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Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine

### For Immediate Release

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## Third Annual Summit on Breastfeeding, June 29-30, 2011: Key Health and Policy Leaders to Establish New Recommendations for a National Breastfeeding Agenda

New Rochelle, NY, May 25, 2011—More than 100 key leaders in health and public policy representing government, academia, industry, nonprofits, and grassroots organizations will convene for the Third Annual Summit on Breastfeeding: “First Food: The Essential Role of Breastfeeding” on June 29–30, 2011 in Washington, DC.

With continued support from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the Third Annual Summit will continue to address the unmet health needs of underserved mothers and their vulnerable children associated with low rates of breastfeeding, and work proactively toward reducing barriers to breastfeeding. The goal is to bring high-level visibility to this issue in order to generate timely and judicious policy recommendations for a national breastfeeding agenda under Health Reform, and to ensure that the Summit’s past recommendations are effectively implemented. Each year’s Summit serves as a benchmark to assess annual progress in breastfeeding policy and practice.

A highlight of last year’s Summit was a keynote address by Surgeon General Regina Benjamin, MD, MBA in which she talked about the importance of breastfeeding for wellness and prevention. As a follow-up to her important role in the 2010 Summit, we anticipate Dr. Benjamin to again provide important updates focusing on the [Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding](#), a milestone report released in January 2011. The [Executive Summary](#) is published in **Breastfeeding Medicine**. Nicholas Alipui, MD, Director of Programmes for UNICEF will also be among our esteemed speakers.

The First Annual Summit, held in June 2009, marked the 25th anniversary of the *Surgeon General’s Workshop on Breastfeeding and Human Lactation*, a milestone event led by C. Everett Koop, MD in 1984. Dr. Koop also delivered opening remarks at this 21st century follow-up.

Ruth Lawrence, MD, Editor-in-Chief of **Breastfeeding Medicine** and Professor of Pediatrics, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and Cynthia Howard, MD, MPH, Senior Associate Editor of **Breastfeeding Medicine** and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry will again co-chair the Summit. Dr. Lawrence also chaired the 1984 Workshop. Attendance at the Summit is by invitation only; however, a limited number of press passes have been reserved.

The Summit will again be presented by *Breastfeeding Medicine*, the official, peer-reviewed journal of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine. Founded in 1995, *ABM* is an international, multi-specialty, physician organization with more than 500 members dedicated to the promotion, protection, and support of breastfeeding. *Breastfeeding Medicine* is the appropriate vehicle to publish the Summit proceedings and policy recommendations each year. The significant accomplishments of the [First Summit](#) and the [Second Summit](#) are documented in special issues of [Breastfeeding Medicine](#).

The [Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine](#) is a global organization of physicians dedicated to the promotion, protection, and support of breastfeeding through education, research, and advocacy. It promotes the development and dissemination of clinical practice guidelines. The **Academy** prepares clinical protocols for the care of breastfeeding mothers and infants and publishes them in *Breastfeeding Medicine*. They are also available on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) National Guidelines Clearinghouse website.

*Breastfeeding Medicine*, the official journal of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, is an authoritative, peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal published bimonthly in print and online by [Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.](#) *Breastfeeding Medicine* publishes original scientific articles, reviews, and case studies on a broad spectrum of topics in lactation medicine. It presents evidence-based research advances and explores the immediate and long-term outcomes of breastfeeding, including the epidemiologic, physiologic, and psychological benefits of breastfeeding. Tables of contents and a free sample issue are available [online](#).

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