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Proceedings of the Second Annual Summit on Breastfeeding Published in *Breastfeeding Medicine*

New Rochelle, NY, October 22, 2010—Proceedings of the Second Annual Summit on Breastfeeding highlighting the urgent need to establish breastfeeding promotion policies at the national, state, and local levels have just been released in ***Breastfeeding Medicine***, the official peer-reviewed journal of the [Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine](#), published by [Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.](#)

The entire issue is available free [online](#).

The Second Summit and the publication of the proceedings were made possible through generous support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, who also funded the First Summit in 2009.

Recognizing the indisputable health benefits of breastfeeding, the Second Summit, “First Food: The Essential Role of Breastfeeding,” was held on June 16-17, 2010 in Washington, DC to create an action agenda for addressing the continued disparities in breastfeeding practices across populations. Toward the goal of consensus-building, this gathering of 100 eminent researchers, policymakers, corporate decision makers, and clinicians discussed how to eliminate the geographic, cultural, social, economic, and workplace barriers to promoting breastfeeding as a cost-effective, easily accessible, low-tech, culture-free, and “green” solution to disease prevention for mothers and their children.

The Summit was again co-chaired by Ruth A. Lawrence, MD, Editor-in-Chief of ***Breastfeeding Medicine*** and Professor of Pediatrics and Cynthia R. Howard, MD, MPH, Senior Associate Editor of ***Breastfeeding Medicine*** and Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Community and Preventive Medicine, both at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Dr. Lawrence also chaired the landmark Workshop on Breastfeeding and Human Lactation in 1984 hosted by then-Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, MD and the First Annual Summit on Breastfeeding in June 2009 which commemorated the 25th anniversary of the Workshop.

The proceedings include: a keynote address by Surgeon General Regina Benjamin, MD, MBA; opening remarks by public officials, including Governor James Douglas (VT), Senator Jeffrey Merkley (OR), and Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY); and panel presentations by high-level officials from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, namely, Centers for Disease Control, Indian Health Service, Office on Women’s

Health, and Office of Minority Health. Presentations by panelists representing local government, community-based and grass-roots organizations, industry, academia, healthcare providers, among other stakeholders in maternal and child health, are also included.

Bringing her clinical expertise and leadership to this proactive conference, Dr. Benjamin underscored the importance of shifting “our healthcare system from a sick-care system to a system of wellness and prevention” which, she said, “certainly includes breastfeeding.”

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** has prepared clinical protocols for the care of breastfeeding mothers and infants that are available on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) National Guideline Clearinghouse website, and in *Breastfeeding Medicine*.

[Breastfeeding Medicine](#), the Official Journal of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, is an authoritative, peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal, published bimonthly. The Journal 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.

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