care provider
_	McDonald, 2010 <sup>123</sup>	Australia	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support	1 x in-hospital education session ≤6 postpartum home visits ≤12 postpartum phone calls	6	19	Midwife (SLT)
	McQueen, 2011 <sup>124</sup>	Canada	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Self-efficacy counseling	2 x in-hospital sessions 1 x postpartum phone call	2	3	Nurse
_	Paul, 2012 <sup>130</sup>	US	IG1	Postpartum	Home visits	1 x postpartum home visit 1 x postpartum clinic visit	2	2	Nurse (SLT)
	Pollard, 2011 <sup>131</sup>	us	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Self- monitoring	1 x 35 min in-hospital educational video + instructions for completing a daily breastfeeding log + 3 weekly postpartum reminder phone calls to return the logs	6	4	Research staff

Table 7. Intervention Characteristics for All Studies, by Intervention Type and Author

Int	Author Voor	Country	C	Time in a	Intervention	Intervention Comment	Estimated Duration	Number of	Dravidan
Type	Author, Year	Country	Group	Timing	Intervention Home	Intervention Summary*	(weeks)	Sessions	Provider
	Quinlivan, 2003 <sup>132</sup>	Australia	IG1	Postpartum	breastfeeding support	6 x 60-240 min postpartum home visits	16	6	Midwife
	Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>	Singapore	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Lactation support	1 x 30 min in-hospital lactation support session 1 x 30 min postpartum clinic support session + printed guides	2	2	Lactation care provider
	Wallace, 2006 <sup>136</sup>	UK	IG1	Peripartum	"Hands off" lactation support	1 x 240 min training session for midwives on a "hands off" support protocol	0.14	1	Midwife
	Wen, 2011 <sup>139</sup>	Australia	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Home breastfeeding support	1 x 60-120 min prenatal home visit 5 x 60-120 min postpartum home visits	53	6	Nurse
	Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	Hong Kong	IG1	Prenatal	Lactation support	1 x 45 min prenatal support session	0.14	1	Nurse (SLT)
	Anderson, 2005 <sup>91</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Peer counseling†	3 x 85-min prenatal home visits Daily in-hospital visits 9 x postpartum home visits + breastfeeding video + optional phone support	14	13	Peer counselor (SLT)
	Chapman, 2013 <sup>98</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Peer counseling	3 x 60-90 min prenatal visits ≥1 in-hospital visits ≤11 postpartum home visits ≥1 postpartum phone calls + electric breast pump	30	16	Peer counselor (SLT)
ort	Dennis, 2002 <sup>99</sup>	Canada	IG1	Postpartum	Peer counseling	5 x 15 min postpartum phone calls	26	5	Peer counselor
Peer Support	Di Meglio, 2010 <sup>100</sup>	US	IG1	Postpartum	Peer telephone support	7 x postpartum telephone support calls	5	7	Peer counselor (SLT)
Peer	Graffy, 2004 <sup>106</sup>	UK	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Peer counseling	1 x prenatal clinic visit + optional postpartum phone support + optional postpartum home visits + print materials	NR	NR	Peer counselor (SLT)
	Jolly, 2012 <sup>83</sup>	UK	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Peer counseling	3 x prenatal clinic or home visits ≥1 x postpartum home visits + optional phone support	13	4	Peer counselor (SLT)
	Muirhead, 2006 <sup>126</sup>	Scotland	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Peer counseling	≥1 x prenatal visit ≥14 x postpartum home visits or phone calls	4	15	Peer counselor (SLT)
	Reeder, 2014 <sup>133</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Peer telephone support	2 x prenatal phone calls 2-6 x postpartum phone calls + print materials	42	8	Peer counselor (SLT)

Table 7. Intervention Characteristics for All Studies, by Intervention Type and Author

Int							Estimated Duration	Number of	
Туре	Author, Year	Country	Group	Timing	Intervention	Intervention Summary*	(weeks)	Sessions	Provider
	Wambach, 2011 <sup>137</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Peer counseling and lactation care provider support†	2 x 90-120 min prenatal group sessions 3 x prenatal phone calls ≥1 x in-hospital session ≤5 x postpartum phone calls + electric breast pump	8	11	Peer counselor (ST) and lactation care provider (IBCLC)
	Abbass-Dick, 2015 <sup>90</sup>	Canada	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Co-parenting breastfeeding education**	1 x 15 min in-hospital postpartum co- parenting counseling session + co-parenting workbook + breastfeeding booklet + 11-min co-parenting and breastfeeding video + study web site + 2 follow-up e-mails + 1 follow-up phone call	3	1	Lactation care provider
	Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup>	Australia	IG1	Prenatal	Group education (attitude modification)†	2 x 60 min prenatal group sessions	2	2	Midwife and Community educator
	Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup>	Australia	IG2	Prenatal	Group education (practical skills training)	1 x 90 min prenatal group session	0.14	1	Midwife and Community educator
Education	Kellams, 2015 <sup>116</sup>	US	IG1	Prenatal	Breastfeeding video vs. Nutrition video	1 x 25 min educational video on breastfeeding	0.14	1	NA
В	Kronborg, 2012 <sup>118</sup>	Denmark	IG1	Prenatal	Group education	3 x 180 min prenatal group sessions	5	3	Midwife
	Labarere, 2003 <sup>119</sup>	France	IG1	Peripartum	Individual education	1 x 30 min in-hospital education session + optional peer support group	0.14	1	Midwife (SLT)
	Lavender, 2005 <sup>79</sup>	UK	IG1	Prenatal	Group education	1 x 150 min prenatal group session	0.14	1	Infant feeding coordinator
	Mattar, 2007 <sup>122</sup>	Singapore	IG2	Prenatal	Individual education	Prenatal video and booklet	0.14	1	NA
	Noel-Weiss, 2006 <sup>128</sup>	Canada	IG1	Prenatal	Group education†	1 x 180 min prenatal group session	0.14	1	NR
	Stockdale, 2008 <sup>134</sup>	Ireland	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Group education	x prenatal group session     + breastfeeding information booklet and CD-ROM     + postpartum support up to 3 weeks	3	2	Midwife
	Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>	Singapore	IG2	Prenatal	Individual education	Prenatal video + printed guides + optional 15 min prenatal session with lactation consultant	0.14	1	Lactation care provider

Table 7. Intervention Characteristics for All Studies, by Intervention Type and Author

Int Type	Author, Year	Country	Group	Timing	Intervention	Intervention Summary*	Estimated Duration (weeks)	Number of Sessions	Provider
	Hawkins, 2014a <sup>107</sup>	US	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	BFHI accreditation	BFHI accreditation from 1999-2009	NA	NA	NA
Policies, igrams, and aff Training	Hawkins, 2014b <sup>108</sup>	US	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	BFHI accreditation	BFHI accreditation from 2004-2008	NA	NA	NA
Policies, Programs, Staff Train	Hoddinott, 2009 <sup>110</sup>	Scotland	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Policy to support breastfeeding support groups	Clinics asked to increase amount of breastfeeding support groups provided and standardize structure and content	104	NA	Midwives and clinic staff
	Carfoot, 2005 <sup>96</sup>	UK	IG1	Peripartum	Skin-to-skin contact	Skin-to-skin contact for ≤45 min	0.14	1	NA
tices	Gouchon, 2010 <sup>105</sup>	Italy	IG1	Peripartum	Skin-to-skin contact	Skin-to-skin contact for ≤120 min following Cesarean section	0.14	1	NA
Other Maternity Care Practices	Howard, 2003 <sup>112</sup>	US	IG1	Peripartum	Restricted pacifier use	Instructions for avoiding use of a pacifier for ≥4 weeks and information on other infant soothing strategies given at hospital discharge	NA	NA	NA
laternity	Jenik, 2009 <sup>115</sup>	Argentina	IG1	Postpartum	Restricted pacifier use	Instructions for avoiding use of a pacifier and information on other soothing strategies given at 2 weeks postpartum	0.14	1	NA
her N	Kramer, 2001 <sup>117</sup>	Canada	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Restricted pacifier use	Messages to avoid pacifier use at discharge + 2 followup postpartum calls	3	3	NA
	Nolan, 2009 <sup>129</sup>	US	IG1	Peripartum	Skin-to-skin contact	Protocol for maintaining close proximity, including skin-to-skin contact, between mothers and infants post-Cesarean section	0.14	1	NA

<sup>\*</sup> Number of sessions based on the intended number of sessions to be implemented, not the actual delivered

**Abbreviations:** BFHI = Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative; BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; IBCLC = International Board Certified Lactation Consultant; IG = intervention group; min = minutes; int = intervention; NA = not applicable; NL = not licensed; NR = not reported; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; SLT = specialized lactation training; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States.

<sup>†</sup> Support person encouraged to attend

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intervention targeted couples as a unit.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Pediatrician or primary care physician.

Table 8. Included Interventions to Promote Breastfeeding

Intomontions	T	Number of Included
Interventions	Types	Intervention Arms
Individual-level	Professional support	29
support and	Peer support	9
education	Formal or structured education	11
System-level	Policies, programs, and staff training	3
policies and	Other maternity care practices	6
practices	· ·	

Table 9. Pooled Results of Any and Exclusive Breastfeeding Among Adults, for Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions

Breastfeeding					
Outcome	Time Point	k	n	RR (95% CI)	l <sup>2</sup> , %
	Initiation	14	9428	1.00 (0.99, 1.02)	22.8
	<3 months	26	11,588	1.07 (1.03, 1.11)	72.0
Any	3-6 months	23	8942	1.11 (1.04, 1.18)	46.5
	6 months	20	9715	1.07 (0.98, 1.16)	57.5
	12 months	3*	1957		
	<3 months	22	8246	1.21 (1.11, 1.33)	52.4
Exclusive	3-6 months	18	7027	1.20 (1.05, 1.38)	44.6
Exclusive	6 months	17	7690	1.16 (1.02, 1.32)	14.3
	12 months	0	NA	NA	NA

<sup>\*</sup> Not pooled

**Abbreviations:** CI = confidence interval; k = studies; NA = not applicable; RR = risk ratio

Table 10. Results of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions on Breastfeeding Initiation, by Author

Intervention				IG event rate,	CG event rate,	
Туре	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup>	IG1	Lactation support and brief education	218/226 (96.5)	65/73 (89.0)	1.08 (1.00, 1.18)
_	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup>	IG2	Lactation support	70/73 (95.9)	65/73 (89.0)	1.08 (0.98, 1.18)
t a	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup>	IG3	Brief education	207/223 (92.8)	65/73 (89.0)	1.04 (0.95, 1.14)
Professional Support	Bonuck, 2014b (PAIRINGS) <sup>92</sup>	IG1	Lactation support and brief education	122/124 (98.4)	123/130 (94.6)	1.04 (0.99, 1.09)
les Jup	Fu, 2014 <sup>82</sup>	IG2	In-hospital support	190/190 (100)	256/260 (98.5)	1.01 (1.00, 1.03)
50	Kools, 2005 <sup>81</sup>	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	254/371 (68.5)	238/330 (72.1)	0.95 (0.86, 1.04)
_	Wen, 2011 <sup>139</sup>	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	312/337 (92.8)	304/330 (92.2)	1.00 (0.96, 1.05)
	Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	220/233 (94.4)	218/236 (92.4)	1.02 (0.97, 1.07)
	Anderson, 2005 <sup>91</sup>	IG1	Peer counseling	55/63 (90.5)	55/72 (76.4)	1.14 (0.98, 1.34)
Peer Support	Chapman, 2013 <sup>98</sup>	IG1	Peer counseling	75/76 (98.7)	77/78 (98.7)	1.00 (0.96, 1.04)
Peer uppo	Graffy, 2004 <sup>106</sup>	IG1	Peer counseling	320/336 (95.2)	324/336 (96.4)	0.99 (0.96, 1.02)
Su Su	Jolly, 2012 <sup>83</sup>	IG1	Peer counseling	747/1083 (69.0)	896/1315 (68.1)	1.01 (0.96, 1.07)
	Muirhead, 2006 <sup>126</sup>	IG1	Peer counseling	61/112 (54.5)	60/113 (53.1)	1.03 (0.80, 1.31)
	Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup>	IG1	Group education (attitude modification)	291/308 (94.5)	297/310 (95.8)	0.99 (0.95, 1.02)
5	Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup>	IG2	Group education (practical skills training)	296/306 (96.7)	297/310 (95.8)	1.01 (0.98, 1.04)
aţi	Kellams, 2015 116	IG1	Breastfeeding video	174/249 (69.9)	172/248 (69.4)	1.01 (0.90, 1.13)
Education	Kronborg, 2012 <sup>118</sup>	IG1	Group education	533/552 (96.6)	529/538 (98.3)	0.98 (0.96, 1.00)
ы	Lavender, 2005 <sup>79</sup>	IG1	Group education	515/644 (80.3)	463/605 (76.5)	1.04 (0.98, 1.11)
	Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>	IG2	Individual education	132/138 (95.7)	131/138 (94.9)	1.01 (0.96, 1.06)

**Abbreviations:** CG = control group; IG = intervention group; n = number; N = number analyzed; RR = relative risk.

Table 11. Results of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions on Any and Exclusive Breastfeeding Duration Among Adults

Outcome	Study, Year Country	Weeks of FU	Intervention	Group	N	Median (IQR)	Unit	p-value for between group difference
	Carlsen, 2013 <sup>97</sup>			IG1	105	184.0 (92.0, 185.0)		
	Denmark	26	Telephone support	CG	102	108.0 (16.0, 185.0)	days	0.002
	Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup>	26	Group education (attitude modification)		293	17 (10.2) <sup>¥</sup>		2 22 <sup>β</sup>
	Australia	26	Group education (practical	IG2	297	19 (9.3) <sup>*</sup>	— weeks	0.28 <sup>β</sup>
			skills	CG	299	18 (9.7) <sup>¥</sup>		
	Graffy, 2004 <sup>106</sup>			IG1	336	110		
	UK	16	Peer counseling	CG	336	96	days	0.445
	Howell, 2014 <sup>114</sup>	26	Brief education and counseling	IG1	270	12.0	— weeks	0.019
	US	20	brief education and counseling	CG	270	6.5	WCCRS	
tion	Kronborg, 2012 <sup>118</sup>	52	Group education		NR	NR	— NR	NS**
ura	Denmark	02	Croup caucation	CG	NR	NR	IVIX	140
Any Breastfeeding Duration	Labarere, 2005 <sup>120</sup>	26	Lactation support	IG1	112	18	— weeks	0.03
ed	France		Lactation capport	CG	114	13		5.55
astfe	Muirhead, 2006 <sup>126</sup>	16	Peer counseling	IG1	61	72 (6, 138)*	— days	0.4
Bre	Scotland	.0	. cor councering	CG	60	56 (22, 90)*		0.1
Any l	Noel-Weiss, 2006 <sup>128</sup>	8	Group education	IG1	47	50.4 (14.2) <sup>¥</sup>	— days	0.875
	Canada	Ü	croup caucation	CG	45	49.9 (14.5) <sup>¥</sup>	dayo	0.07.0
	Paul, 2012 <sup>130</sup>	26	Lactation support	IG1	NR	NR	– NR	0.29
	US		Education Support	CG	NR	NR		0.20
	Pollard, 2011 <sup>131</sup>	24	Self-monitoring	IG1	41	13.8	— weeks	0.2387
	US		con mornio	CG	43	12.1	cons	0.2301
	Wen, 2011 <sup>139</sup>	52	Home breastfeeding support	IG1	268	17 (13.9, 20.4)*	— weeks	0.03
	Australia	02	. io.iio bioadiiocaiiig dappoit	CG	259	13 (10.1, 15.6)*	WOONG	0.03
	Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	26	Lactation support	IG1	NR	NR	— weeks	NS**
	Hong Kong	20	Luciation support	CG	NR	NR	WOONG	INO

Table 11. Results of Individual-Level Breastfeeding Support and Education Interventions on Any and Exclusive Breastfeeding Duration Among Adults

Outcome	Study, Year Country	Weeks of FU	Intervention	Group	N	Median (IQR)	Unit	p-value for between group difference
_	Carlsen, 2013 <sup>97</sup>	26	Telephone support	IG1	105	120 (14, 142)	— days	0.032
ding	Denmark 26 Telephon	relephone support	CG	102	41 (3, 133)	— uays	0.002	
Breastfeeding .ration	Gijsbers, 2006 <sup>84</sup>	26	Lactation support	IG1	NR	NR	— NR	0.05 <sup>α</sup>
reas	Netherlands	20	Laciation support	CG	NR	NR	NIX	0.00
e Bi Dura	Kronborg, 2012 <sup>118</sup>	52	Group education	IG1	NR	NR	— NR	NS**
usiv	يج Sn Denmark	52	Group education	CG	NR	NR	— IVIX	NO
Exclusive Breastf Duration	Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	26	Lactation support	IG1	NR	NR	— NR	NS**
	Hong Kong	20	Lactation support	CG	NR	NR	— IVIX	140

<sup>\* 95%</sup> confidence interval

**Abbreviations:** BINGO = Best Infant Nutrition for Good Outcomes; IG = intervention group; CG = control group; FU = followup; IQR = interquartile range; NR = not reported; NS = not significant; PAIRINGS = Provider Approaches to Improved Rates of Infant Nutrition and Growth Study; SD = standard deviation; SE = standard error.

<sup>†</sup> Mean (SE)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not statistically significant according to hazards ratio, p-value not reported

<sup>‡</sup> Adjusted hazards ratio; specific variables in model NR

α Adjusted for maternal age, education level, and breastfeeding experience

β For test of difference in duration between IG1, IG2, CG. IG2 was also a group education intervention focused on practical skills training.

<sup>¥</sup> Mean (SD)

Table 12. Characteristics and Results of System-Level Policy Interventions

	Study			Breastfeeding			+
Study, Year	design	Setting	Comparison	outcome	Population*	N	Effect estimate <sup>⊤</sup>
					All women	25,327	0.024 (95% CI: -0.00, 0.05), p=0.09
			DELII	Initiation	Low education	10,978	0.038 (95% CI: -0.00, 0.08), p=0.05
			BFHI		High education	13,718	0.002 (95% C: -0.04, 0.05), p=0.9
Hawkins,	11-year	32 hospitals	accreditation		All women	24,776	0.006 (95% CI: -0.01, 0.03), p=0.6
2014a <sup>107</sup>	longitudinal	within 5 US	before or during	Any ≥ 4 weeks	Low education	10,749	0.027 (95% CI: -0.02, 0.07), p=0.3
	study	states	study period vs. non-BFHI		High education	13,418	-0.028 (95% CI: -0.06, 0.00), p=0.06
			accreditation	Evaluaiva > 4	All women	24,570	0.012 (95% CI: -0.01, 0.03), p=0.3
			accreditation	Exclusive > 4	Low education	10,606	0.045 (95% CI: 0.01, 0.08), p=0.02
				weeks	High education	13,964	-0.023 (95% CI: -0.05, 0.01), p=0.1
			BFHI accreditation before or during	Initiation	All women	1,975	0.070 (95% CI: -0.04, 0.18); p=0.2
					Low education	821	0.093 (95% CI: -0.06, 0.24), p=0.2
					High education	1,153	0.048 (95% C: -0.07, 0.17), p=0.4
Hawkins,	4-year	10 hospitals		Any > 4 weeks	All women	1,938	0.068 (95% CI: -0.02, 0.16); p=0.1
2014b <sup>108</sup>	longitudinal	within 1 US			Low education	807	0.099 (95% CI: -0.11, 0.30), p=0.3
	study	state	study period vs. non-BFHI		High education	1,130	0.013 (95% C: -0.10, 0.12), p=0.8
			accreditation	Frankris A	All women	1,951	0.025 (95% CI -0.07, 0.12); p=0.6
			accreditation	Exclusive > 4	Low education	812	0.054 (95% CI: -0.09, 0.20), p=0.4
				weeks	High education	1,138	-0.019 (95% C: -0.20, 0.16), p=0.8
Hoddinott,			luaniam antation of				Mean (SD) breastfeeding rate
2009 <sup>110</sup>		14 localities	Implementation of				IG: 0.26 (SD 0.03)
	Cluster DCT	of general	a breastfeeding	Any at 6-8	Allwaman	17 400	CG: 0.30 (SD 0.07)
Breastfeeding in	Cluster RCT	practices in	support group	weeks	All women	17,482	
Groups (BIG)		Scotland	policy vs. usual				Mean difference: -0.017 <sup>‡</sup> (95% CI: -
trial			care				0.036, 0.002); p=0.08

<sup>\*</sup>Low education: ≤12 years of education; High education: ≥13 years of education

**Abbreviations:** BFHI = Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative; IG = intervention group; CG = control group; CI = confidence interval; N = number; RCT = randomized controlled trials; SD = standard deviation; US = United States; vs = versus.

<sup>†</sup>Regression coefficient with model including birth facility as a fixed effect and an interaction between year and whether a birth facility ever received BFHI accreditation

<sup>‡</sup>Mean difference between groups post-intervention adjusted for pre-intervention rate

Table 13. Overall Summary of Evidence by Key Question

	Studies (k),				US Primary Care	
KQ1:	Participants (n) k=6	<b>Quality</b> Fair	Limitations* No studies reported	Inconsistent	Applicability High	Summary of Findings† 2 trials reported mixed results for the effects on infant
Infant and maternal health outcomes	n=2219		maternal health outcomes.  Most outcomes based on maternal recall.  Followup ranged from 4 to 52 weeks.		Applicable to a predominantly Hispanic and black low-income population.	gastrointestinal outcomes. 1 trial (n=182) found more than a 2-fold higher rate in infants experiencing ≥1 diarrheal episodes over 3 months among those in usual care vs. intervention groups; this study also reported statistically significantly higher rates of exclusive breastfeeding at both 2 and 3 months among intervention vs. control mothers. The other trial found no effect on gastrointestinal outcomes.  2 trials found mixed results for the effects on cases of otitis media and 1 trial found no effect on the number of health care visits for respiratory tract illnesses.  3 (of 4) trials found higher rates of infant health care utilization at 4-26 weeks among infants from usual care groups vs. those born to mothers taking part in professional- or peer counselor-led support interventions. None of the 3 trials, however, reported an effect on rates of any or exclusive breastfeeding.
KQ2: Breastfeeding outcomes	Individual-level interventions k=43 (49 arms) n=21,973	Fair to Good	High-to-substantial statistical heterogeneity for most pooled analyses.  Considerable clinical variation in included populations and intervention characteristics.  Lack of detail regarding measurement of breastfeeding, including recall period and definition of exclusivity.  Sparse reporting of breastfeeding at 12 months.  Indication of small study effects for exclusive breastfeeding at <3 months and at 6 months.	Consistent	Moderate  US trials (k=15) applicable to a predominantly Hispanic and black low-income population.  Non-US trials have low applicability given differences usual care and underlying social and cultural differences.	Pooled analyses across all trials reporting the prevalence of any and exclusive breastfeeding among adults at <3 months, 3 to 6 months, and at 6 months suggested an average treatment effect of 3 to 38% higher likelihood of breastfeeding when comparing individual-level support interventions vs. usual care.  The size of the treatment effects varied in their magnitude and precision in different trials; average treatment effects may not be applicable across settings.  There was no consistent evidence that the effects varied across different population or intervention characteristics. Some suggestion that interventions delivered over more than 1 time point (e.g., prenatal and postpartum) may be more effective than those only delivered at 1 time point (e.g., postpartum only).  4 trials among adolescents and young adults found a longer duration of breastfeeding among mothers in intervention vs. control group.

Table 13. Overall Summary of Evidence by Key Question

Key Question	Studies (k), Participants (n)	Quality	Limitations*	Consistency	US Primary Care Applicability	Summary of Findings†
	System-level interventions	Good	Only 1 cluster RCT evaluating system-level policy change; 2 studies	Consistent	High applicability for studies of policy changes	2 recent good-quality studies found no difference in breastfeeding initiation or breastfeeding at 1 month before and after Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative-
	k=9		were controlled before- after designs.		(k=3).	accreditation among women who gave birth in accredited facilities vs. those who did not. 1 trial
	n= 44,784		Limited number of studies evaluating specific maternity care practices related to breastfeeding.  Increasing breastfeeding prevalence and duration was secondary aim in all of the mother-baby contact studies.		Moderate applicability for studies of maintaining mother-baby contact following delivery (k=3). Only 1 US trial; 2 studies among those delivering via Cesarean section.	found no difference in prevalence of breastfeeding after implementation of a policy to increase the availability of breastfeeding support groups vs. no such policy.  No evidence of a consistent effect of maintaining mother-baby contact following vaginal or Cesarean section delivery or restricted pacifier use on rates of breastfeeding initiation, duration, or exclusivity.
					Low applicability for studies of restricted pacifier use (k=3).	
KQ3: Adverse events	k=2 n=844	Fair	Only 2 trials reported adverse events related to the interventions	NA	High	1 trial reported no statistically significant difference in maternal state anxiety at 2 weeks postpartum between those receiving a home visit from a nurse versus those receiving usual care. 1 study reported a small number of mothers expressing feelings of anxiety, decreased confidence, or concerns about confidentiality during a peer support intervention.

<sup>\*</sup> Includes reporting bias † Includes precision

# **Literature Search Strategies for Primary Literature**

#### **CINAHL**

- S53 S44 AND S52
  - Limiters Published Date: 20080101-20151231; English Language
- S52 S45 OR S46 OR S47 OR S48 OR S49 OR S50 OR S51
- S51 (TI (systematic\* n3 review\*)) or (AB (systematic\* n3 review\*)) or (TI (systematic\* n3 bibliographic\*)) or (AB (systematic\* n3 bibliographic\*)) or (TI (systematic\* n3 literature)) or (AB (systematic\* n3 literature)) or (TI (comprehensive\* n3 literature)) or (AB (comprehensive\* n3 literature)) or (TI (comprehensive\* n3 bibliographic\*)) or (AB (comprehensive\* n3 bibliographic\*)) or (JN "Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews") or (TI (information n2 synthesis)) or (TI (data n2 synthesis)) or (AB (information n2 synthesis)) or (AB (data n2 synthesis)) or (TI (medline or pubmed or psyclit or cinahl or (psycinfo not "psycinfo database") or "web of science" or scopus or embase)) or (AB (medline or pubmed or psyclit or cinahl or (psycinfo not "psycinfo database") or "web of science" or scopus or embase)) or (MH "Systematic Review")
- S50 TI ( ("comparison group\*" or "control group\*") ) OR AB ( ("comparison group\*" or "control group\*") )
- S49 TI ("controlled before and after") OR AB ("controlled before and after")
- S48 TI "controlled before after" OR AB "controlled before after"
- S47 (TX cohort OR TI longitudinal OR AB longitudinal OR TI "follow up" OR AB "follow up" OR TI followup OR AB followup)
- S46 (MH "Prospective Studies") OR (MH "Concurrent Prospective Studies") OR (MH "Nonconcurrent Prospective Studies") OR (MH "Correlational Studies")
- S45 (MH "Meta Analysis") OR (MH "Control Group") OR (MH "Single-Blind Studies") OR (MH "Double-Blind Studies") OR (MH "Triple-Blind Studies") OR (MH "Randomized Controlled Trials") OR (MH "Clinical Trials") OR (MH "Random Assignment") OR (AB clinical n1 trial\*) OR (AB controlled n1 trial\*) OR (TI clinical n1 trial\*) OR (TI controlled n1 trial\*) OR (PT Clinical trial) OR (PT randomized controlled trial)
- S44 S38 OR S39 OR S40 OR S41 OR S42 OR S43
- S43 TI ( ((intervention\* or program\* or clinic or clinics or policy or policies or plan\*) N5 ("breast feed\*" or "breast fed" or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation or "newborn feeding" or "infant feeding")) ) OR AB ( ((intervention\* or program\* or clinic or clinics or policy or policies or plan\*) N5 ("breast feed\*" or "breast fed" or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation or "newborn feeding" or "infant feeding")))
- S42 TI ( ((incr\* or improv\* or support\* or promot\* or encourag\* or counsel\* or educat\* or train\* or teach\* or class\* or facilitat\*) N5 ("breast feed\*" or "breast fed" or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation or "newborn feeding" or "infant feeding")) ) OR AB ( ((incr\* or improv\* or support\* or promot\* or encourag\* or counsel\* or educat\* or train\* or teach\* or class\* or facilitat\*) N5 ("breast feed\*" or "breast fed" or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation or "newborn feeding" or "infant feeding")) )
- S41 (MH "Lactation Consultants") OR TI "lactation consult\*" OR AB "lactation consult\*"
- S40 (MH "Breast Feeding/ED")

- S39 (MH "Breast Feeding Promotion")
- S38 S6 AND S37
- S37 S7 OR S8 OR S9 OR S10 OR S11 OR S12 OR S13 OR S14 OR S15 OR S16 OR S17 OR S18 OR S19 OR S20 OR S21 OR S22 OR S23 OR S24 OR S25 OR S26 OR S27 OR S28 OR S29 OR S30 OR S31 OR S32 OR S33 OR S34 OR S35 OR S36
- S36 TI ( ((hospital\* or "health system" or "health systems" or "health care system" or "health care systems") N3 (policy or policies or initiative\* or program\* or practice\*)) ) OR AB ( ((hospital\* or "health system" or "health systems" or "health care systems") N3 (policy or policies or initiative\* or program\* or practice\*)) )
- S35 TI "rooming in" OR AB "rooming in"
- S34 TI ( (("breast feed\*" or "breast feed" or breastfeed\* or lactation) N1 "on demand") ) OR AB ( (("breast feed\*" or "breast feed" or breastfeed\* or breastfeed or lactation) N1 "on demand") )
- S33 TI pacifier\* OR AB pacifier\*
- S32 TI "skin to skin" OR AB "skin to skin"
- S31 TI "baby friendly" OR AB "baby friendly"
- S30 TI (kangaroo N3 care) OR AB (kangaroo N3 care)
- S29 TI ( ((prenatal or pre natal or postnatal or post natal or atenatal or ante natal or childbirth\* or "child birth\*") N5 (train\* or educat\* or teach\* or class\*)) ) OR AB ( ((prenatal or pre natal or postnatal or post natal or atenatal or ante natal or childbirth\* or "child birth\*") N5 (train\* or educat\* or teach\* or class\*)) )
- S28 TI ( (((staff or nurs\* or midwife\* or midwives or doula\* or doctor\* or physician\* or obstetrician\* or pediatrician\* or paediatrician\*) N5 (train\* or educat\* or teach\* or class\*)) )
  OR AB ( (((staff or nurs\* or midwife\* or midwives or doula\* or doctor\* or physician\* or obstetrician\* or pediatrician\* or paediatrician\*) N5 (train\* or educat\* or teach\* or class\*)))
- S27 TI "home visit\*" OR AB "home visit\*"
- S26 TI "social\* support\*" OR AB "social\* support\*"
- S25 TI "group counsel\*" OR AB "group counsel\*"
- S24 TI "peer counsel\*" OR AB "peer counsel\*"
- S23 TI "motivational interview\*" OR AB "motivational interview\*"
- S22 (MH "Hospital Programs")
- S21 (MH "Program Implementation")
- S20 (MH "Kangaroo Care") or (MH "Rooming In")
- S19 (MH "Childbirth Education")
- S18 (MH "Parenting Education")
- S17 (MH "Nutritional Counseling")
- S16 (MH "Prenatal Counseling")
- S15 (MH "Patient Discharge Education")
- S14 (MH "Patient Education")
- S13 (MH "Health Education")
- S12 (MH "Nutritional Counseling")
- S11 (MH "Nurse Counselors")
- S10 (MH "Counselors")
- S9 (MH "Motivational Interviewing")
- S8 (MH "Peer Counseling")
- S7 (MH "Counseling")

- S6 S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5
- S5 (TI "newborn feeding" OR AB "newborn feeding") OR (TI "infant feeding" OR AB "infant feeding")
- S4 TI lactation OR AB lactation
- S3 TI (breastfed OR "breast fed") OR AB (breastfed OR "breast fed")
- S2 TI (breastfeed\* OR "breast feed\*") OR AB (breastfeed\* OR "breast feed\*")
- S1 (MH "Breast Feeding") OR (MH "Attitude to Breast Feeding") OR (MH "Breast Feeding Positions") OR (MH "Latching, Breastfeeding") OR (MH "Milk Expression")

## CENTRAL, Issue 9 of 12, September 2015

- #1 (breastfeed\* or breastfed or "breast fed" or lactation):ti,ab,kw
- #2 (breast next feed\*):ti,ab,kw
- #3 (infant or newborn):ti,ab,kw next feeding:ti,ab,kw
- #4 #1 or #2 or #3 3641
- #5 (motivational next interview\*):ti,ab,kw
- #6 (peer next counsel\*):ti,ab,kw
- #7 (group next counsel\*):ti,ab,kw
- #8 (social\* next support\*):ti,ab,kw
- #9 (home next visit\*):ti,ab,kw
- #10 (staff or nurs\* or midwife\* or midwives or doula\* or doctor\* or physician\* or obstetrician\* or pediatrician\* or paediatrician\*):ti,ab,kw near/5 (train\* or educat\* or teach\* or class\*):ti,ab,kw
- #11 (prenatal or "pre natal" or postnatal or "post natal" or atenatal or "ante natal" or childbirth\* or (child next birth\*)) near/5 (train\* or educat\* or teach\* or class\*):ti,ab,kw
- #12 (kangaroo near/3 care):ti,ab,kw
- #13 "baby friendly":ti,ab,kw
- #14 "skin to skin":ti,ab,kw
- #15 pacifier\*:ti,ab,kw
- #16 (breast next feed\*):ti,ab,kw near/3 demand:ti,ab,kw
- #17 (breast fed or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation):ti,ab,kw near/3 demand:ti,ab,kw
- #18 "rooming in":ti,ab,kw
- #19 (hospital\* or "health system" or "health systems" or "health care systems"):ti,ab,kw near/3 (policy or policies or initiative\* or program\* or practice\*):ti,ab,kw
- #20 {or #5-#19}
- #21 #4 and #20
- #22 (incr\* or improv\* or support\* or promot\* or encourag\* or counsel\* or educat\* or train\* or teach\* or class\* or facilitat\*):ti,ab,kw near/5 ((breast next feed\*) or "breast fed" or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation or "newborn feeding" or "infant feeding"):ti,ab,kw
- #23 (intervention\* or program\* or clinic or clinics or policy or policies or plan\*):ti,ab,kw near/5 ((breast next feed\*) or "breast fed" or breastfeed\* or breastfed or lactation or "newborn feeding" or "infant feeding"):ti,ab,kw
- #24 (lactation next consult\*):ti,ab,kw
- #25 #21 or #22 or #23 or #24 Publication Year from 2008 to 2015, in Trials

## Ovid MEDLINE(R), 1946 to September Week 3 2015 Ovid MEDLINE(R) Daily Update, September 24, 2015 Ovid MEDLINE(R) In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations, September 24, 2015

- 1 Breast feeding/
- 2 Milk, Human/
- 3 Breast Milk Expression/
- 4 Lactation/
- 5 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation).ti.
- 6 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation).ti,ab.
- 7 limit 6 to ("in data review" or in process or "pubmed not medline")
- 8 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 7
- 9 Health Promotion/
- 10 Health Education/
- 11 Patient Education as Topic/
- 12 Social Support/
- 13 Counseling/
- 14 Motivational Interviewing/
- 15 Prenatal Education/
- 16 Education, Medical/
- 17 Kangaroo-Mother Care Method/
- 18 Attitude of Health Personnel/
- 19 Organizational Policy/
- 20 Program development/
- 21 Pacifiers/
- 22 motivational interview\$.ti,ab.
- peer counsel\$.ti,ab.
- 24 group counsel\$.ti,ab.
- 25 social\$ support\$.ti,ab.
- home visit\$.ti,ab.
- 27 ((staff or nurs\$ or midwife\$ or midwives or doula\$ or doctor\$ or physician\$ or obstetrician\$ or p?ediatrician\$) adj5 (train\$ or educat\$ or teach\$ or class\$)).ti,ab.
- 28 ((prenatal or pre natal or postnatal or post natal or atenatal or ante natal or childbirth\$ or child birth\$) adj5 (train\$ or educat\$ or teach\$ or class\$)).ti,ab.
- 29 (kangaroo adj3 care).ti,ab.
- 30 baby friendly.ti,ab.
- 31 skin to skin.ti,ab.
- 32 pacifier\$.ti,ab.
- 33 ((breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation) adj on demand).ti,ab.
- 34 rooming in.ti,ab.
- 35 ((hospital\$ or health system\$ or health care system\$) adj3 (policy or policies or initiative\$ or program\$ or practice\$)).ti,ab.
- 36 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32 or 33 or 34 or 35
- 37 8 and 36
- 38 ((incr\$ or improv\$ or support\$ or promot\$ or encourag\$ or counsel\$ or educat\$ or train\$ or

- teach\$ or class\$ or facilitat\$) adj5 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation or newborn feeding or infant feeding)).ti,ab.
- 39 ((intervention\$ or program\$ or clinic or clinics or policy or policies or plan\$) adj5 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation or newborn feeding or infant feeding)).ti,ab.
- 40 lactation consult\$.ti,ab.
- 41 37 or 38 or 39 or 40
- 42 limit 41 to systematic reviews
- clinical trials as topic/ or controlled clinical trials as topic/ or randomized controlled trials as topic/ or meta-analysis as topic/
- 44 (clinical trial or controlled clinical trial or meta analysis or randomized controlled trial).pt.
- 45 Random\$.ti,ab.
- 46 control groups/ or double-blind method/ or single-blind method/
- 47 clinical trial\$.ti,ab.
- 48 controlled trial\$.ti,ab.
- 49 meta analy\$.ti,ab.
- 50 cohort studies/ or longitudinal studies/ or follow-up studies/ or prospective studies/ or retrospective studies/
- 51 cohort.ti,ab.
- 52 longitudinal.ti,ab.
- 53 (follow up or followup).ti,ab.
- 54 controlled before after.ti,ab.
- 55 "controlled before and after".ti,ab.
- 56 (comparison group\$ or control group\$).ti,ab.
- 57 43 or 44 or 45 or 46 or 47 or 48 or 49 or 50 or 51 or 52 or 53 or 54 or 55 or 56
- 58 41 and 57
- 59 42 or 58
- 60 Animal/ not (Human/ and Animal/)
- 61 59 not 60
- 62 limit 61 to (english language and yr="2008 -Current")
- 63 remove duplicates from 62

## **PsycINFO** (via Ovid)

- 1 Breast Feeding/
- 2 Lactation/
- 3 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation).ti,ab,id.
- 4 1 or 2 or 3
- 5 Health Promotion/
- 6 Counseling/
- 7 Counselors/
- 8 Motivational Interviewing/
- 9 Client Education/
- 10 Health Education/
- 11 Childbirth Training/
- 12 Support Groups/

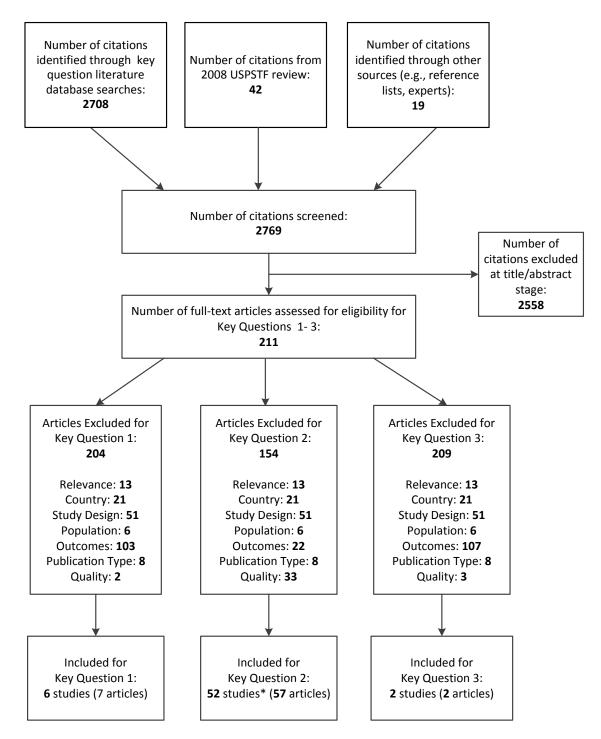
- 13 Social Support/
- 14 Prenatal Care/
- 15 Policy Making/
- 16 Organizational Behavior/
- 17 Personnel Training/
- promotion & maintenance of health & wellness.cc.
- 19 motivational interview\$.ti,ab,id.
- 20 peer counsel\$.ti,ab,id.
- 21 group counsel\$.ti,ab,id.
- 22 social\$ support\$.ti,ab,id.
- home visit\$.ti,ab,id.
- 24 ((staff or nurs\$ or midwife\$ or midwives or doula\$ or doctor\$ or physician\$ or obstetrician\$ or p?ediatrician\$) adj5 (train\$ or educat\$ or teach\$ or class\$)).ti,ab,id.
- 25 ((prenatal or pre natal or postnatal or post natal or atenatal or ante natal or childbirth\$ or child birth\$) adj5 (train\$ or educat\$ or teach\$ or class\$)).ti,ab,id.
- 26 (kangaroo adj3 care).ti,ab,id.
- baby friendly.ti,ab,id.
- skin to skin.ti,ab,id.
- 29 pacifier\$.ti,ab,id.
- 30 ((breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation) adj on demand).ti,ab,id.
- 31 rooming in.ti,ab,id.
- 32 ((hospital\$ or health system\$ or health care system\$) adj3 (policy or policies or initiative\$ or program\$ or practice\$)).ti,ab,id.
- 33 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32
- 34 4 and 33
- 35 ((incr\$ or improv\$ or support\$ or promot\$ or encourag\$ or counsel\$ or educat\$ or train\$ or teach\$ or class\$ or facilitat\$) adj5 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation or newborn feeding or infant feeding)).ti,ab,id.
- 36 ((intervention\$ or program\$ or clinic or clinics or policy or policies or plan\$) adj5 (breast feed\$ or breast fed or breastfeed\$ or breastfed or lactation or newborn feeding or infant feeding)).ti,ab,id.
- 37 lactation consult\$.ti.ab.id.
- 38 34 or 35 or 36 or 37
- 39 ((comprehensive\$ or integrative or systematic\$) adj3 (bibliographic\$ or review\$ or literature)).ti,ab,id.
- 40 (cinahl or (cochrane adj3 trial\*) or embase or medline or psyclit or pubmed or scopus or "sociological abstracts" or "web of science").ab.
- 41 (meta-analy\$ or metaanaly\$ or "research synthesis" or ((information or data) adj3 synthesis) or (data adj2 extract\$)).ti,ab,id.
- 42 ("systematic review" or "meta analysis").md.
- 43 random\$.ti,ab.id.hw.
- 44 placebo\$.ti,ab,hw,id.
- 45 controlled trial\$.ti,ab,id,hw.
- 46 clinical trial\$.ti,ab,id,hw.
- 47 treatment outcome clinical trial.md.

- 48 cohort.ti,ab,id.
- 49 longitudinal.ti,ab,id.
- 50 (follow up or followup).ti,ab,id.
- 51 longitudinal study.md.
- 52 prospective study.md.
- retrospective study.md.
- 54 controlled before after.ti,ab,id.
- "controlled before and after".ti,ab,id.
- 56 (comparison group\$ or control group\$).ti,ab,id.
- 57 39 or 40 or 41 or 42 or 43 or 44 or 45 or 46 or 47 or 48 or 49 or 50 or 51 or 52 or 53 or 54 or 55 or 56
- 55 38 and 57
- 59 limit 58 to (english language and yr="2008 -Current")

## **PubMed** (publisher-supplied)

- #20 Search #19 AND publisher[sb] AND English[Language] AND ("2008"[Date Publication]: "3000"[Date Publication])
- #19 Search #1 AND #18
- #18 Search #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17
- #17 Search (support\*[tiab] OR promot\*[tiab] OR counsel\*[tiab] OR educat\*[tiab] OR intervention\*[tiab])
- #16 Search (hospital[tiab] OR "health system"[tiab] OR "health systems"[tiab] OR "health care system"[tiab] OR "health care systems"[tiab]) AND (policy[tiab] OR policies[tiab] OR initiative\*[tiab] OR program\*[tiab])
- #15 Search "rooming in"[tiab]
- #14 Search "on demand"[tiab]
- #13 Search pacifier\*[tiab]
- #12 Search "skin to skin"[tiab]
- #11 Search "baby friendly"[tiab]
- #10 Search (kangaroo[tiab] AND care[tiab])
- #9 Search (prenatal[tiab] OR "pre natal"[tiab] OR postnatal[tiab] OR "post natal"[tiab] OR antenatal[tiab] OR "ante natal"[tiab]) AND (train\*[tiab] OR educat\*[tiab])
- #8 Search (staff[tiab] OR nurs\*[tiab] OR midwife\*[tiab] OR midwives[tiab] OR doula\*[tiab] OR doctor\*[tiab] OR physician\*[tiab] OR obstetrician\*[tiab] OR pediatrician\*[tiab]) AND (train\*[tiab] OR educat\*[tiab])
- #7 Search home visit\*[tiab]
- #6 Search social support\*[tiab]
- #5 Search group counsel\*[tiab]
- #4 Search peer counsel\*[tiab]
- #3 Search motivational interview\*[tiab]
- #2 Search lactation consult\*[tiab]
- #1 Search ("breast feed"[tiab] OR "breast feeds"[tiab] OR "breast feeding"[tiab] OR breastfeed\*[tiab] OR "breast fed"[tiab] OR lactation[tiab] OR newborn feeding\*[tiab] OR infant feeding\*[tiab])

## Appendix A Figure 1. Literature Flow Diagram



<sup>\*2</sup> studies were reported in a single publication

## Appendix A Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

	Include	Exclude
Study design	<ul> <li>Randomized, controlled trials; cluster</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Observational studies (except studies of</li> </ul>
	randomized, controlled trials	hospital policies)
	<ul> <li>Controlled before-and-after studies and</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Abstracts, editorials, or theses</li> </ul>
	prospective cohort studies of hospital	
	policies and health system interventions	
	(e.g., the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative*,	
	provider training)	
	<ul> <li>Systematic evidence reviews</li> </ul>	
Study aim	Studies targeting the effects of prenatal,	Studies with breastfeeding as a secondary
	peripartum, and postpartum breastfeeding	outcome, in which the intervention was not
	interventions on child and maternal health	specifically targeted at breastfeeding (e.g., studies
	outcomes and/or initiation, duration, and	on increasing the frequency of prenatal visits)
	exclusivity of breastfeeding	
Condition	Breastfeeding (including baby to breast, bottle	Studies with a focus on other forms of infant
	feeding mother's expressed breast milk, and	nutrition (e.g., formula)
	bottle feeding donated breast milk)	
Population	• Early-term (37 0/7 to 38 6/7 weeks), full-term	<ul> <li>Mothers of preterm or very preterm newborns</li> </ul>
	(39 0/7 to 40 6/7 weeks), late-term (41 0/7 to	(<34 weeks of gestation or low or very low birth
	41 6/7 weeks), and post-term (42 0/7 weeks	weight [<2,500 g]), because of their special
	and beyond) newborns, as well as late-	feeding needs
	preterm newborns with gestational age ≥34	<ul> <li>Studies limited to special populations of womer</li> </ul>
	0/7 weeks or birth weight >2,500 g	or infants (e.g., institutionalized women, infants
	<ul> <li>Members of mother-child support system</li> </ul>	with prenatal disease, infants born to drug-using
	(e.g., partners, grandparents, or friends)	mothers, infants in a neonatal intensive care
		unit, infants born to HIV-positive mothers)
Interventions	<ul> <li>Intervention must be initiated in, conducted</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mass media campaigns</li> </ul>
	in, or referable from primary care (e.g.,	<ul> <li>Worksite lactation programs</li> </ul>
	primary care referral of mother-infant pair or	<ul> <li>Community interventions not affiliated with</li> </ul>
	family to service, support provided in	primary care
	hospital setting at time of delivery or	
	postpartum, primary care collaboration with	
	community services)	
	<ul> <li>Type of interventions may include, but are</li> </ul>	
	not limited to: individual or group	
	counseling, peer counseling, home visits,	
	structured education, technology- or	
	computer-based support, distribution of	
	written materials, rooming-in, restricted	
	pacifier use, or skin-to-skin contact	
	<ul> <li>Interventions may take place during the</li> </ul>	
	prenatal and/or postnatal period	
	Stand-alone or	
	multicomponent/multidimensional	
	interventions	
	<ul> <li>Interventions may be conducted by, but are</li> </ul>	
	not limited to: lactation care providers,	
	nurses/nurse practitioners, peer counselors,	
	midwives, doulas, or physicians	
	<ul> <li>Health care system interventions (e.g., staff</li> </ul>	
	training) and hospital policies, such as full	
	or partial implementation of the Baby-	
	Friendly Hospital Initiative*	
Setting	<ul> <li>Any setting linked with the health care</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Correctional facilities</li> </ul>
	system and provision of primary care (e.g.,	<ul> <li>Worksites</li> </ul>
	hospital, maternity services, home, clinic, or	<ul> <li>Inpatient/residential facilities</li> </ul>
	community)	<ul> <li>Studies conducted in countries that are not</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Studies conducted in countries categorized</li> </ul>	categorized as "Very High" on the 2014 Human
	as "Very High" on the 2014 Human	Development Index
	Development Index (as defined by the	
	United Nations Development Programme)	

### Appendix A Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

	Include	Exclude
Comparators	<ul> <li>Usual prenatal, peripartum, and/or postpartum care, as defined within each study</li> <li>Another breastfeeding intervention (i.e., comparative effectiveness)</li> <li>Wait list control</li> <li>No attention control</li> </ul>	
Outcomes	<b>KQ 1:</b> Maternal health outcomes associated with breastfeeding intervention (e.g., cessation of menses); child health outcomes associated with breastfeeding intervention (e.g., gastrointestinal symptoms, atopic dermatitis, respiratory symptoms, otitis media, asthma, obesity)	
	<b>KQ 2:</b> Breastfeeding initiation, duration, or exclusivity, as defined within each study	
	KQ 3: Adverse events associated with breastfeeding intervention (e.g., feeling criticized by interventionist, guilt related to not breastfeeding, increased anxiety about breastfeeding, postpartum depression, infant failure to thrive)	
Publication language	English	Languages other than English
Quality	Fair or good	Poor (according to design-specific USPSTF

<sup>\*</sup> The "Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding," as designated by the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, are: 1) maintain a written breastfeeding policy that is routinely communicated to all health care staff; 2) train all health care staff in skills necessary to implement this policy; 3) inform all pregnant women about the benefits and management of breastfeeding; 4) help mothers initiate breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth; 5) show mothers how to breastfeed and how to maintain lactation, even if they are separated from their infants; 6) give infants no food or drink other than breast milk, unless medically indicated; 7) practice "rooming-in" (allowing mothers and infants to remain together 24 hours a day); 8) encourage breastfeeding on demand; 9) give no pacifiers or artificial nipples to breastfeeding infants; and 10) foster the establishment of breastfeeding support groups and refer mothers to them upon discharge from the hospital or clinic.

## Appendix A Table 2. Quality Assessment Criteria

Study Design	Adapted Quality Criteria
Randomized	Valid random assignment?
controlled trials,	Was allocation concealed?
adapted from the	Was eligibility criteria specified?
U.S. Preventive	Were groups similar at baseline?
Services Task Force	Was there a difference in attrition between groups?
methods <sup>192</sup>	Were outcome assessors blinded?
	<ul> <li>Were measurements equal, valid and reliable?</li> </ul>
	Was there intervention fidelity?
	Was there risk of contamination?
	<ul> <li>Was there adequate adherence to the intervention?</li> </ul>
	Were the statistical methods acceptable?
	Was the handling of missing data appropriate?
	Was there acceptable followup?
	<ul> <li>Was there evidence of selective reporting of outcomes?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Was there a clear definition of the intervention?</li> </ul>
	Was the funding source defined?
Observational	Was there representativeness of the exposed cohort?
studies (e.g.,	Was the non-exposed systematically selected?
prospective cohort	Was the ascertainment of exposure reported?
studies), adapted	Was the outcome of interest not present at baseline?
from the Newcastle-	Were measurements equal, valid and reliable?
Ottawa Scale (NOS) <sup>193</sup>	Were outcome assessors blinded?
(NOS)	Was followup long enough for the outcome to occur?
	Was there acceptable followup?
	Was the handling of missing data appropriate?
	Were baseline characteristics well described?
	Was the inclusion/exclusion criteria well described?

#### **Appendix B. Excluded Studies**

#### **Reason for Exclusion**

- E1. Study relevance (not related to breastfeeding intervention)
- E2a. Setting: Not in very high human development country
- E2b. Setting: Not linked to health care (e.g., worksites, correctional facilities)
- E2c. Setting: Not applicable to US health care (e.g., usual care in control group is extremely different than US usual care
- E3. Study design not RCT for individual-level intervention; Not RCT, controlled before-after, or prospective cohort study for system-level policies
- E4. Population Studies of preterm or very preterm infants (<35wks); low or very low birth weight infants (<2,500 g), or studies limited to special populations of women or infants
- E5. Outcomes No relevant outcomes (maternal or infant health outcomes; breastfeeding initiation, duration, exclusivity; or adverse events)
- E6. Poor quality study
- E7. Non-English language publication
- E8. Publication type (e.g., dissertation, thesis, conference abstract)
- Aghdas K, Talat K, Sepideh B. Effect of immediate and continuous mother-infant skin-to-skin contact on breastfeeding self-efficacy of primiparous women: a randomised control trial. Women Birth. 2014;27(1):37-40. PMID: 24216342. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 2. Aksu H, Kucuk M, Duzgun G. The effect of postnatal breastfeeding education/support offered at home 3 days after delivery on breastfeeding duration and knowledge: a randomized trial. J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med. 2011;24(2):354-61. PMID: 20608806. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- Albert J, Heinrichs-Breen J. An evaluation of a breastfeeding privacy sign to prevent interruptions and promote successful breastfeeding. J Obstet Gynecol Neonatal Nurs. 2011;40(3):274-80. PMID: 21477213. KQ1E5, KQ2E5, KQ3E5.
- 4. Artieta-Pinedo I, Paz-Pascual C, Grandes G, et al. Antenatal education and breastfeeding in a cohort of primiparas. J Adv Nurs. 2013;69(7):1607-17. PMID: 23013265. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- Askelsdottir B, Lam-de Jonge W, Edman G, et al. Home care after early discharge: impact on healthy mothers and newborns. Midwifery. 2013;29(8):927-34. PMID: 23434021. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 6. Awano M, Shimada K. Development and evaluation of a self care program on breastfeeding in Japan: A quasi-experimental study. Int Breastfeed J. 2010;5:9. PMID: 20731820. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.

- 7. Ball HL, Moya E, Fairley L, et al. Infant care practices related to sudden infant death syndrome in South Asian and White British families in the UK. Paediatr Perinat Epidemiol. 2012;26(1):3-12. PMID: 22150702. KQ1E1, KQ2E1, KQ3E1.
- 8. Barnes M, Cox J, Doyle B, et al. Evaluation of a practice-development initiative to improve breastfeeding rates. J Perinat Educ. 2010;19(4):17-23. PMID: 21886418. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 9. Battersby S. Breastfeeding peer support: implications for midwives. Pract Midwife. 2008;11(10):32-5. PMID: 19054954. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- Beiranvand S, Valizadeh F, Hosseinabadi R, et al. The Effects of Skin-to-Skin Contact on Temperature and Breastfeeding Successfulness in Full-Term Newborns after Cesarean Delivery. Int J Pediatr. 2014;2014:846486. PMID: 25610472. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 11. Bica OC, Giugliani ER. Influence of counseling sessions on the prevalence of breastfeeding in the first year of life: a randomized clinical trial with adolescent mothers and grandmothers. Birth. 2014;41(1):39-45. PMID: 24654636. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 12. Bick D, Murrells T, Weavers A, et al. Revising acute care systems and processes to improve breastfeeding and maternal postnatal health: a pre and post intervention study in one English maternity unit. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth. 2012;12:41. PMID: 22672354. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.

### **Appendix B. Excluded Studies**

- 13. Bigelow AE, Power M, Gillis DE, et al. Breastfeeding, skin-to-skin contact, and mother-infant interactions over infants' first three months. Infant Ment Health J. 2014;35(1):51-62. PMID: 25424406. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 14. Blixt I, Martensson LB, Ekstrom AC. Process-oriented training in breastfeeding for health professionals decreases women's experiences of breastfeeding challenges. Int Breastfeed J. 2014;9:15. PMID: 25221613. KQ1E5, KQ2E5, KQ3E5.
- Bonuck KA, Lischewski J, Brittner M. Clinical translational research hits the road: RCT of breastfeeding promotion interventions in routine prenatal care. Contemp Clin Trials. 2009;30(5):419-26. PMID: 19523539. KQ1E5, KQ2E5, KQ3E5.
- Brodribb W, Kruske S, Miller YD. Babyfriendly hospital accreditation, inhospital care practices, and breastfeeding. Pediatrics.
   2013;131(4):685-92. PMID: 23478863.
   KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 17. Cameron SL, Heath AL, Gray AR, et al. Lactation Consultant Support from Late Pregnancy with an Educational Intervention at 4 Months of Age Delays the Introduction of Complementary Foods in a Randomized Controlled Trial. J Nutr. 2015;145(7):1481-90. PMID: 25995280. KQ1E5, KQ2E5, KQ3E5.
- 18. Carfoot S, Williamson PR, Dickson R. The value of a pilot study in breast-feeding research. Midwifery. 2004;20(2):188-93. PMID: 15177863. KQ1E5, KQ2E5, KQ3E5.
- Chapman D, Damio G, Young S, et al. Association of degree and timing of exposure to breastfeeding peer counseling services with breastfeeding duration. Adv Exp Med Biol. 2004;554:303-6. PMID: 15384587. KQ1E5, KQ2E6, KQ3E5.
- Ciftci EK, Arikan D. The effect of training administered to working mothers on maternal anxiety levels and breastfeeding habits. J Clin Nurs. 2012;21(15-16):2170-8. PMID: 22151299. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.

- Conroy CC, Cottrell BH. The Influence of Skin-to-Skin Contact after Cesarean on Breastfeeding Rates, Infant Feeding Responses, and Maternal Satisfaction. JOGNN. 2015;44:S61-2. PMID: None. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 22. Corriveau SK, Drake EE, Kellams AL, et al. Evaluation of an office protocol to increase exclusivity of breastfeeding. Pediatrics. 2013;131(5):942-50. PMID: 23545382. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 23. Coutinho SB, de Lira PI, de Carvalho LM, et al. Comparison of the effect of two systems for the promotion of exclusive breastfeeding. Lancet. 2005;366(9491):1094-100. PMID: 16182897 KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 24. da Graca LC, Figueiredo Mdo C, Conceicao MT. Contributions of the nursing intervention in primary healthcare for the promotion of breastfeeding. Rev Lat Am Enfermagem. 2011;19(2):429-36. PMID: 21584392. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 25. Dabritz HA, Hinton BG, Babb J. Maternal hospital experiences associated with breastfeeding at 6 months in a northern California county. J Hum Lact. 2010;26(3):274-85. PMID: 20484659. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 26. Daniels LA, Mallan KM, Battistutta D, et al. Child eating behavior outcomes of an early feeding intervention to reduce risk indicators for child obesity: the NOURISH RCT. Obesity (Silver Spring). 2014;22(5):E104-11. PMID: 24415390. KQ1E1, KQ2E1, KQ3E1.
- 27. Daniels LA, Mallan KM, Battistutta D, et al. Evaluation of an intervention to promote protective infant feeding practices to prevent childhood obesity: outcomes of the NOURISH RCT at 14 months of age and 6 months post the first of two intervention modules. Int J Obes (Lond). 2012;36(10):1292-8. PMID: 22710926. KQ1E1, KQ3E1,
- 28. De Carolis MP, Cocca C, Valente E, et al. Individualized follow up programme and early discharge in term neonates. Ital. 2014;40:70. PMID: 25024007. KQ1E1, KQ2E1, KQ3E1.

#### **Appendix B. Excluded Studies**

- 29. de Oliveira LD, Giugliani ER, Santo LC, et al. Impact of a strategy to prevent the introduction of non-breast milk and complementary foods during the first 6 months of life: a randomized clinical trial with adolescent mothers and grandmothers. Early Hum Dev. 2012;88(6):357-61. PMID: 22001312. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 30. Declercq E, Labbok MH, Sakala C, et al. Hospital practices and women's likelihood of fulfilling their intention to exclusively breastfeed. Am J Public Health. 2009;99(5):929-35. PMID: 19299680. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
- 31. Dias de Oliveira L, Justo Giugliani ER, Cordova do Espirito Santo L, et al. Counselling sessions increased duration of exclusive breastfeeding: a randomized clinical trial with adolescent mothers and grandmothers. Nutr J. 2014;13:73. PMID: 25033743. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 32. Dumas L, Lepage M, Bystrova K, et al. Influence of Skin-to-Skin Contact and Rooming-In on Early Mother–Infant Interaction: A Randomized Controlled Trial. Clin Nurs Res. 2013;22(3):310-36. PMID: 23291315. KQ1E2a, KQ2E2a, KQ3E2a.
- 33. Ekstrom A, Kylberg E, Nissen E. A process-oriented breastfeeding training program for healthcare professionals to promote breastfeeding: an intervention study. Breastfeed Med. 2012;7(2):85-92. PMID: 22168946. KQ1E5, KQ2E6, KQ3E5.
- 34. Ekstrom A, Nissen E. A mother's feelings for her infant are strengthened by excellent breastfeeding counseling and continuity of care. Pediatrics. 2006;118(2):e309-e14. PMID: 16882775 KQ1E5, KQ2E6, KQ3E5.
- 35. Ekstrom A, Widstrom AM, Nissen E. Does continuity of care by well-trained breastfeeding counselors improve a mother's perception of support? Birth. 2006;33(2):123-30. PMID: 16732777 KQ1E5, KQ2E6, KQ3E5.
- 36. Feldman-Winter L, Barone L, Milcarek B, et al. Residency curriculum improves breastfeeding care. Pediatrics. 2010;126(2):289-97. PMID: 20603262. KQ1E3 KQ2E3, KQ3E3.

- 37. Feldman-Winter L, Grossman X, Palaniappan A, et al. Removal of industry-sponsored formula sample packs from the hospital: does it make a difference? J Hum Lact. 2012;28(3):380-8. PMID: 22638306. KQ1E3, KQ2E3, KQ3E3.
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Appendix C Figure 1. Intervention Dose, by Intervention Type and Author Name

						Pren: (Trime		Peripartum				Pos	tpartui	n (Infa	nt age	in mo	nths)			
Intervention	Intervention Type	Author, Year	Country	Duration (wks)	Number of Sessions	2nd (14-27 wks)	3rd (28-40 wks)	During the nospital stav	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Bonuck, 2006	US	68	4			1												
		Bonuck, 2014a	US	24	20						_									
		Bonuck, 2014b	US	24	20						-	4								
		Bunik, 2010	US	2	14				-											
		Carlsen, 2013	Denmark	26	9															
		Di Napoli, 2004	Italy	1	2				+											
		Edwards, 2013	US	26	23						•									
		Elliott-Rudder, 2014	Australia	0.14	1						•									
		Fu, 2014	Hong Kong	4	5				-											
		Gagnon, 2002	Canada	0.14	1				-											
		Gijsbers, 2006	Netherlands	20	3	•														
		Henderson, 2001	Australia	0.14	1			-	•											
	Professional	Hopkinson, 2009	US	0.14	1				-											
	support	Howell, 2014	US	2	2			-	+											
		Kools, 2005	Netherlands	3	3		*		-											
		Labarere, 2005	France	0.14	1				-											
		Mattar, 2007	Singapore	0.14	1		**													
		McDonald, 2010	Australia	6	19					<b>-</b>										
		McQueen, 2011	Canada	2	3			-	+											
		Paul, 2012	US	2	2				İ											
Individual-		Pollard, 2011	US	6	4			-	**											
level		Quinlivan, 2003	Australia	16	6				-					-						
education		Su, 2007 (IG1)	Singapore	2	2			-	-											
and support		Wallace, 2006	ŲK	0.14	1			-	•											
		Wen, 2011	Australia	53	6		•		3							3				
		Wong, 2014	Hong Kong	0.14	1		*													
		Anderson, 2005	US	14	13		- 1	1		-										
		Chapman, 2013	US	30	16			1			•									
		Dennis, 2002	Canada	26	5				-											
		Di Meglio, 2010	US	5	7				-	•										
	Peer support	Graffy, 2004	UK	NR	NR:		-	•												
		Jolly, 2012	UK	13	4	-	-									1				
		Muirhead, 2006	Scotland	4	15		-	•	-											
		Reeder, 2014	US	42	8	+		•	-			-								
		Wambach, 2011	US	8	11		-			•										
		Abbass-Dick, 2015	Canada	3	1				****											
		Forster, 2004	Australia	2	2		- 3													
		Kellams, 2015	US	0.14	1		*													
	Formal or	Kronborg, 2012	Denmark	5	3															
	structured breastfeeding	Labarere, 2003	France	0.14	1			-	•											
	education	Lavender, 2005	UK	0.14	1		*													
	• -	Noel-Weiss, 2006	Canada	0.14	1															
		Stockdale, 2008	Ireland	3	2				-											
		Su, 2007 (IG2)	Singapore	0.14	1	The state of the s														
	Policies,	Hawkins, 2014a	US	NA	NA				•											
	programs, and staff	Hawkins, 2014b	US	NA	NA				•											
	training	Hoddinott, 2009	Scotland	NA	NA		- Parmian													
System-level		Carfoot, 2005	UK	0.14	1			-	•	1										
policies and	Other	Gouchon, 2010	Italy	0.14	1			-	•											
practices	Other maternity	Howard, 2003	US	NA	NA			-	•											
	care	Jenik, 2009	Argentina	0.14	1															
	practices	Kramer, 2001	Canada	3	3				-											
		Nolan, 2009	US	0.14	1					1			-	-	-					+

Main intervention period
Optional intervention period

**Abbreviations:** UK = United Kingdom; US = United States; wks = weeks

	Author Voor				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Author, Year Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Professional Support	Bonuck, 2006 <sup>93</sup> US	IG1  Lactation support	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Two 60 min prenatal clinic or home visits by a study lactation consultant. The initial prenatal meeting focused first on trust and rapport and then educational content including feeding intentions and the benefits of breastfeeding. A flip-chart depicting the physiologic features of breastfeeding and color pamphlets were reviewed. The second meeting addressed what to expect after birth and specifics on how to initiate breastfeeding in the hospital (e.g., latch-on, positioning, importance of early initiation, and demand feeding). Practice with a culturally appropriate lactation doll and nipple was offered. During the postpartum hospital and 90 min home visits the consultants provided hands-on instruction in latching on, proper positioning, and other techniques to avoid common breastfeeding complications, as well as pump use. After breastfeeding was established, topics included frequency of feeding, confidence, stooling patterns, determining adequate intake, and maternal nutrition. If later contacts were made, they tended to focus on expressing and storing milk, fatigue, nursing in public, returning to school or work, and supplementing. The LCs helped mothers garner support from their families, schools, workplaces, and health care providers. Study LCs offered a nursing bra to women in the intervention group, free of charge, to facilitate breastfeeding. Study LCs also provided manual or mini-electric breast pumps to women, free of charge, in certain circumstances. The general policy of the study LCs was to discourage the use of breast pumps in favor of nursing for women who were in continual proximity to their infants. Mean dose received (any intervention, averaged across all participants): 143.2 min	68 4 Lactation care provider (NL)	At one site, usual care included a mandatory prenatal care class, which did not address infant feeding in any detail. At the other site, there was no routine prenatal education. Neither site followed an established protocol for breastfeeding education or support or offered a private lactation space. Participants enrolled in WIC had the opportunity to visit with a breastfeeding coordinator at the WIC site, although such use was not assessed specifically. Given the study population's diversity, it would be difficult to characterize a community "standard" with respect to breastfeeding.

	Author Voor				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Author, Year Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Туре	Bonuck, 2014a (BINGO) <sup>92</sup> US	Intervention IG1  Lactation counseling and brief education	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Participants received both prenatal education by physician or midwife as well as support with a lactation consultant during the prenatal and postpartum periods. Support: Study staff programmed prompts to appear in the electronic medical record during 5 prenatal visits. Each included 2 to 3 brief open-ended questions for providers (resident, attending obstetrician or gynecologist, or certified nurse-midwives) to ask that portrayed breastfeeding as the norm ("What are your plans for breastfeeding?"), sought to clarify knowledge about how long or how much to breastfeed, and elicited information on social network support. At the 36 wk prenatal visit, the provider encouraged immediate skin-to-skin contact, initiating breastfeeding after birth, decreasing mother/baby separation, and asking for help breastfeeding. Lactation support: Two study-supported lactation consultants had routine presence as prenatal sites and hospitals. The intervention included 2 prenatal sessions, a hospital visit, one visit during a routine pediatric appointment at 1 wk, and regular phone calls postpartum through 3 mos or until breastfeeding ceased. The prenatal sessions occurred in the examination room during the 30-plus mins of "downtime" while waiting for the prenatal care provider. If sessions were interrupted, attempts were made to finish them after the prenatal appointment. The first session focused on rapport building and education, and the second was on the practical aspects of breastfeeding. The study provided nursing bras and breast pumps to participants as needed. Lactation consultants met mothers and their infants at the 1-wk routine pediatric visit. Postpartum home visits were optional, based upon participants and lactation consultant preference and comfort.	24 20 Lactation care provider (IBCLC) and physician or midwife	No explicit breastfeeding promotion or support. Hospital had 1 lactation consultant (IBCLC), available weekdays, whose primary focus was women intending to exclusively breastfeed or at risk for breastfeeding difficulties. Midway through the study, hospital postpartum and labor and delivery nursing staff began attending a 20-hr Certified Lactation Consultant training course.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Турс	Country	IG2 Lactation support	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Two prenatal sessions, a hospital visit, one visit during a routine pediatric appointment at 1 wk, and regular phone calls postpartum through 3 mos or until breastfeeding ceased all with a licensed lactation consultant. The prenatal sessions occurred in the examination room during the 30-plus mins of "downtime" while waiting for the prenatal care provider. If sessions were interrupted, attempts were made to finish them after the prenatal appointment. The first session focused on rapport building and education, and the second was on the practical aspects of breastfeeding. The study provided nursing bras and breast pumps to participants as needed. Lactation consultants met mothers and their infants at the 1-wk routine pediatric visit. Postpartum home visits were optional, based upon participants and lactation consultant preference and comfort.  2x45 min prenatal visits 1x15 min hospital visit 1x15 min pediatric visit 1x15 min pediatric visit Optional phone calls (2-3 days postpartum, 1 wk postpartum, weekly for the first mo, biweekly thereafter, until 3 mos or cessation of breastfeeding)	24 20 Lactation care provider (IBCLC)	No explicit breastfeeding promotion or support. Hospital had 1 lactation consultant (IBCLC), available weekdays, whose primary focus was women intending to exclusively breastfeed or at risk for breastfeeding difficulties. Midway through the study, hospital postpartum and labor and delivery nursing staff began attending a 20-hr Certified Lactation Consultant training course.
		IG3 Brief education	Prenatal	Study staff programmed prompts to appear in the electronic medical record during 5 prenatal visits. Each included 2 to 3 brief open-ended questions for providers (resident, attending obstetrician or gynecologist, or certified nurse-midwives) to ask that portrayed breastfeeding as the norm ("What are your plans for breastfeeding?"), sought to clarify knowledge about how long or how much to breastfeed, and elicited information on social network support. At the 36 wk prenatal visit, the provider encouraged immediate skin-to-skin contact, initiating breastfeeding after birth, decreasing mother/baby separation, and asking for help breastfeeding.	5 Physician or midwife	No explicit breastfeeding promotion or support. Hospital had 1 lactation consultant (IBCLC), available weekdays, whose primary focus was women intending to exclusively breastfeed or at risk for breastfeeding difficulties. Midway through the study, hospital postpartum and labor and delivery nursing staff began attending a 20-hr Certified Lactation Consultant training course.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Туре	Bonuck, 2014b (PAIRINGS) <sup>92</sup> US	IG1  Lactation counseling and brief support	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Participants received prenatal education by physician or midwife as well as support with a lactation consultant during the prenatal and postpartum periods. Brief support: Study staff programmed prompts to appear in the electronic medical record during 5 prenatal visits. Each included 2 to 3 brief open-ended questions for providers (resident, attending obstetrician or gynecologist, or certified nurse-midwives) to ask that portrayed breastfeeding as the norm ("What are your plans for breastfeeding?"), sought to clarify knowledge about how long or how much to breastfeed, and elicited information on social network support. At the 36 wk prenatal visit, the provider encouraged immediate skin-to-skin contact, initiating breastfeeding after birth, decreasing mother/baby separation, and asking for help breastfeeding. Lactation support: Two study-supported lactation consultants had routine presence as prenatal sites and hospitals. The intervention included 2 prenatal sessions, a hospital visit, one visit during a routine pediatric appointment at 1 wk, and regular phone calls postpartum through 3 mos or until breastfeeding ceased. The prenatal sessions occurred in the examination room during the 30-plus mins of "downtime" while waiting for the prenatal care provider. If sessions were interrupted, attempts were made to finish them after the prenatal appointment. The first session focused on rapport building and education, and the second was on the practical aspects of breastfeeding. The study provided nursing bras and breast pumps to participants as needed. Lactation consultants met mothers and their infants at the 1-wk routine pediatric visit. Postpartum home visits were optional, based upon participants and lactation consultant preference and comfort.	24 20 Physician or Midwife and Lactation care provider (IBCLC)	No explicit breastfeeding promotion or support. Hospital had 1 lactation consultant (IBCLC), available weekdays, whose primary focus was women intending to exclusively breastfeed or at risk for breastfeeding difficulties. Midway through the study, hospital postpartum and labor and delivery nursing staff began attending a 20-hr Certified Lactation Consultant training course.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Bunik, 2010 <sup>95</sup> US	IG1 Telephone support	Postpartum	Intervention included daily phone calls by trained bilingual (English/Spanish) nurses starting day of discharge and continuing daily for first 2 wks postpartum. Nurses followed scripted protocols, which included cultural issues previously found to influence breastfeeding initiation or continuation. Topics also included: 1) advantages of colostrum and importance of a good latch; 2) engorgement; 3) concerns about unnecessary formula supplementation, supply and demand, assessing milk supply via infant stooling patterns; 5) breastfeeding duration and benefits; 6) causes of infant crying; 7) modesty, family support, violation of la cuarentena (ie, 40 days postpartum); 8) support groups and WIC; 9) mother's illness; 10) baby blues vs. postpartum depression; 11) medications and diet; 12) pumping and milk storage; 13) return to work or school or time away from baby; 14) growth spurts and cluster feeding. During calls, the nurses also used a published screening tool designed to ensure necessary referrals for lactation issues or medical problems.	2 14 Nurse	All participants received a bag with pamphlets in English and Spanish producted by US Department of Health and Human Services that included illustrations of breastfeeding postions and latch, a hand breast pump, lanolin cream, and a water bottle. Both groups also received usual hospital and discharge care, which included the formula company discharge bags.
	Carlsen, 2013 <sup>97</sup>	IG1	Postpartum	All participants were offered a minimum of 9	26	NR
	,			telephone consultations within first 6 mos		
	Denmark	Telephone		postpartum with a lactation consultant provided	9	
		support		that mothers breastfed during the entire period.		
				All contacts followed a structured design posing	Lactation care	
				questions of physical and psychological aspects	provider	
				related to breastfeeding and well-being of the mother and child. During the conversation, it was	(IBCLC)	
				determined whether the mother had sufficient		
				knowledge of breastfeeding, and advice was		
				provided if necessary. Initial contact was made		
				within first wk postpartum. 3 contacts were made		
				during first mo, and thereafter, participants were		
				contacted every 2nd wk until 8 wk postpartum and, thereafter, once monthly. Extra contacts		
				were offered for specific difficulties, whereas		
				support was stopped when breastfeeding was		
				terminated. All women had the direct telephone		
				number to the lactation consultant, and she was		
				available 7 d/wk. First contact was ~ 20 min, the following calls were between 5 and 10 min.		
				Tollowing calls were between 5 and 10 min.		

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Di Napoli, 2004 <sup>101</sup> Italy	IG1 Home	Postpartum	A home visit by a midwife carried out within the first 7 days after discharge to assist with breastfeeding and provide breastfeeding support.	1 2	NR
		breastfeeding support		After this session, the same midwife initiated a telephone counseling session to provide additional breastfeeding support.  232/266 IG participants adhered to study protocol.	Midwife (SLT)	
	Edwards, 2013 <sup>102</sup>	IG1	Prenatal, Peripartum,	During weekly prenatal home visits (average 10 visits), trained doulas focused on building	26	NR
	US	Lactation support	Postpartum	relationships with the mother while discussing pregnancy health, childbirth preparation, and	23	
		support		pregnancy health, childbirth preparation, and bonding with the unborn infant. They engaged mothers in ongoing conversations about infant feeding, listened to mothers' ideas and concerns about breastfeeding, and worked to dispel any myths that the mothers held. Doulas sometimes shared their personal experiences of breastfeeding or those of others in the community to help normalize the idea of breastfeeding for women from their cultural and community backgrounds. Doulas educated mothers about the benefits of breastfeeding, sometimes using print, video, or other informational materials. Doulas included fathers and mothers' family members in discussions about the benefits of breastfeeding and helped mothers gain family acceptance for decisions around feeding. During labor and delivery, the doulas were present to provide emotional support and encourage breastfeeding soon after birth. During the hospital stay and after discharge home, the doulas continued to provide encouragement and guidance as mothers negotiated the initial challenges of breastfeeding, including relieving breast discomfort, getting the infant to latch, and finding effective holding positions. Doulas suggested to mothers that they put the infant to breast at frequent intervals and to not introduce formula to infants while establishing lactation. Doulas provided information on ways to assess and reassure mothers that the infant was getting enough milk. During home visits in the first 3 mos postpartum (average 12 visits), doulas helped mothers adjust to parenthood and get to	Doula (SLT)	

	Author Voor				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Author, Year Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	,		<u> </u>	know their infants and how to care for them.  Doulas were available by telephone 24 hrs/day to help with problems. Doulas provided breast pumps for mothers who were returning to work or school. For mothers who were feeding breast milk from bottles or using formula, doulas discouraged use of cereal in the bottle. Doulas discouraged introduction of solid food during the early mos of life for both breastfed and formula-fed infants.		
	Elliott-Rudder, 2014 <sup>80</sup>	IG1 Lactation	Postpartum	Intervention was a structured conversation to support continuation of breastfeeding in mothers who had been breastfeeding for at least 8 wks	0.14	Usual care from nurses who had not received WHO breastfeeding support training and who
	Australia	support		using a motivational interviewing approach. A Conversation Tool was used with each breastfeeding mother who attended a general practice intervention site for infant immunization at 2, 4 or 6 mos. Mothers were informed of the recommendation for breastfeeding exclusively to 6 mos and maintenance to 1 to 2 yrs and asked 'How would that work for you?' According to the mother's response, the practice nurse provided a targeted proactive conversational action. Those who planned to cease breastfeeding were given nondirective health information, and their autonomy was affirmed. Those who were unsure were asked about perceived barriers and benefits, and their ambivalence was acknowledged. Those who planned to continue breastfeeding were asked about future challenges such as their return to work and were given anticipatory guidance. The conversation closed after community support resources were offered.	Nurse (SLT)	commonly asked whether the mother had any problems.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Fu, 2014 <sup>82</sup> Hong Kong	IG1 Telephone support	Postpartum	Participants in the telephone support intervention were contacted within 72 hrs of hospital discharge and then weekly for up to 4 wks postpartum or until they had stopped breastfeeding. Early	5	Standard postnatal hospital care consisted of routine perinatal care according to the type of delivery, group postnatal lactation
				support sessions focused on general breastfeeding knowledge, assessing infant feeding patterns, physical and emotional health of the mother, and guidance on managing problems such as poor latching, poor weight gain, insufficient milk production, and breast complications. In later support sessions, additional advice was given on breastfeeding discretely in public places, preparation for returning to work, and expressing and storing breast milk. Exclusive breastfeeding was promoted and encouraged at each support session, and participants were told where to seek further professional support or medical consultation, if necessary. Sessions lasted for 20-30 mins.	Nurse (SLT)	education provided by a midwife or lactation consultant, one-on-one assistance with breastfeeding if problems arose and time permitted, and post-discharge follow-up, either at the outpatient clinic of the delivery hospital or at the nearest Maternal and Child Health Center. Information on available peer support groups is also provided upon hospital discharge.
		IG2	Peripartum	In-hospital support consisted of three one-to-one sessions, with two delivered to participants in the	0.42	Standard postnatal hospital care consisted of routine perinatal care
		In-hospital support		first 24 hrs postpartum and one delivered in the second 24 hrs, prior to discharge. Participants	3	according to the type of delivery, group postnatal lactation
				were given information on the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding, the physiology of lactation, and common early breastfeeding problems. In addition, participants were given guidance and instruction on breastfeeding techniques, such as positioning the infant, latching and attachment, assessing feeding behaviors, and manual breast milk expression. During each session, participants were observed positioning, attaching, and feeding the newborn, with appropriate feedback provided and hands-on guidance only when necessary. Each session lasted for 30–45 mins, and participants were encouraged to raise questions and concerns.	Nurse (SLT	education provided by a midwife or lactation consultant, one-on-one assistance with breastfeeding if problems arose and time permitted, and post-discharge follow-up, either at the outpatient clinic of the delivery hospital or at the nearest Maternal and Child Health Center. Information on available peer support groups is also provided upon hospital discharge.

_	Author, Year			L. D. H	Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Gagnon, 2002 <sup>104</sup>	IG1	Postpartum	Nurse visit at 3-4 days postpartum in the woman's home by community nurse. Home visits	0.14	Usual care was a 48-hr postpartum telephone contact and a day 3
	Canada	Home		were planned to last 1 hr, during which time	1	postpartum hospital visit. Clinic
	Carlaua	breastfeeding		"usual care" similar to that described in the	'	contacts lasted a maximum of 45
		support		literature on early postpartum care would be	Nurse (SLT)	mins, during which a standardized
				provided. Nurse contacts continued when	()	plan of care was provided. Care
				community follow-up was judged to be required.		provided during each contact
				They also received nurse telephone contact at		(telephone + visit) was similar to
				48 hrs post-birth as part of usual care.		that described in the literature on
						early postpartum care. Nurse
						contacts were terminated at the
						completion of the clinic visit, although referral for continued care
						was available.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Gijsbers, 2006 <sup>84</sup>	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	A trained research assistant visited families twice before birth (first between 3rd and 6th mo of	20	Families received usual care in which breastfeeding was
	Netherlands	Lactation support	·	pregnancy and second around 8th mo) and once after (within 4 wks after delivery); the 3 visits	3	recommended for 6 mos for all babies.
				lasted about 1 hr each. The main goal was to	Research	
				prepare women for future problems that might occur during breastfeeding for at least 6 mos. At	staff	
				the first visit, women received a booklet about		
				breastfeeding. The contents of the booklet		
				reinforced the information given orally and		
				included specific health benefits for families predisposed to asthma, how breastfeeding works,		
				and how to manage breastfeeding side effects		
				such as sore nipples. During home visits, the		
				assistant motivated women to breastfeed for 6 mos and postpone solids for 6 mos. Questions		
				about breastfeeding were answered. All aspects		
				of breastfeeding illustrated in the booklet were		
				reviewed. At the end of the 1st and 2nd visit		
				women were encouraged to read the booklet themselves and with their partner before the next		
				home visit. Intervention was based on the		
				principles of the Attitude-Social influences-Self-		
				Efficacy (ASE) model and results of previous		
				focus group interviews. Important topics arising from focus groups were integrated into a booklet.		
				The booklet was divided into 3 parts: pregnancy,		
				period just after birth, and mos after birth, in which		
				practical information regarding breastfeeding and		
				expressing milk alternated with the personal experiences of 3 mothers and 1 father, who were		
				used as models. Models differed in age, ethnic		
				group, and socioeconomic status to increase the		
				chance that families could identify with a model.		

_	Author, Year	1.4	<b></b>		Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Henderson, 2001 <sup>109</sup> Australia	Positioning and attachment support	Peripartum	One 30-min 1-on-1 standardized education for 30 min completed during the infant's breastfeeding session(s). Materials covered simple breast anatomy, various positions of infant at the breast, principles of correct attachment, and the 3 stages of suckling. A cloth breast model was used to demonstrate anatomy and physiology and the importance of positioning. Advice and verbal assistance were given with positioning and attachment during breastfeed using a hands-off technique (educator did not physically position or attach the infant). The technique of self-positioning and self-attachment by the woman and the cues she could use to determine that her technique was correct were the main foci of the intervention. During the session and on each subsequent day in the hospital the woman's positioning and attachment technique was assessed and immediate feedback given.	0.14  1  Research staff	NR
	Hopkinson, 2009 <sup>111</sup>	IG1	Postpartum	One 60 min counseling session at the hospital-based breastfeeding clinic at 3 to 7 days	0.14	Routine care included 4 hrs or more of mother–infant separation
	US	Lactation support		postpartum. An appointment reminder card was included with the discharge papers. A breastfeeding history, breast exam, infant oralmotor assessment, measurement of infant weight, evaluation of latch and milk transfer, and discussion of maternal concerns and support system were included in counseling sessions. The importance of exclusive breastfeeding was reviewed, and plans for attaining exclusivity were discussed if the mother desired to achieve that goal. Information and skills training were provided as indicated for identified deficits, concerns, and breastfeeding problems. Additional visits and/or telephone consultations were provided if deemed necessary by the mother and the clinic staff. Women who missed appointments received a phone call. Visits were rescheduled if possible; if not, counseling was provided over the phone. During phone counseling, mothers were screened for breastfeeding problems and concerns regarding adequacy of milk supply. Problem management was discussed where indicated.	1 Breastfeeding counselor	immediately after delivery, bedside breastfeeding assistance before discharge, and free formula discharge packs. Infants at elevated risk for hyperbilirubinemia and their mothers returned to the hospital's Newborn Follow-up Clinic at 3 to 5 days, where they were screened for medical and breastfeeding problems. Both highand low-risk mothers received the telephone number of the hospital's breastfeeding clinic and the WIC office with instructions to call for breastfeeding assistance if needed. The first well child exam for low-risk infants occurred approximately 2 wks after discharge coincidently with the first postpartum WIC visit.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Howell, 2014 <sup>114</sup> US	IG1  Brief education and counseling	Peripartum, Postpartum	Women were given a 2-step, culturally tailored intervention. The 1st step occurred in the hospital when a trained, bilingual social worker reviewed an education pamphlet and partner summary sheet with the mother. Education materials included information on breastfeeding, breast/nipple pain, c-section delivery, site pain, episiotomy site pain, urinary incontinence, back pain, headaches, hair loss, hemorrhoids, infant colic, and depressive symptoms. Additional information was provided on social support. A partner summary sheet spelled out the typical pattern of experience for mothers after delivery to help normalize the experience. During the 2nd step, which was the 2 wk post-delivery call, the social worker assessed patients' symptoms, skills in symptom management, and other needs. Patients and the social worker created action plans to address current needs that included assessment of community resources. 93% of IG was successfully reached for the 2-wk call.	2 Social worker	Women received routine postpartum education (i.e., discharge materials, television educational programs on infant care, breastfeeding, and peripartum care). Additionally, they received a 2-wk postdelivery call to inform them of future study assessments and a list of health-related and community resources was mailed to them.
	Kools, 2005 <sup>81</sup>	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Intervention started during the usual care prepartum home visit by the maternity nurse and	3	Pregnant women typically apply for maternity care between the
	Netherlands	Home breastfeeding support	Postpartum	included personal communication, brochure, and mother's booklet. Home visit post-birth included personal communication, mother's booklet, and phone calls. The health counseling and mother's booklet included 6 steps addressing the behavioral determinants of breastfeeding: 1) knowledge, 2) motivation, 3) ability, 4) intention, 5) practice, and 6) continuation. The booklet was created to enhance cooperation between various interventionists. Mothers were asked to log their BF barriers, problems, and motivation to continue BF before each next regular contact with the interventionists. Mothers were also given a phone number to reach the interventionist in case BF questions or problems arose. Lactation consultants, free of charge, were available for interventionists to fax their concerns or questions 24 hr/day about BF on a structured form. After receiving the fax, lactation consultants contacted the interventionist or mother within 24 hr and tried	3 Physician, nurse, and lactation care provider (NL)	6th and 7th mos of pregnancy and receive a home visit by a maternity care nurse in the 7th or 8th mo. Postpartum care NR.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
				to resolve the problems. If needed, the lactation consultants could make home visits or follow-up phone calls.		
	Labarere, 2005 <sup>120</sup> France	IG1 Lactation support	Postpartum	In addition to the usual pre-discharge and post-discharge support, mothers were invited to attend an individual, routine, preventive, outpatient visit in the office of a participating primary care physician within 2 wks after birth.	0.14  1  Physician (SLT)  ***Pediatrician or primary care physician	Breastfeeding support by ward nurses, an examination at discharge, and a telephone number of a peer support group that they could call to ask questions or request help. Post-discharge follow-up monitoring consisted of routine outpatient visits in a PCP's office.
	Mattar, 2007 <sup>122</sup> Singapore	IG1 Lactation support	Prenatal	Women received one session of antenatal breastfeeding education in which they were shown a 16-min educational video entitled "14 Steps to Better Breastfeeding", which introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, latch on, and breast care, and discussed common concerns. They also received a booklet describing the techniques and benefits of breastfeeding. In addition, women had one 15 min session with a lactation counselor who assessed adequacy for breastfeeding and answered questions.	0.14  1  Lactation care provider (NL)	Included access to postnatal BF support.
	McDonald, 2010 <sup>123</sup> Australia	IG1 Lactation support	Peripartum, Postpartum	Received a package of interventions in addition to the routine midwifery care. The package included a comprehensive individual educational session in their hospital room and followup support at home. The aim was to complement information available in the routine promotional literature or the inhouse video. The session reinforced advice about positioning and attachment, and reviewed common breastfeeding problems, growth and development, crying patterns, and settling techniques. On discharge, women were telephoned twice weekly and offered weekly home visits by a research midwife until the baby was 6 wks old.		All women received breastfeeding promotional literature and had access to an in-house video system on which they were able to view videos giving current information about establishing breastfeeding. The majority of women received one or more home visits by a hospital-based midwife after discharge and before their baby was 7 days old (to provide health checks of mothers and babies, although breastfeeding was addressed). All women had access to lactation consultants at outpatient clinics.  *Most BFHI steps completed, but not accredited

Туре	Author, Year Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Est Dur (wks) No Sessions* Provider	Usual Care Description
1,700	McQueen, 2011 <sup>124</sup>	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Standard in-hospital and community postpartum care that included followup by a public health	2	Standard in-hospital and community postpartum care that
	Canada	Self-efficacy counseling		nurse post-hospital discharge, plus a self-efficacy intervention. The first session occurred within 24 hrs of delivery. The second session also took place in-hospital, ideally within 24 hrs of the first session. In addition, observation of breastfeeding at one of the two in-hospital sessions was planned to try to maximize successful breastfeeding. The third session occurred via telephone within 1 wk of hospital discharge. The one-on-one sessions were delivered in a standardized format that included (a) assessment, (b) strategies to increase breastfeeding self-efficacy, and (c) evaluation. The assessment component included an examination of the mother's (a) breastfeeding goals, (b) breastfeeding self-efficacy using the BSES-SF, (c) low-scoring and high-scoring items on the BSES-SF, (d) perceptions related to each low-scoring and high-scoring item, and (e) general physiologic and elective state including fatigue, pain, and symptoms of depression and/or anxiety. Strategies were implemented in an effort to increase mothers' breastfeeding self-efficacy, including performance accomplishment, vicarious experience, verbal persuasion, and physiologic cues.	3 Nurse	included followup by a public health nurse posthospital discharge.
	Paul, 2012 <sup>130</sup>	IG1	Postpartum	Home nursing visits were scheduled to occur within 48 hrs of discharge, typically 3 to 5 days	2	Usual care including only office- based care. Postdischarge visit
	US	Home visits		after childbirth. Before hospital discharge, an office visit was also scheduled for intervention newborns approximately 1 wk following the home visit to establish a medical home for the newborn and to ensure recovery from expected, initial weight loss after birth. Depending on individual circumstances (eg, day of the wk, gestational age, early discharge), these visits were scheduled to occur 5 to 14 days after birth.	2 Nurse (SLT)	timing for office-based care newborns was determined by the newborn nursery physician, and maternal office followup was scheduled by the obstetricians.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Pollard, 2011 <sup>131</sup> US	IG1 Self- monitoring	Peripartum, Postpartum	During one postpartum session, participants watched one 35 min educational video and received instructions on completing a daily breastfeeding log for 6 wks. The video included content on effective latch and positioning strategies, milk production and transfer, signs of adequate intake, infant feeding patterns, average length and frequency of feedings, use of breast massage/compression, management of sore nipples and engorgement, recognizing and managing plugged ducts and mastitis, manual expression, indications and use of manual and electric pumps, sources of support and resources, and maternal nutrition. Participants also received 3 weekly followup phone calls at 1, 2, and 3 wks following delivery aimed at providing a reminder to return any logs.	6 4 Research staff	Usual care (NR) plus a standardized educational video.
	Quinlivan, 2003 <sup>132</sup>	IG1 Home	Postpartum	All participants were provided with routine postnatal support, counselling, and information services provided by the hospital, including	16 6	Routine postnatal support, counselling, and information services provided by the hospital,
	Australia	breastfeeding support		access to routine hospital home-visiting services. Patients in the intervention group also received a series of structured home visits undertaken by one of two certified nurse midwives. The topics of the visits, done 1 wk, 2 wks, 1 mo, 2 mos, 4 mos, and 6 mos after birth, included teaching breastfeeding and maternal bonding skills, as well as general breastfeeding support. Intervention also included education regarding infant vaccinations and contraception.	Midwife	including access to routine hospital domiciliary home-visiting services.
	Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	Two-session lactation support program. First, women were visited by a lactation consultant	2	Received routine antenatal, intrapartum, and postnatal
	Singapore	Lactation support		within the first three postnatal days before discharge from hospital. They also received the same printed guides (as IG1 received) on breast feeding during this visit. A second support session was provided during their first routine postnatal visit one to two wks after delivery. During these two encounters, the women received hands-on instructions in latching on, proper positioning, and other techniques to avoid common complications. Each encounter lasted about 30 mins.	2 Lactation care provider (NL)	obstetric care with no special intervention applied. At study hospital, this included optional antenatal classes, which did address infant feeding, and postnatal visits by a lactation consultant should any problems with breast feeding arise.

_	Author, Year	1.4			Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Wallace, 2006 <sup>136</sup>	IG1	Peripartum	Midwives attended a 4-hr long workshop covering	0.14	Control midwives received at
	UK	III landa affil		the rationale and skills of a 'hands off' approach	4	least an hr of breastfeeding policy
	UK	"Hands off"		to care at first feed, including explanation of the	1	update and briefing on the trial.  Routine care followed each
		lactation support		protocol. The experimental protocol included advice about baby initiation of feeding, positioning	Midwifo	maternity unit's policy, which did
		Support		and attachment. The rationale included	MIGWIIE	not stipulate advice about
				physiological explanation of milk synthesis, supply		positioning, attachment nor
				and removal, facilitated by correct attachment of		verbal-only care. Additional
				the baby to the breast, rather than the nipple.		breastfeeding advice leaflets were
				Positioning of the mother and baby to achieve		available to mothers and staff in
				comfortable and effective feeding includes		line with the local policy.
				ensuring the mother is sitting upright and		However, the trial protocol
				supported, her baby is supported and able to take		required that this care was
				sufficient breast tissue into the mouth, feeding is uninterrupted and feed times and duration are		delivered by a midwife, which was
				baby led. Verbal-only care was advised to ensure		not required by local maternity unit policies at this time. Care at
				the mother was able to attach the baby herself. A		subsequent feeds was not
				leaflet explained this information and also		controlled in this trial.
				reminded mothers that their baby needed only		
				breast milk until at least 4 mos post-partum, in		
				line with contemporary UK guidance.		

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
•	Wen, 2011 <sup>139</sup>	IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	Four community nurses were recruited and then trained by health promotion practitioners to deliver	53	Usual childhood nursing service, comprising 1 home visit within a
	Australia	Home	·	the staged intervention, which in the first yr	6	mo of birth if needed.
		breastfeeding		comprised 1 home visit at 30 to 36 wks' gestation		
		support		and 5 home visits at 1, 3, 5, 9, and 12 mos after	Nurse	
				birth. Those mothers who received the baseline		
				assessment after giving birth received only 5		
				home visits. The timing of the visits corresponds		
				to milestones in early childhood development,		
				particularly with regard to healthy feeding		
				practice, nutrition, and physical activity, as well as		
				parent-child interactions. At each visit, the		
				research nurse spent 1 to 2 hrs with the mother		
				and infant. The nurse addressed 4 key areas:		
				infant feeding practices, infant nutrition and active		
				play, family physical activity and nutrition, as well		
				as social support. Each visit involved standard		
				information with key discussion points for each		
				key area and appropriate resources to reinforce the information. One-to-one consultation focusing		
				on feeding behavior and recommended problem		
				solving activities were conducted. A checklist for		
				each visit was developed to ensure all information		
				was covered. The intervention resources		
				promoting breastfeeding, appropriate timing of		
				introduction of solids, tummy time and active play,		
				as well as family nutrition and physical activity		
				were developed on the basis of the Infant Feeding		
				Guidelines for Health Workers, the Australian		
				National Health and Medical Research Council		
				Dietary Guidelines, the Australian Guide to		
				Healthy Eating, and the National Physical Activity		
				Guidelines. The key intervention messages		
				included "breast is best"; "no solids for me until 6		
				mos"; "I eat a variety of fruits and vegetables		
				every day"; "only water in my cup"; and "I am part		
				of an active family".		

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	IG1	Prenatal	The intervention consisted of standard prenatal care, plus a 20- to 30-min one-to-one	0.14	Routine maternal and fetal health checks by either clinic midwives
	Hong Kong	Lactation support		breastfeeding education and support session based on the WHO guidelines for baby-friendly hospitals and evidence-based maternity care. Handouts about the content discussed were distributed to participants at the end of the intervention and active communication with family and peers was encouraged. At the end of the education session, an additional 10–15 mins was also allocated to answer questions or address any concerns of the mother. A log sheet was kept to ensure consistency in information delivery and to keep track of questions raised by participants.	1 Nurse (SLT)	or obstetricians along with health education to promote a healthy pregnancy. Breastfeeding was promoted and childbirth preparation and breastfeeding classes were available to mothers at no cost.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Peer Support	Anderson, 2005 <sup>91</sup> US	IG1 Peer counseling	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	3 prenatal (first after enrollment, second occurred before 36 wks, and third at 36 wks) home visits (actual 2.6 hrs total), 9 postpartum (for 6 wks) home visits (planned and actual time NR), daily in-hospital visits (actual 2.2 hrs total) during postpartum stay from an assigned peer counselor. During the 3 prenatal home visits, the peer counselor reviewed the benefits and reasons for EBF, avoidance of the use of feeding bottles and pacifiers, and tested for inverted nipples. They also reviewed behaviors that impede early initiation and successful breastfeeding and explained why EBF babies do not need water during the first 6 mos of life, infant cues for readiness to breastfeed, and proper latch-on technique or positioning. If the woman had a video cassette recorder she was provided with an opportunity to watch a breastfeeding video. The entire family was encouraged to participate in the education, especially the principal person expected to support the woman after delivery. The assigned peer counselor also visited the mother-infant pair at least once a day starting within 24 hrs after delivery and continued for as long as the dyad remained hospitalized. The 9 postpartum home visits were to provide hands-on breastfeeding support and counseling according to the mother's needs. The mothers in the PC had both the beeper and cell phone numbers of the peer counselor to be contacted during lactation crises occurring between scheduled home visits. The content of the postpartum home visits and any phone counseling were based on the specific needs for breastfeeding education and support of the mother-infant pair. Routine breastfeeding care from the hospital was also delivered.	14 13 Peer counselor (SLT)	Conventional breastfeeding prenatal education from the Women's Ambulatory Health Services clinic staff. On delivery, they received hands-on breastfeeding assistance and education from the maternity ward nursing staff. If any of these mothers experienced breastfeeding problems requiring assistance beyond that routinely provided by staff nurses, the hospital's lactation consultant on duty was called to assist the patient. Hospital is BFHI-certified and staff are trained to provide lactation education and support to mothers who attend the prenatal clinic and deliver at the hospital. The hospital also provides a breastfeeding warm line that nursing mothers can call 24 hrs a day for support and counseling from a staff nurse/lactation consultant during lactation crises after hospital discharge

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Туре	Chapman, 2013 <sup>98</sup> US	Intervention IG1 Peer counseling	Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Access to three 60-90 min prenatal visits (average=2), daily in-hospital visits (average=3), up to 11 postpartum home visits (average=9) from a specialized breastfeeding peer counselor during the first 6 mos postpartum. The peer counseling intervention replaced the optional routine peer counseling program that was available to controls. Prenatal peer counselor visits involved assessments of previous breastfeeding knowledge/experiences, personalized education on breastfeeding logistics, the risks of formula feeding, and anticipatory guidance. Daily peer counselor visits were similar to those usually provided, except the peer counselor ensured that women received a manual breast pump before discharge. Postpartum visits and phone calls were individualized and tentatively scheduled as follows: 3 visits (first wk postpartum); 2 visits during each of the second, third, and fourth wks; and weekly visits during wks 5 and 6. Participants were contacted by telephone between 2 and 3 mos postpartum, with additional calls and home visits provided as needed. Participants received a large breastfeeding sling to facilitate close infant contact and discreet breastfeeding. Those separated from their infant due to work or school received a single electric breast pump with correctly sized flanges.	30 16 Peer counselor (SLT)	Prenatal breastfeeding education included brief breastfeeding discussions during routine clinic appointments and receipt of written educational materials. Staff nurses provided routine perinatal breastfeeding assistance, with lactation consultants available as needed. After discharge, participants could call the hospital's "warm line" with breastfeeding questions. Standard care also included optional support from peer counselors, who provided the following: up to 3 prenatal visits (covering breastfeeding benefits, breastfeeding myths, positioning, and common breastfeeding problems); daily (except Sundays) in-hospital visits to assist with latch and positioning and to educate regarding infant cues and breastfeeding frequency; up to 7 personalized home visits during the first yr postpartum; and telephone support. If available, electric breast pumps were loaned as needed. To receive prenatal peer counselor visits, controls could self-refer or be referred to the program at no charge. During the hospital stay, controls were routinely visited by standard peer counselors during daily rounds, and those desiring peer counseling services after discharge were enrolled in the standard peer counseling program.  *BFHI accredited

	Author Voor				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Author, Year Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
туре	Dennis, 2002 <sup>99</sup> Canada	IG1 Peer counseling	Postpartum	Peer volunteers were asked to contact new mother within 48 hrs after hospital discharge and as frequently thereafter as the mother deemed necessary. 97% were telephone contacts and 3% were face-to-face meetings. Frequency of contact was not standardized in order to individualize the intervention to the mothers' specific needs and to give credibility to the peer volunteers' experiential knowledge.	26 5 Peer counselor	Women had access to the conventional in-hospital and community postpartum support services such as those provided by hospital-based nursing and medical staff, a hospital-based breastfeeding clinic managed by lactation consultants, a telephone breastfeeding support line managed by hospital nursing staff, and support services provided by public health nurses at the local regional community health department and by community-based physicians and pediatricians.
	Di Meglio, 2010 <sup>100</sup> US	IG1 Peer telephone support	Postpartum	Peer support persons telephoned the new mother at 2, 4, and 7 days post-discharge and then at 2, 3, 4, and 5 wks post-discharge. No specific discussion topics were assigned. Peers introduced themselves and asked about the breastfeeding experience. They offered their telephone numbers so that the new mothers could call for support. They were advised to refer anyone with a problem to telephone resources for breastfeeding information or to their physician. Monthly pizza parties (including transportation) were held for peer counselors, participating mothers, and their children.	5 7 Peer counselor (SLT)	NR
	Graffy, 2004 <sup>106</sup> UK	IG1 Peer counseling	Prenatal, Postpartum	Peer counselors accredited by the UK National Childbirth Trust visited women once before birth and offered postnatal telephone support or further home visits if requested. At the antenatal visit the counselors gave the women a contact card and two leaflets published by the National Childbirth Trust and Health Education Authority.	NR  1  Peer counselor (SLT)	NR

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Jolly, 2012 <sup>83</sup> UK	IG1 Peer counseling	Prenatal, Postpartum	A new community-based prenatal service using peer support workers which included one initial introduction in the prenatal clinic followed by a minimum of two contacts, one at 24-28 wks' gestation and the other around 36 wks' gestation. The first of these could directly follow the initial introduction, but at least one contact was to be in the home. The duration of each support session was based on need. The peer support worker followed up women who initiated breast feeding to give postnatal support. They were informed directly by hospital peer support workers or community midwives when women were discharged from the hospital, so that they could contact and visit them within 24-48 hrs. Further contacts would be needs based (by phone or home visits), but with a minimum of 1 contact in the first wk. The purpose of the prenatal consultations was to provide advice and information on the benefits of breast feeding and to be able to support women with particular cultural barriers or concerns.	4 Peer counselor (SLT)	Community prenatal and postnatal midwife care (some home-based), which includes breastfeeding advice. Health visitors also routinely see women postnatally, sometimes home-based, from 10 to14 days, which includes breastfeeding advice as appropriate. In-hospital breastfeeding advice and breastfeeding peer support workers was avaiable from some midwives and hospitals in study area.
	Muirhead, 2006 <sup>126</sup> Scotland	IG1 Peer counseling	Prenatal, Postpartum	Peer supporters visited participants at least once during the prenatal period. Further prenatal support was provided to women who requested it. Peer support was available to women if they were breastfeeding on returning home after delivery and if peer supporters were informed in time. Mothers still breastfeeding when returning home were contacted by their peer supporters at least every 2 days or as often as required by phone or a personal visit up until day 28. If requested the peer supporters provided further support up to 16 wks. The content included both specific breastfeeding information and skills and the development of other transferable skills to enhance peer support.	4 15 Peer counselor (SLT)	Community midwife for the first 10 days, health visitor after 10 days, breastfeeding support groups, and breastfeeding workshops.
	Reeder, 2014 <sup>133</sup> US	IG1 Peer telephone support	Prenatal, Postpartum	Women were assigned to low- or high-frequency telephone counseling (4 vs. 8 calls, respectively). Women assigned to the low-frequency peer counseling group were scheduled to receive 4 planned, peer-initiated contacts: the first after initial prenatal assignment, the second 2 wks	8 Peer counselor	Standard WIC breastfeeding promotion and support (NR)

					Est Dur (wks)	
	Author, Year				No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
				before the expected due date, and the third and	(SLT)	
				fourth at 1 and 2 wks postpartum. Women in the	, ,	
				higher-frequency treatment group were to receive		
				8 scheduled calls. The first 4 calls were the same		
				as those in the low frequency treatment group		
				and the last 4 calls were scheduled at mos 1, 2, 3,		
				and 4. Also received a packet of information from		
				the State office that included a guide to		
				breastfeeding and an information sheet.		

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Туре	Country Wambach, 2011 <sup>137</sup> US	Intervention  IG1  Peer counseling and lactation care provider support	Timing Prenatal, Peripartum, Postpartum	Intervention Details  A certified lactation consultant (also an RN) and a trained peer counselor (who had been a breastfeeding teen mother) provided the intervention composed of prenatal, in-hospital, and postnatal education and support, through 4 wks postpartum. Intervention based on the theory of planned behavior, adolescent decision-making theory, and developmental theories. Two prenatal classes (1.5 and 2 hr in length) provided content from the Breastfeeding Educated and Supported Teen Club curriculum. Classes, co-taught by the lactation consultant and peer counselor, focused on the benefits of breastfeeding for mother and baby, decision making, and the "how to" of breastfeeding as well as managing breastfeeding after return to work and/or school. Participants were encouraged to bring a support person of their choice to the classes to enhance social network support for breastfeeding initiation and continuation. Participants were required to attend at least one class, or they were dropped from the study. Peer counselor telephone calls occurred before and after Class 1 and following Class 2 to provide ongoing decision-making support and information. The in-hospital experimental intervention was a face-to-face visit from the peer counselor who provided encouragement and support for early breastfeeding efforts. Those teens choosing to breastfeed, or leaning toward doing so, also received a lactation consultant visit. Postpartum telephone contact with the lactation consultant and/or peer counselor occurred at 4, 7, 11, and 18 days and 4 wks for those experimental participants who initiated breastfeeding, unless they ceased breastfeeding before 4 wks. These calls provided ongoing support and advice to address barriers to continued breastfeeding (e.g., breastfeeding problems, milk supply concerns, preparation for return to school). Participants received a double-set-up electric breast pump at no charge on an as-needed basis (e.g., return to school or work).	Provider  8  11  Peer counselor (SLT) and lactation care provider (IBCLC)	Participants received standard prenatal and postpartum care at their respective clinic with varying provider types and birth settings. No standards were placed on level or content of care, or on educational or social support services for usual care group participants.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
Education	Abbass-Dick, 2015 <sup>90</sup> Canada	IG1  Co-parenting breastfeeding education	Peripartum, Postpartum	Co-parenting breastfeeding support intervention consisting of one 15 min counseling session in the postpartum hospital unit, at which time the couples were provided with breastfeeding information, an information package including a co-parenting workbook, breastfeeding workbook, and information on a secure study Web site was reviewed, and couples were given the option of watching an 11-min co-parenting and breastfeeding video in the hospital or at home at a later point in time. The couples were followed up at home with e-mails at 1 and 3 wks postpartum and a telephone call at 2 wks postpartum. The coparenting workbook, video, and Web site contained extensive information on breastfeeding and co-parenting. Elements were designed to help couples work cooperatively toward meeting their jointly determined child health outcomes.	1 Lactation care provider (NL)	Standard in-hospital breastfeeding support and any breastfeeding assistance that was proactively sought in the community.
	Forster, 2004 <sup>103</sup> Australia	IG1 Group education, attitude modification	Prenatal	Two 60 min group sessions that focused on changing attitudes regarding breastfeeding. Women were encouraged to bring their partners or significant other. The first class included information about advantages of breastfeeding, an exploration of the expectant parents' views and attitudes on breastfeeding, and their perceptions of the views of their family and friends, as well as community attitudes. Each participant was encouraged to interview her own mother and her partners' mother about how they fed them as babies and about the mother's present attitudes to breastfeeding. The second class was a group discussion based on these interviews and participant's reactions, and a discussion of resources available for breastfeeding women. Women were encouraged to develop a breastfeeding plan. All participants were approximately 20-25 wks gestation.	2 Midwife and Community educator	Standard care which included formal breastfeeding education sessions; breastfeeding information as a component of standard childbirth education courses; lactation consultant support as necessary (inpatient and outpatient); peer support by means of community breastfeeding groups; optional attendance at a breastfeeding information evening; any videos or education on breastfeeding presented in the postnatal ward during their stay; 24-hr telephone counseling support; and a postnatal home visit by a domiciliary midwife.

_	Author, Year		<b>T</b> '	1	Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention IG2 Group education, practical skills training	Timing Prenatal	Single 90 min group session that focused on practical breastfeeding skills using teaching aids that were previously developed and tested. The technique of attachment of the baby to the breast was explained and demonstrated using dolls and knitted breasts. Breastfeeding complications and management were discussed. All participants were approximately 20-25 wks gestation.	0.14  1  Midwife and Community educator	Standard care which included formal breastfeeding education sessions; breastfeeding information as a component of standard childbirth education courses; lactation consultant support as necessary (inpatient and outpatient); peer support by means of community breastfeeding groups; optional attendance at a breastfeeding information evening; any videos or education on breastfeeding presented in the postnatal ward during their stay; 24-hr telephone counseling support; and a postnatal home visit by a domiciliary midwife.
	Kellams, 2015 <sup>116</sup>	IG1	Prenatal	25-minute educational breastfeeding video (Better	0.14	*BFHI accredited Prenatal nutrition video
	US	(Breastfeeding video)		Breastfeeding) that provided general information about breastfeeding, including importance, latch, hunger cues, positioning, sore nipples,	1	
				engorgement, how breast milk is made, and lifestyle issues. The videos were shown using a laptop and earbuds either in an alcove in the waiting room and/or in the examination room while the participant waited to be seen by the physician or nurse practitioner.	NA	

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Kronborg, 2012 <sup>118</sup>	IG1	Prenatal	"Ready for Child Programme" comprised of 3 group sessions, each lasting 3 hrs. The training	5	Usual care offered by the clinic, which did not include any
	Denmark	Group education		sessions were attended between the 30th and 35th wks of pregnancy and the woman's partner	3	antenatal training program, but no effort was made to prevent the
				was also invited to participate. The maximum number of couples in each class was 8. The content of the 3 modules included lectures and discussions about 1) the delivery process, pain relief, coping strategies, 2) infant care and breastfeeding, and 3) the paternal role and the relationship between the woman and her partner. The intervention sought to create a sense of coherence by taking its starting point in the experiences of the becoming parents and asking them to bring a doll for the sessions. The doll was used as an ice-breaker, a connector to the time following birth, and an instrumental guide in infant care and breastfeeding practice. In module 2 the	Midwife	reference group from seeking additional support elsewhere. Different antenatal training programs were provided by other stakeholders, mainly by relaxation therapists. Existing prenatal care includes standardized regular visits: 2 consultations at the GP, 2 ultrasounds scans in early pregnancy, 4-5 midwifery consultations, and a home visit by a health visitor for primiparous women.
				parents-to-be were told about components of importance for successful breastfeeding establishment, prepared for conceivable		*Most BFHI steps completed, but not accredited
				breastfeeding problems, and shown a film about breastfeeding The breastfeeding part was scheduled to approximately 2 hrs.		

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Туре	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
.,,,,,	Labarere, 2003 <sup>119</sup> France	IG1 Individual education	Peripartum	One 30 min one-on-one educational session taking place during the postpartum hospital stay delivered by a midwife or maternity ward intern. Session covered feeding positions, importance of feeding on demand, avoidance of formula and pacifier, management of sore nipple and breast engorgement and opportunities for prolonging lactation after returning to work. French law requires employers to allow working mothers to breastfeed or express milk at work. The intervention focused on legal dispositions such as adjustments in working hrs, provision of lactation breaks, availability of a refrigerator in which to store expressed milk. At the end of the session, the mother received a brochure containing key information in text and pictures on combining breastfeeding and maternal employment. They were also provided with the telephone number of a peer support group that they could call to ask questions and request help (21.5% of IG mothers versus 25.8% of CG mothers contacted peer support group, p=0.49). In France, the paid maternity leave is 6 wks before giving birth and 10 wks after. On the birth of third child, the paid maternity leave is increased to 8 wks before and 18 wks after the birth.	0.14  1  Midwife (SLT)	Breastfeeding support by ward nurses, an examination at discharge, and a telephone number of a peer support group that they could call to ask questions or request help. Post-discharge follow-up monitoring consisted of routine outpatient visits in a PCP's office.
	Lavender, 2005 <sup>79</sup>	IG1	Prenatal	Women were invited to attend one educational group support session with their attending	0.14	Included breastfeeding advice from attending midwives and
	UK	Group education		community midwife during the third trimester. Each session involved up to 8 women. Community midwives were also asked to attend a separate training workshop immediately preceding the joint educational session. The objectives of the sessions were to assist midwives to revise their knowledge of lactation management and to educate women on basic lactation physiology and effective breastfeeding techniques. Potential breastfeeding difficulties and possible solutions were also highlighted.	1 Infant feeding coordinator	information about hospital parent education classes

Intervention IG2 Individual education  IG1 Group education	Prenatal  Prenatal	Intervention Details  Women received one session of antenatal breastfeeding education in which they were shown a 16-min educational video entitled "14 Steps to Better Breastfeeding", which introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, latch on, and breast care, and discussed common concerns. They also received a booklet describing the techniques and benefits of breastfeeding.  One 2.5 hr prenatal breastfeeding group workshop designed using Bandura's theory of self-efficacy and adult learning principles. The four sources influencing self-efficacy	No Sessions* Provider  0.14  1  NA  0.14	Usual Care Description Included access to postnatal BF support.  Women not limited in the types of breastfeeding support they could
Individual education  IG1  Group		breastfeeding education in which they were shown a 16-min educational video entitled "14 Steps to Better Breastfeeding", which introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, latch on, and breast care, and discussed common concerns. They also received a booklet describing the techniques and benefits of breastfeeding.  One 2.5 hr prenatal breastfeeding group workshop designed using Bandura's theory of self-efficacy and adult learning principles. The	1 NA 0.14	women not limited in the types of
Group	Prenatal	workshop designed using Bandura's theory of self-efficacy and adult learning principles. The		
			1 NR	seek before and after their infant's birth. Usual care, including the choice of physician or midwife, frequency of prenatal visits, and attendance at prenatal classes, was defined by each mother.
IG1	Prenatal, Postpartum	One prenatal infant-feeding class at 32-36 wks gestation focused on increasing motivation to	3	NR
Group education		breastfeed including a breastfeeding information booklet and CD-ROM. Postnatal instructional support was provided by midwives up to 3 wks postnatal and additional lactation consultancy was provided on request.	2 Midwife	*BFHI accredited
IG2 Individual education	Prenatal	Women received one session of antenatal breastfeeding education in which they were shown a 16-min educational video entitled "14 Steps to Better Breastfeeding", which introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, latch on, and breast care, and discussed common concerns. They were also given printed guides on breast feeding and	0.14  1  Lactation care provider (NL)	Received routine antenatal, intrapartum, and postnatal obstetric care with no special intervention applied. At study hospital, this included optional antenatal classes, which did address infant feeding, and postnatal visits by a lactation consultant should any problems
	Individual	Individual	IG2 Prenatal Women received one session of antenatal breastfeeding education in which they were shown a 16-min educational video entitled "14 education Steps to Better Breastfeeding", which introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, latch on, and breast care, and discussed common concerns. They were also given printed guides on breast feeding and an opportunity to talk to a lactation counsellor for	provided on request.  IG2 Prenatal Women received one session of antenatal breastfeeding education in which they were shown a 16-min educational video entitled "14 1 education Steps to Better Breastfeeding", which introduced the benefits of breastfeeding, demonstrated correct positioning, latch on, and breast care, and discussed common concerns. They were also given printed guides on breast feeding and

Туре	Author, Year Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Est Dur (wks) No Sessions* Provider	Usual Care Description
	Hawkins, 2014a <sup>107</sup>	BFHI accreditation	Peripartum, Postpartum	BFHI accreditation from 1999-2009	NA NA	Non-BFHI accredited facilities
aff Tra	US				NA	
Policies, Programs, and Staff Training	Hawkins, 2014b <sup>108</sup>	BFHI accreditation	Peripartum, Postpartum	BFHI accreditation from 2004-2008	NA NA	Non-BFHI accredited facilities
grams,	US				NA	
s, Proç	Hoddinott, 2009 <sup>110</sup>	Policy to provide breastfeeding	Prenatal, Postpartum	Clinics asked to increase the amount of breastfeeding support groups provided and standardize the structure and content	104 NA	Usual care with no new breastfeeding group activity
Policie	Scotland	support groups		otaniaaraizo ano otrostaro ana content	Midwives and clinic staff	
	Carfoot, 2005 <sup>96</sup>	IG1	Peripartum	The midwife placed the baby naked in a prone position against the mother's skin between the	0.14	Babies were quickly dried and wrapped in a towel before being
	UK	Skin-to-skin contact		breasts as soon as possible after birth. The midwives were encouraged to weigh the baby before initiating skin-to-skin contact so it would	1 NA	handed to their mother or father. Mother-baby contact was interrupted for weighing, dressing,
Other Maternal Care Practices				allow the contact to continue until the baby showed signs of readiness to feed or the mother chose to end the contact. The specified minimum skin-to-skin duration was 45 mins. The midwife offered assistance with the first feed when both the mother and baby were ready.		and measuring the baby, or for suturing the mother's perineum after delivery. The midwife offered assistance with breastfeeding when both mother and baby were ready.
Care	Gouchon, 2010 <sup>105</sup>	IG1	Peripartum	Infants were bathed, dried, but not dressed; they were fitted with a disposable diaper and a cap	0.14	Newborns were bathed, dried, and dressed and held by the father or
ernal	Italy	Skin-to-skin contact		and wrapped in a warm cloth. When the mother was back in her room, the newborn was placed	1	put in the radiant warmer if there were no relatives or considered
Other Mai				on the mother's skin, between her breasts, and left covered with the cloth, the bed sheet, and blanket for a maximum of 2 hr. During this time, the mother was instructed on how to breast-feed. Mean duration of SSC was 82.9 +/- 45.9 mins.	NA	hypothermic; then, if not contraindicated, the infant was taken to the mother's room when she returned. The mother was instructed on how to breast-feed and, during the 2-hr observation time, could choose whether to keep the baby in her bed, in a crib next to the bed, or in the neonatal center. She could choose whether to breastfeed or not.

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
71	Howard, 2003 <sup>112</sup> US	IG1 Restricted pacifier use	Peripartum	After discharge, families were instructed (via a study discharge pack) to avoid use of a pacifier until the infant's fifth wk of life and in the interim to use alternative forms of comforting. The study pack also included educational materials on infant development, comforting a crying infant, and colic and included outlet covers as opposed to pacifiers. During the fourth wk of life, intervention families received 2 Soothie pacifiers in the mail. All families were also instructed about alternative methods of soothing infants (e.g., skin-to-skin contact, walking, massage, music, swaddling). Study did not report about pacifier use during the hospital stay. Median time to pacifier introduction, days (95% CI): IG: 28 (21-30) and CG: 7 (4-14).	NA NA NA	After discharge, families were given a study discharge pack containing 2 Soothie pacifiers and were instructed to introduce the pacifier as soon as possible, using it as a mode of comforting in addition to any other techniques they wished to use. All families were also instructed about alternative methods of soothing infants (e.g., skin-to-skin contact, walking, massage, music, swaddling).  *Holds active certificate of intent to become BFHI accredited
	Jenik, 2009 <sup>115</sup>	IG1	Postpartum	Mothers were encouraged to avoid pacifier use until breastfeeding was well established.	0.14	Received a package containing 6 silicone pacifiers and a written
	Argentina	Restricted pacifier use		Received a guide with other alternatives for comforting a crying baby.	1 NA	pacifier guide for parents. They were informed that other pacifiers could be used according to their preference. All the participating hospitals had established breastfeeding programs, with early initiation of breastfeeding, lactation consultants, and unrestricted rooming-in.  *3 of 5 study facilities BFHI accredited

	Author, Year				Est Dur (wks) No Sessions*	
Type	Country	Intervention	Timing	Intervention Details	Provider	Usual Care Description
	Kramer, 2001 <sup>117</sup>	IG1	Peripartum, Postpartum	The mother was asked to avoid pacifiers when the baby cried or fussed and to first offer the	3	One 45-min interview promoting breastfeeding plus an information
	Canada	Restricted pacifier use		breast instead, and failing that, to try carrying and rocking the infant. Both groups received one	3	sheet, both provided by a nurse with specialized training in lactation
		pasilier acc		45 min counseling session promoting breastfeeding plus an information sheet provided by a nurse with specialized training in lactation counseling during the hospital stay. The session and information focused on positioning, the importance of frequent feeding and feeding on demand, the avoidance of formula and other liquids, the management of sore nipples and breast engorgement, and provided the telephone numbers of persons and agencies whom the mother could call for answers to questions, help with difficulties, and general support. Both groups received 2 followup phone calls.	NA	counseling. The interview and information focused on positioning, the importance of frequent feeding and feeding on demand, the avoidance of formula and other liquids, the management of sore nipples and breast engorgement, and provided the telephone numbers of persons and agencies, whom the mother could call for answers to questions, help with difficulties, and general support. All options were discussed for calming the infant, including breastfeeding, carrying, rocking, and using a pacifier.
	Nolan, 2009 <sup>129</sup>	IG1	Peripartum	The goal of the intervention was to promote sustained, close maternal-infant proximity as well	0.14	Usual care was unstructured and driven by individual nurse practice
	US	Skin-to-skin contact		as direct contact in the intraoperative and immediate	1	preferences. Usual care practice infants were typically removed
		Contact		postoperative period. The immediate postoperative period was defined as care administered in the obstetric PACU. The structured intervention protocol minimized the amount of spatial, tactile, olfactory, auditory, and visual separation of mother and infant. Protocol components included intra- and postoperative environmental manipulation to maintain a maternal infant spatial distance of not more than 8 ft., with uninterrupted maternal visual and auditory contact, en face presentation at birth, intraoperative cheek tocheek skin contact, and a period of prolonged uninterrupted skin-to-skin contact. The protocol duration mean was 113; mean cheek-to-cheek component duration was 6 min; mean skin-to-skin contact duration was 33 min.	NA	from the operating room promptly after stabilization and transferred to the obstetric recovery room in advance of the mother's transfer. Most mothers had brief or no physical contact with their infants. Usual care practice may or may not include breastfeeding initiation in the PACU. Skin-to-skin contact was not routinely offered.

<sup>\*</sup>Number of sessions was based on the intended number of sessions not the actual number of sessions delivered.

**Abbreviations:** ASE = Attitude-Social Influences Self-Efficacy; BF = breastfeeding; BFHI = Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative; BSES-SF = Breastfeeding Self-Efficacy Scale-Short Form; CG = control group; Dur = duration; EBF = exclusive breastfeeding; Est = estimated; GP = general practitioner; hr(s) = hour(s); IBCLC = international Board Certified Lactation Consultant; IG = intervention group; LC = lactation care providers; min(s) = minute(s); mo(s) = month(s); NA = not applicable; NL = non-lactation care providers; No = number; NR = not reported; p = p-value; PACU = post anesthesia care unit; PC = peer counseling; PCP = primary care physician; RN = registered nurse; SLT = specialized lactation training; SSC = skin-to-skin contact; UK = United Kingdom; US = United States; WHO = World Health Organization; WIC = the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; wk(s) = week(s).

Intervention	1			Breastfeeding	Followup,	IG Event	CG Event Rate,	
Туре	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	Outcome*	Weeks	Rate, n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
					2	124/143 (86.7)	102/159 (65.0)	1.35 (1.18, 1.54)
					6	99/137 (72.3)	85/155 (54.8)	1.32 (1.10, 1.57)
		IG1	Lactation support	Any	13	79/130 (60.8)	66/143 (46.2)	1.32 (1.05, 1.65)
		.0.		7 tily	20	62/117 (53.0)	55/140 (39.3)	1.35 (1.03, 1.76)
	03				26	51/115 (44.3)	45/136 (33.1)	1.34 (0.98, 1.84)
	Bonuck, 2006 <sup>93</sup>				52	15/82 (18.3)	15/99 (15.2)	1.21 (0.63, 2.32)
					2	29/143 (20.3)	30/157 (19.1)	1.06 (0.67, 1.68)
			Lactation support	Exclusive	6	21/137 (15.3)	25/155 (16.1)	0.95 (0.56, 1.62)
		IG1	Lactation Support	(NR)	13	11/130 (8.5)	16/143 (11.2)	0.76 (0.36, 1.57)
				(1111)	20	9/117 (7.7)	14/140 (10.0)	0.77 (0.35, 1.71)
					26	6/115 (5.2)	11/136 (8.1)	0.65 (0.25, 1.69)
					0	218/226 (96.5)	65/73 (89.0)	1.08 (1.00, 1.18)
			Lactation support and brief	Any	4	172/226 (76.1)	44/73 (60.3)	1.26 (1.03, 1.54)
			education	,y	12	127/226 (56.2)	28/74 (37.8)	1.48 (1.08, 2.03)
					26	80/231 (34.6)	20/74 (27.0)	1.28 (0.85, 1.94)
					0	70/73 (95.9)	65/73 (89.0)	1.08 (0.98, 1.18)
		IG2	Lactation support	Any	4	54/73 (74.0)	44/73 (60.3)	1.23 (0.97, 1.55)
Į0		102		, ury	12	37/73 (50.7)	28/74 (37.8)	1.34 (0.93, 1.94)
鱼					26	30/74 (40.5)	20/74 (27.0)	1.50 (0.94, 2.39)
ಸ					0	207/223 (92.8)	65/73 (89.0)	1.04 (0.95, 1.14)
<u>a</u>	Bonuck, 2014a	IG3	Brief education	Any	4	158/223 (70.9)	44/73 (60.3)	1.18 (0.85, 1.63)
Ö	(BINGO) <sup>92</sup>			,y	12	102/229 (44.5)	28/74 (37.8)	1.18 (0.85, 1.63)
Professional Support					26	75/227 (33.0)	20/74 (27.0)	1.22 (0.81, 1.86)
ofe		IG1	IG1 Lactation support and brief education	Exclusive	4	31/226 (13.7)	7/73 (9.6)	1.43 (0.66, 3.11)
<u>~</u>				(WHO)	12	24/226 (10.6)	2/74 (2.7)	3.93 (0.95, 16.23)
					26	6/231 (2.6)	1/71 (1.4)	1.84 (0.23, 15.06)
				Exclusive	4	10/73 (13.7)	7/73 (9.6)	1.43 (0.58, 3.55)
		IG2	Lactation support	(WHO)	12	8/73 (11.0)	2/74 (2.7)	4.05 (0.89, 18.45)
					26	1/71 (1.4)	1/71 (1.4)	1.00 (0.06, 15.68)
			<b>-</b>	Exclusive	4	17/223 (7.6)	7/73 (9.6)	0.80 (0.34, 1.84)
		IG3	Brief education	(WHO)	12	10/227 (4.4)	2/74 (2.7)	1.63 (0.37, 7.27)
					26	4/222 (1.8)	1/71 (1.4)	1.28 (0.15, 11.26)
			Lactation support and brief		0	122/124 (98.4)	123/130 (94.6)	1.04 (0.99, 1.09)
		IG1	education	Any	4	108/124 (87.1)	92/130 (70.8)	1.23 (1.08, 1.40)
	Bonuck, 2014b			,	12	76/125 (60.8)	57/128 (44.5)	1.36 (1.08, 1.73)
	(PAIRINGS) <sup>92</sup>				26	46/122 (37.7)	31/122 (25.4)	1.48 (1.02, 2.17)
	,	104	Lactation support and brief	Exclusive	4	30/124 (24.2)	9/130 (6.9)	3.49 (1.73, 7.06)
		IG1	education	(WHO)	12	20/125 (16.0)	8/129 (6.2)	2.58 (1.18, 5.64)
					26	2/125 (1.6)	2/125 (1.6)	1.00 (0.14, 6.99)
	D :1 0040 <sup>95</sup>	104	T.1. 1		4	110/149 (74.0)	122/165 (74.0)	1.00 (0.88, 1.14)
	Bunik, 2010 <sup>95</sup>	IG1	Telephone support	Any	12	64/130 (49.0)	78/144 (54.0)	0.91 (0.72, 1.14)
					26	35/125 (28.0)	49/132 (37.0)	0.75 (0.53, 1.08)

Intervention				Breastfeeding	Followup,	IG Event	CG Event Rate,	
Туре	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	Outcome*	Weeks	Rate, n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
	07			Exclusive	2	NR	NR	$2.71 (1.43, 5.12)^{\dagger}$
	Carlsen, 2013 <sup>97</sup>	IG1	Telephone support	(WHO)	4	NR	NR	$2.98 (1.61, 5.50)^{\dagger}$
					12	NR	NR	2.45 (1.36, 4.41) <sup>†</sup>
	Di Napoli, 2004 <sup>101</sup>	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Exclusive** (WHO, predom)	16	59/266 (22.2)	69/276 (25.0)	0.89 (0.65, 1.20)
	Edwards,				0	78/122 (63.9)	61/123 (49.6)	1.29 (1.03, 1.61)
	2013 <sup>102</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Any	6	31/108 (28.7)	19/113 (16.8)	1.71 (1.03, 2.83)
					16	9/108 (8.3)	5/113 (4.4)	1.88 (0.65, 5.44)
		IG1	Lactation support	Any	16	137/154 (89.0)	156/176 (88.6)	1.00 (0.93, 1.08)
	Elliott-Rudder,	IGT	Lactation Support	Ally	26	118/150 (78.7)	135/172 (78.5)	1.00 (0.89, 1.12)
	2014 <sup>80</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Exclusive	16	96/147 (65.3)	90/161 (55.9)	1.17 (0.97, 1.40) <sup>§</sup>
		IGT	Lactation Support	(NR)	26	22/150 (14.7)	24/172 (14.0)	1.05 (0.62, 1.80)
					4	199/261 (76.2)	175/260 (67.3)	1.13 (1.02, 1.26)
		104	Talankana aumand	A **	8	153/261 (58.6)	127/260 (48.9)	1.20 (0.99, 1.48) <sup>II</sup>
		IG1	Telephone support	Any**	12	124/261 (47.5)	102/260 (39.2)	1.21 (0.99, 1.48)
					26	80/261 (30.7)	62/260 (23.9)	1.28 (0.97, 1.71)
	-				0	190/190 (100)	256/260 (98.5)	1.01 (1.00, 1.03)
					4	136/190 (71.6)	175/260 (67.3)	1.06 (0.94, 1.20)
		IG2	In-hospital support	Any**	8	101/190 (53.2)	127/260 (48.9)	1.09 (0.91, 1.31)
		.02		,y	12	82/190 (43.2)	102/260 (39.2)	1.10 (0.88, 1.37)
	92				26	51/190 (26.8)	62/260 (23.9)	1.13 (0.82, 1.55)
	Fu, 2014 <sup>82</sup>	IG1	Telephone support		4	74/261 (28.4)	44/260 (16.9)	1.68 (1.20, 2.33)
				Exclusive** (WHO)	8	56/261 (21.5)	40/260 (15.4)	1.39 (0.97, 2.01)
					12	46/261 (17.6)	37/260 (14.2)	1.24 (0.83, 1.84)
					26	33/261 (12.6)	27/260 (10.4)	1.22 (0.75, 1.97)
	-				0	108/190 (56.8)	133/260 (51.2)	1.11 (0.94, 1.32)
				Exclusive**	4	41/190 (21.6)	44/260 (16.9)	1.28 (0.87, 1.87)
		IG2	In-hospital support	(WHO)	8	33/190 (17.4)	40/260 (15.4)	1.13 (0.74, 1.72)
		102	III-IIOSPILAI SUPPOIT	(٧٧١١٥)	12	34/190 (17.4)	37/260 (14.2)	1.13 (0.74, 1.72)
					26	22/190 (17.9)	27/260 (14.2)	1.12 (0.66, 1.90)
			Llama bragatfanding		20	22/190 (11.0)	21/200 (10.4)	1.12 (0.00, 1.90)
	Gagnon, 2002 <sup>104</sup>	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Any <sup>**</sup>	2	247/252 (98.0)	243/247 (98.4)	1.00 (0.97, 1.02)
	Gugilon, 2002	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Exclusive** (NR)	2	183/252 (72.6)	171/247 (69.2)	1.05 (0.94, 1.17)
	Gijsbers, 2006 <sup>84</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Exclusive (WHO)	26	21/44 (48.0)	12/45 (27.0)	1.79 (1.01, 3.18)
					6	60/79 (76)	65/79 (82)	0.92 (0.79, 1.08)
	Henderson, 2001 <sup>109</sup>	IG1	Positioning and attachment	Any	12	56/78 (72)	57/76 (75)	0.96 (0.79, 1.16)
	2001		support	<b>,</b>	26	42/75 (56)	48/75 (64)	0.88 (0.67, 1.14)
		IG1	Lactation support	Any**	4	202/226 (89.4)	218/241 (90.4)	0.99 (0.93, 1.05)
	Hopkinson, -2009 <sup>111</sup>			Exclusive**		` '	, ,	,
	2009	IG1	Lactation support	(WHO)	4	38/226 (16.8)	25/241 (10.4)	1.62 (1.01, 2.60)

Intervention Type	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	Breastfeeding Outcome*	Followup, Weeks	IG Event Rate, n/N (%)	CG Event Rate, n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
	Howell, 2014 <sup>114</sup>	IG1	Brief education and counseling	Exclusive (NR)	26	19/270 (7.0)	11/270 (4.0)	1.73 (0.84, 3.56)
	Kools, 2005 <sup>81</sup> -	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Any	0 12	254/371 (68.5) 119/368 (32.0)	238/330 (72.1) 124/330 (38.0)	0.95 (0.86, 1.04) 0.86 (0.70, 1.05)
ľ	K0015, 2005	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Exclusive (WHO)	0 12	225/371 (60.6) 99/368 (27.0)	222/330 (67.3) 104/330 (32.0)	0.90 (0.81, 1.01) 0.85 (0.68, 1.08)
<u>.</u> 2	Labarere, 2005 <sup>120</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Any**	4 8 12 16 20 26	100/112 (89.3) 87/112 (77.7) 80/112 (71.4) 61/112 (54.5) 52/112 (46.4) 44/112 (39.3)	93/114 (81.6) 84/114 (73.7) 72/114 (63.2) 48/114 (42.1) 40/114 (35.1) 30/114 (26.3)	1.09 (0.98, 1.22) 1.05 (0.91, 1.22) 1.13 (0.94, 1.36) 1.29 (0.98, 1.70) 1.32 (0.96, 1.82) 1.49 (1.02, 2.19)
		IG1	Lactation support	Exclusive** (WHO)	4	94/112 (83.9)	82/114 (71.9)	1.17 (1.01, 1.34)
	Matter 2007 <sup>122</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Any	2 6 12 26	106/112 (94.6) 79/112 (70.5) 64/112 (57.1) 48/112 (42.9)	124/135 (91.9) 86/135 (63.7) 61/130 (46.9) 43/129 (33.3)	1.03 (0.96, 1.10) 1.11 (0.93, 1.32) 1.22 (0.96, 1.55) 1.29 (0.93, 1.78)
I	Mattar, 2007 <sup>122</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Exclusive (WHO, predom)	2 6 12 26	61/112 (54.5) 40/112 (35.7) 27/112 (24.1) 16/112 (14.3)	69/135 (51.1) 36/135 (26.7) 15/130 (11.5) 9/129 (7.0)	1.07 (0.84, 1.35) 1.34 (0.92, 1.95) 2.09 (1.17, 3.73) 2.05 (0.94, 4.45)
ī	McDonald, 2010 <sup>123</sup>	IG1	Lactation support	Any	26	267/418 (63.9)	286/421 (67.9)	0.94 (0.85, 1.04)
2		IG1	Lactation support	Exclusive (Labbok)	26	73/418 (17.5)	70/421 (16.6)	1.05 (0.78, 1.42)
1	McQueen,	IG1	Self-efficacy counseling	Any	4 8	55/64 (85.9) 43/61 (70.5)	58/78 (74.4) 48/73 (65.6)	1.16 (0.98, 1.36) 1.07 (0.85, 1.35)
2	2011 <sup>124</sup>	IG1	Self-efficacy counseling	Exclusive (NR)	8	31/61 (50.8)	33/73 (45.2)	1.12 (0.79, 1.60)
F	Paul, 2012 <sup>130</sup>	IG1	Home visits	Any	2 8 26	497/538 (92.3) 367/509 (72.1) 244/491 (49.8)	467/527 (88.6) 326/491 (66.4) 221/453 (48.9)	1.04 (1.00, 1.08) 1.09 (1.00, 1.18) 1.02 (0.90, 1.16)
ı	Pollard, 2011 <sup>131</sup>	IG1	Self-monitoring	Any	3 6 12 18 24	32/41 (78.0) 30/41 (73.2) 23/41 (56.1) 17/41 (41.5) 15/41 (36.6)	28/43 (65.1) 26/43 (60.5) 18/43 (41.9) 16/43 (37.2) 14/43 (32.6)	1.20 (0.91, 1.57) 1.21 (0.89, 1.64) 1.34 (0.86, 2.09) 1.11 (0.66, 1.90) 1.12 (0.62, 2.03)
	-	IG1	Self-monitoring	Exclusive (WHO, predom)	24	10/41 (24.4)	3/43 (7.0)	3.50 (1.03, 11.81)
2	Quinlivan, 2003 <sup>132</sup>	IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Any	4 8 12	40/71 (56.3) 32/71 (45.1) 27/71 (38.0)	38/65 (58.5) 27/65 (41.5) 24/65 (36.9)	0.96 (0.72, 1.29) 1.08 (0.74, 1.60) 1.03 (0.67, 1.59)

Intervention				Breastfeeding	Followup,	IG Event	CG Event Rate,	
Туре	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	Outcome*	Weeks	Rate, n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
					16	24/71 (33.8)	16/65 (24.6)	1.37 (0.80, 2.35)
					20	21/71 (29.6)	21/65 (32.3)	0.92 (0.55, 1.51)
					26	16/71 (22.5)	16/65 (24.6)	0.92 (0.50, 1.68)
					2	126/128 (98.4)	127/136 (93.4)	1.05 (1.00, 1.11)
		IG1	Lactation support	Any	6	108/128 (84.4)	96/136 (70.6)	1.20 (0.95, 1.51) <sup>¶</sup>
	105		Editation Support	7 ti 1y	12	71/122 (58.2)	65/134 (48.5)	1.20 (0.95, 1.51)
	Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>				26	48/119 (40.3)	43/126 (34.1)	1.18 (0.85, 1.64)
					2	48/128 (37.5)	28/136 (20.6)	1.82 (1.22, 2.71)
		IG1	Lactation support	Exclusive	6	40/128 (31.3)	23/136 (16.9)	1.85 (1.18, 2.91)
		101		(WHO)	12	29/122 (23.8)	17/134 (12.7)	1.87 (1.09, 3.24)
					26	22/119 (18.5)	11/126 (8.7)	2.12 (1.07, 4.18)
		IG1	"Hands off" lactation	Any	6	111/172 (64.5)	114/167 (68.3)	0.94 (0.81, 1.10)
	Wallace, 2006 <sup>136</sup>	iG1	support		17	64/173 (37.0)	66/167 (39.5)	0.94 (0.71, 1.23)
	vvaliace, 2000	IG1	"Hands off" lactation	Exclusive	6	42/172 (24.4)	37/163 (22.7)	1.08 (0.73, 1.58)
		IGT	support	(WHO, predom)	17	7/174 (4.0)	7/168 (4.2)	0.97 (0.35, 2.69)
			Home breastfeeding		0	312/337 (92.8)	304/330 (92.2)	1.00 (0.96, 1.05)
		IG1		Any	26	117/278 (42.2)	91/283 (32.1)	1.31 (1.05, 1.63)
	Wen, 2011 <sup>139</sup>		support	•	52	56/268 (21.0)	39/259 (14.9)	1.39 (0.96, 2.01)
		IG1	Home breastfeeding support	Exclusive (WHO)	26	12/278 (4.3)	6/283 (2.1)	2.04 (0.77, 5.35)
		IG1 g, 2014 <sup>140</sup>	l Lactation support		0	220/233 (94.4)	218/236 (92.4)	1.02 (0.97, 1.07)
				Any <sup>**</sup>	6	160/233 (68.7)	169/236 (71.6)	0.96 (0.85, 1.08)
					12	116/233 (49.8)	131/236 (55.5)	0.90 (0.76, 1.07)
	Wong, 2014 <sup>140</sup>				26	87/233 (37.3)	96/236 (40.7)	0.92 (0.73, 1.15)
				Exclusive**	0	149/233 (63.9)	143/236 (60.6)	1.06 (0.92, 1.22)
		IG1	Lactation support	(WHO)	6	88/233 (37.8)	86/236 (36.4)	1.04 (0.82, 1.31)
		IGI	Lactation support	(٧٧١٠)	12	62/233 (26.6)	61/236 (25.9)	1.03 (0.76, 1.39)
					26	34/233 (14.6)	30/236 (12.7)	1.15 (0.73, 1.81)
		IG1	Peer counseling	Λnv	0	55/63 (90.5)	55/72 (76.4)	1.14 (0.98, 1.34)
		IGI	reel couriseling	Any	12	31/63 (49.2)	26/72 (36.1)	1.36 (0.92, 2.03)
	Anderson,			Exclusive	0	37/63 (58.7)	32/72 (44.4)	1.32 (0.95, 1.84)
	2005 <sup>91</sup>	IG1	Peer counseling	(NR)	4	17/63 (27.0)	5/72 (6.9)	3.89 (1.52, 9.93)
		IGI	Peer counseling	(INK)	8	15/63 (23.8)	1/72 (1.4)	17.14 (2.33, 126.14)
					12	13/63 (20.6)	1/72 (1.4)	14.86 (2.00, 110.40)
					0	75/76 (98.7)	77/78 (98.7)	1.00 (0.96, 1.04)
		IG1	Deer seveseling	Λ	2	71/76 (93.0)	66/78 (84.0)	1.10 (0.99, 1.24)
Ę		IGI	Peer counseling	Any	12	26/57 (46.0)	31/62 (50.0)	0.91 (0.63, 1.33)
o o	Chapman,				26	13/55 (23.0)	20/53 (37.0)	0.63 (0.35, 1.13)
Peer Support	Chapman, 2013 <sup>98</sup>			Evaluativa	0	34/76 (44.7)	35/78 (44.9)	1.00 (0.70, 1.42)
S		104	Deer seveseling	Exclusive	2	16/76 (21.4)	12/78 (15.2)	1.37 (0.69, 2.70)
0		IG1	IG1 Peer counseling	(WHO)	4	12/67 (17.6)	8/66 (12.1)	1.48 (0.65, 3.38)
Δ.					8	8/67 (11.9)	7/66 (11.1)	1.13 (0.43, 2.93)
	_					` '	` ,	, , ,

				Breastfeeding	Followup,	IG Event	CG Event Rate,	
Туре	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	Outcome*	Weeks	Rate, n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
					12	3/57 (5.0)	6/62 (9.4)	0.54 (0.14, 2.07)
					16	1/57 (1.6)	3/62 (4.8)	0.36 (0.04, 3.39)
					20	1/57 (1.6)	1/62 (1.6)	1.09 (0.07, 16.99)
					26	1/55 (1.7)	0/53 (0)	2.89 (0.12, 69.47)
					4	122/132 (92.4)	104/124 (83.9)	1.10 (1.01, 1.21)
		IG1	Peer counseling	Any	8	112/132 (84.8)	93/124 (75.0)	1.13 (1.00, 1.28)
	Dennis, 2002 <sup>99</sup>				12	107/132 (81.1)	83/124 (66.9)	1.21 (1.04, 1.40)
	Denins, 2002			Exclusive	4	98/132 (74.2)	78/124 (62.9)	1.18 (1.00, 1.40)
		IG1	Peer counseling	(WHO)	8	83/132 (62.9)	68/124 (54.8)	1.15 (0.95, 1.39)
				(**110)	12	75/132 (56.8)	50/124 (40.3)	1.21 (0.96, 1.53)
					0	320/336 (95.2)	324/336 (96.4)	0.99 (0.96, 1.02)
		IG1	Peer counseling	Any	6	218/336 (64.9)	213/336 (63.4)	1.02 (0.91, 1.15)
	Graffy, 2004 <sup>106</sup>		-		16	143/310 (46.1)	131/310 (42.3)	1.09 (0.91, 1.30)
		IG1	Peer counseling	Exclusive	6	103/336 (30.7)	86/336 (25.6)	1.20 (0.94, 1.53)
				(WHO)				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
					0	747/1083 (69.0)	896/1315 (68.1)	1.01 (0.96, 1.07)
		IG1	Peer counseling	Any**	2	818/1193 (68.5)		1.01 (0.96, 1.07)
	Jolly, 2012 <sup>83</sup>		3	,	6	170/271 (62.7)	194/301 (64.5)	0.98 (0.86, 1.10)
					26	93/271 (34.3)	117/301 (38.9)	0.88 (0.71, 1.10)
		104	5 "	Exclusive	2	446/1193 (37.4)		1.09 (0.98, 1.21)
		IG1	Peer counseling	(NR)	6	104/271 (38.5)	123/301 (40.9)	0.94 (0.77, 1.15)
-					26	48/271 (17.8)	59/301 (19.6)	0.90 (0.64, 1.27)
		104	<b>5</b> "	•	0	61/112 (54.5)	60/113 (53.1)	1.03 (0.80, 1.31)
	Muirhead,	IG1	Peer counseling	Any	6	35/112 (31.3)	33/113 (29.2)	1.07 (0.72, 1.59)
	2006 <sup>126</sup>				16	26/112 (23.2)	20/113 (17.7)	1.31 (0.78, 2.21)
		104	<b>5</b> "	Exclusive	6	27/112 (24.1)	24/113 (21.2)	1.14 (0.70, 1.84)
		IG1	Peer counseling	(NR)	8	23/112 (20.5)	16/113 (14.2)	1.45 (0.81, 2.60)
_					16	2/112 (1.8)	0/113 (0)	5.04 (0.24, 103.90)
		104	5	•	4	839/1065 (78.8)	312/470 (66.4)	1.19 (1.10, 1.28)
	D 4 204 4133	IG1	Peer telephone support	Any	12	672/1065 (63.1)	237/470 (50.4)	1.25 (1.13, 1.38)
	Reeder, 2014 <sup>133</sup>				26	512/1065 (48.1)	177/470 (37.7)	1.28 (1.12, 1.46)
		104	5	Exclusive	4	650/1144 (56.8)	295/560 (52.7)	1.08 (0.98, 1.18)
		IG1	Peer telephone support	(NR)	12	482/1144 (42.1)	208/560 (37.1)	1.13 (1.00, 1.29)
-					26	327/1144 (28.6)	149/560 (26.6)	1.07 (0.91, 1.27)
					0	77/97 (79.0)	64/102 (63.0)	1.26 (1.06, 1.52)
		104	Peer counseling and		3	50/59 (84.8)	46/56 (82.1)	1.03 (0.88, 1.21)
		IG1	lactation care provider	Any	6	40/45 (88.9)	32/42 (76.2)	1.17 (0.96, 1.42)
	Wambach,		support		12	28/35 (80.0)	16/26 (61.5)	1.30 (0.92, 1.84)
	2011 <sup>137</sup>				26	14/19 (73.7)	10/12 (83.3)	0.88 (0.61, 1.28)
		IG1	Peer counseling and lactation care provider support	Exclusive (Labbok)	0	50/97 (51.5)	38/102 (37.2)	1.38 (1.01, 1.90)

Туре	Author, Year	Group						
		Oroup	Intervention Name	Outcome*	Weeks	Rate, n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
		IG1	Coparenting breastfeeding	Any**	6	102/104 (98.1)	94/102 (92.2)	1.06 (1.00, 1.13)
	hbbass-Dick,	101	education	,	12	100/104 (96.2)	92/105 (87.6)	1.10 (1.01, 1.19)
20	015 <sup>90</sup>	IG1	Coparenting breastfeeding	Exclusive**	6	75/104 (72.1)	62/102 (60.8)	1.19 (0.97, 1.44)
_			education	(WHO)	12	70/104 (67.3)	63/105 (60.0)	1.12 (0.91, 1.38)
		IG1	Group education (attitude	Any	0	291/308 (94.5)	297/310 (95.8)	0.99 (0.95, 1.02)
	_		modification)	,y	26	146/293 (49.8)	162/299 (54.2)	0.92 (0.79, 1.07)
	103	IG2	Group education (practical	Any	0	296/306 (96.7)	297/310 (95.8)	1.01 (0.98, 1.04)
Fo	orster, 2004 <sup>103</sup> _	.02	skills training)		26	162/297 (54.5)	162/299 (54.2)	1.01 (0.87, 1.17)
		IG1	Group education (attitude	Exclusive	0	239/308 (77.6)	242/310 (78.1)	0.99 (0.91, 1.08)
			modification)	(NR)	26	124/293 (42.3)	127/299 (42.5)	1.00 (0.83, 1.20)
		IG2	Group education (practical	Exclusive	0	238/306 (77.8)	242/310 (78.1)	1.00 (0.92, 1.08)
			skills training)	(NR)	26	133/297 (44.8)	127/299 (42.5)	1.05 (0.88, 1.27)
K.	(ellams, 2015 <sup>116</sup> _	IG1	Breastfeeding video	Any	0	174/249 (69.9)	172/248 (69.4)	1.01 (0.90, 1.13)
		101	Breastfeeding video	Exclusive (NR)	0	84/249 (33.7)	84/248 (33.9)	1.00 (0.78, 1.27)
Kı	(ronborg, 012 <sup>118</sup>	IG1	Group education	Any	1	533/552 (96.6)	529/538 (98.3)	0.98 (0.96, 1.00)
<u>20</u>	012''°	IG1	Group education	Any	6	503/535 (94.0)	478/525 (91.0)	1.03 (1.00, 1.07)
1.	Labarere,	IG1	Individual education	Any	17	32/93 (34.4)	39/97 (40.2)	0.86 (0.59, 1.24)
20	003 <sup>119</sup>	IG1	Individual education	Exclusive** (WHO)	17	13/93 (14.0)	14/97 (14.4)	0.97 (0.48, 1.95)
Education					0	515/644 (80.3)	463/605 (76.5)	1.04 (0.98, 1.11)
äŧi	Lavender,		Group education		2	444/644 (68.9)	389/605 (64.2)	1.07 (0.99, 1.16)
gnc		IG1			4	380/644 (59.0)	343/605 (56.7)	1.04 (0.95, 1.14)
				Any	6	332/644 (51.5)	297/605 (49.1)	1.05 (0.94, 1.17)
20	005 <sup>120</sup>				16	202/644 (31.4)	192/605 (31.7)	0.99 (0.84, 1.16)
					26	140/644 (21.7)	138/605 (22.8)	0.95 (0.78, 1.17)
	<u>-</u>				52	60/644 (9.3)	61/605 (10.1)	0.92 (0.66, 1.30)
		IG1	Group education	Exclusive (NR)	16	NR	NR	1.1 (0.6, 1.8) <sup>‡</sup>
					2	111/123 (90.2)	124/135 (91.9)	0.98 (0.91, 1.06)
		IG2	Individual education	Any	6	88/123 (71.5)	86/135 (63.7)	1.01 (0.67, 1.51)
	100	102		Ally	12	66/112 (55.0)	61/130 (46.9)	1.26 (0.99, 1.60)
M	/lattar, 2007 <sup>122</sup> _				26	39/120 (32.5)	43/129 (33.3)	0.98 (0.68, 1.39)
					2	60/123 (48.8)	69/135 (51.1)	0.95 (0.75, 1.22)
		IG2	Individual education	Exclusive	6	33/123 (26.8)	36/135 (26.7)	1.01 (0.67, 1.51)
		102		(WHO, predom)	12	21/112 (17.5)	15/130 (11.5)	1.63 (0.88, 3.00)
_					26	8/120 (6.7)	9/129 (7.0)	0.96 (0.38, 2.40)
N	loel-Weiss,	IG1	Group education	Any	8	40/47 (85.1)	35/45 (77.8)	1.09 (0.90, 1.33)
20	006 <sup>127</sup>	IG1	Group education	Exclusive (WHO)	8	34/47 (72.3)	29/45 (64.4)	1.12 (0.85, 1.49)
<u> </u>	Stockdale			Exclusive**	0	44/69 (63.8)	33/75 (44.0)	1.45 (1.06, 1.98)
20	Stockdale, 1008 <sup>134</sup>	IG1	Group education	(Labbok)	3	36/69 (52.2)	15/75 (20.0)	2.61 (1.57, 4.33)

Intervention	l			Breastfeeding	Followup,	IG Event	CG Event Rate,	
Туре	Author, Year	Group	Intervention Name	Outcome*	Weeks	Rate, n/N (%)	n/N (%)	RR (95% CI)
					0	132/138 (95.7)	131/138 (94.9)	1.01 (0.96, 1.06)
					2	126/133 (94.7)	127/136 (93.4)	1.01 (0.96, 1.08)
		IG2	Individual education	Any	6	97/133 (72.9)	96/136 (70.6)	1.03 (0.89, 1.20)
					12	73/127 (57.5)	65/134 (48.5)	1.18 (0.94, 1.49)
	Su, 2007 <sup>135</sup>				26	52/122 (42.6)	43/126 (34.1)	1.25 (0.91, 1.72)
	Ou, 2007				0	27/138 (19.6)	25/138 (18.1)	1.08 (0.66, 1.76)
				Exclusive	2	36/133 (27.1)	28/136 (20.6)	1.31 (0.85, 2.03)
		IG2	Individual education	(WHO)	6	39/133 (29.3)	23/136 (16.9)	1.73 (1.10, 2.74)
				(***10)	12	31/127 (24.4)	17/134 (12.7)	1.92 (1.12, 3.30)
	Corfoot 2005 <sup>96</sup>				26	23/122 (18.9)	11/126 (8.7)	2.16 (1.10, 4.24)
	Carfoot, 2005 <sup>96</sup>	IG1	Skin-to-skin contact	Any	16	42/97 (43)	40/100 (40)	1.08 (0.78, 1.51)
	Gouchon, 2010 <sup>105</sup>	IG1	Skin-to-skin contact	Any	0	13/17 (76.5)	11/17 (64.7)	1.18 (0.76, 1.83)
		101	OKIT-to-SKIT COTTACT		12	11/17 (64.7)	8/17 (47.1)	1.38 (0.74, 2.54)
	2010	IG1	Skin-to-skin contact	Exclusive	0	9/17 (52.9)	9/17 (52.9)	1.00 (0.53, 1.88)
		101		(NR)	12	8/17 (47.1)	5/17 (29.4)	1.60 (0.66, 3.91)
		IG1	Restricted pacifier use	Any	4	482/484 (99.6)	510/511 (99.8)	1.00 (0.99, 1.00)
es					8	476/477 (99.8)	503/504 (99.8)	1.00 (0.99, 1.01)
뜷		101		Ally	12	468/471 (99.4)	494/499 (99.0)	1.00 (0.99, 1.02)
ra	Jenik, 2009 <sup>115</sup>				16	452/462 (97.8)	482/487 (99.0)	0.99 (0.97, 1.00)
<u>C</u>					4	471/484 (97.3)	496/511 (97.1)	1.00 (0.98, 1.02)
ä		104	Destricted position use	Exclusive	8	434/477 (91.0)	465/504 (92.3)	0.99 (0.95, 1.02)
Q		IG1	Restricted pacifier use	(WHO)	12	406/471 (86.2)	428/499 (85.8)	1.00 (0.96, 1.06)
<del>.</del> Ę					16	354/462 (76.6)	371/487 (76.2)	1.01 (0.94, 1.08)
ter	Kramer, 2001 <sup>117</sup>	IG1	Restricted pacifier use	Any	12	103/127 (81.1)	107/131 (81.7)	0.99 (0.88, 1.12)
Other Maternity Care Practices	Kramer, 2001	IG1	Restricted pacifier use	Exclusive (NR)	12	46/127 (36.2)	44/131 (33.6)	1.08 (0.77, 1.51)
Ę.	Nolan, 2009 <sup>129</sup>	IC1	Skin-to-skin contact	Λον**	0	19/25 (76.0)	13/25 (52.0)	1.46 (0.94, 2.26)
0	Noian, 2009	IG1		Any**	4	16/22 (72.7)	8/24 (33.3)	2.18 (1.17, 4.06)

<sup>\*</sup> Most studies recalled breastfeeding since birth or did not report the recall period. Those that reported during the 24 hour recall period are noted.

**Abbreviations:** BMI = body mass index; CG = control group; CI = confidence interval; IG = intervention group; n = number; N = number analyzed; NR = not reported; RR = relative risk.

**Notes:** Exclusive breastfeeding definitions: WHO = World Health Organization exclusive<sup>77</sup>; WHO, pred = World Health Organization predominant<sup>77</sup>; Labbock = Labbock et al. exclusive<sup>2</sup>. NR = not reported.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Based on 24-hour recall

<sup>†</sup> Adjusted odds ratio as presented in study. No within group data presented, adjusted for pre-pregnancy BMI, gestational weight gain, parity, birth weight, gestational age, and infant sex

<sup>‡</sup> Adjusted odds ratio as reported in study. No within group data presented, adjusted for healthcare team and hospital ward

<sup>§</sup> Study reported statistically significant odds ratio after adjustment for planned timing of paid work or study and infant age in months (aOR: 1.9 [95% CI, 1.01. 3.5], p = 0.047)

Study reported statistically significant odds ratio after adjustment for cluster and hospital (adjusted RR 1.89 [95% CI, 1.04, 2.10) p = 0.03

<sup>¶</sup> Study reported statistically significant odds ratio, adjustments not reported (adjusted RR 1.19 [95% CI, 1.05, 1.36), p = 0.008

Appendix C Table 3. Number Needed to Treat for Any and Exclusive Breastfeeding for Varying Levels of Usual Breastfeeding Rates

Breastfeeding		Breastfeeding		Absolute Change in	Risk After	NNT Benefit
Outcome	Followup	in CG, %	Pooled RR	Risk	Change	(95% CI)
		65	1.07	0.05	0.70	22 (14, 51)
	<3 months	70	1.07	0.05	0.75	20 (13, 48)
		80	1.07	0.06	0.86	18 (11, 42)
		40	1.11	0.04	0.44	23 (14, 62)
Any	3-6 months	45	1.11	0.05	0.50	20 (12, 56)
		55	1.11	0.06	0.61	17 (10, 45)
	6 months	30	1.07	0.02	0.32	48 (21, 167)
		35	1.07	0.02	0.37	41 (18, 143)
		45	1.07	0.03	0.48	32 (14, 111)
		15	1.21	0.03	0.18	32 (20, 61)
	<3 months	25	1.21	0.05	0.30	19 (12, 36)
		55	1.21	0.12	0.67	9 (6, 17)
		5	1.20	0.01	0.06	100 (53, 400)
Exclusive	3-6 months	15	1.20	0.03	0.18	33 (18, 133)
		35	1.20	0.07	0.42	14 (8, 57)
		5	1.16	0.01	0.06	125 (63, 1000)
	6 months	10	1.16	0.02	0.12	63 (31, 500)
		20	1.16	0.03	0.23	31 (16, 250)

**Abbreviations:** CG = control group; CI = confidence interval; NNT = number needed to treat; RR = risk ratio

### Appendix D. Ongoing Studies

Study Reference Trial Identifier	Study Name	Location	Estimated N	Description	Relevant Outcomes	2015 Status
Abbott, Jonathan. The Effect of Early (2-3 week Postpartum) Versus Traditional (6-8 week Postpartum) Follow-Up on Breastfeeding Rates at 6 Months. 2014. Madigan Army Medical Center. PMID: None  NCT02221895	NR	United States	346	Randomized trial comparing early postpartum follow-up to traditional postpartum follow-up	Any breastfeeding	Recruiting
Forster DA, McLachlan HL, Davey MA, et al. Ringing Up about Breastfeeding: a randomised controlled trial exploring early telephone peer support for breastfeeding (RUBY) - trial protocol. BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth. 2014;14:177. PMID: 24886264  ACTRN12612001024831	Ringing Up About Breastfeeding (RUBY)	Australia	NR	Randomized trial comparing telephone delivered peer support to usual care	Any breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding	Not yet recruiting
Furman, Lydia. Breast for Success: A Family-Centered Intervention in Support of Breastfeeding Among High-risk Low-income Mothers in Cleveland (BFS). 2014. University Hospital Case Medical Center. PMID: None  NCT01272661	Breast for Success (BFS)	United States	1296	Non-randomized trial comparing the effectiveness of three interventions, (1) CHW homedelivered enhanced curriculum, (2) CHW home-delivered enhanced curriculum with support person, and (3) CHW home-delivered enhanced curriculum with paternal support	Any breastfeeding	Study completed, results not published
Horodynski MA, Olson B, Baker S, et al. Healthy babies through infant-centered feeding protocol: an intervention targeting early childhood obesity in vulnerable populations. BMC Public Health. 2011;11:868. PMID: 22085421  NCT01816516	Healthy Babies (HB)	United States	372	Randomized trial comparing Healthy Babies curriculum to Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) curriculum	Breastfeeding style, breastfeeding practice	Completed, no results published
Iglesia, Susana Martin. Effectiveness of an Educational Group Intervention in Primary Care to Maintain Exclusive Breastfeeding (PROLACT): A Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial. 2015. PMID: None  NCT01869920	PROLACT	Spain	432	Cluster randomized trial comparing a group education session to usual care	Exclusive breastfeeding	Recruiting

### Appendix D. Ongoing Studies

Study Reference Trial Identifier	Study Name	Location	Estimated N	Description	Relevant Outcomes	2015 Status
Kenyon S, Jolly K, Hemming K, et al. Evaluation of Lay Support in Pregnant women with Social risk (ELSIPS): a randomised controlled trial. BMC pregnancy and childbirth. 2012;12:11. PMID: 22375895	Evaluation of Lay Support in Pregnant Women with Social risk (ELSIPS)	United Kingdom	1316	Randomized trial comparing lay Pregnancy Outreach Worker (POW) support with standard maternity care compared to standard maternity care alone	Breastfeeding initiation rate, breastfeeding continuation	Recruitment completed
Martinez, Josep Balaguer. Telephone Support From Primary Care to Breastfeeding Mothers: A Randomized Multicentre Clinical Trial. 2015. Jordi Gol I Gurina Foundation. PMID: None	NR	Spain	434	Randomized controlled trials comparing a telephone support intervention to standard care	Exclusive breastfeeding	Recruiting
McLachlan HL, Forster DA, Amir LH, et al. Supporting breastfeeding In Local Communities (SILC): protocol for a cluster randomised controlled trial. BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth. 2014;14:346. PMID: 25281300  ACTRN12611000898954	Supporting Breastfeeding in Local Communities (SILC)	Australia	NR	Three-arm cluster randomized trial comparing (1) home-based support, (2) home-based support plus access to community-based breastfeeding drop-in center, and (3) standard maternity care	Any breastfeeding,	Recruiting
Scott, Jane. Parent Infant Feeding Initiative: a study to enhance breastfeeding duration. 2015. PMID: None  ACTRN12614000605695	Parent Infant Feeding Initiative (PIFI)	Australia	1600	Four-arm randomized controlled trial comparing (1) specialized antenatal class for fathers, (2) internet and phone delivered social support for fathers, (3) specialized antenatal class and social support, and (4) usual care	Any breastfeeding, Exclusive breastfeeding	Not yet recruiting
Zakarija-Grkovic, Irena. The Effect of Written Information and Support Phone Calls for First Time Mothers on Breastfeeding Rates: A Randomized Controlled Trial. 2015. University of Split. PMID: None  NCT01998087	NR	Croatia	500	Three-arm randomized trial comparing (1) written and telephone delivered support, (2) general support, and (3) standard care	Any breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding	Recruiting