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Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine

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Health Policy Leaders Prioritize Breastfeeding at 2nd Annual Summit on Breastfeeding

New Rochelle, NY, June 14, 2010 - One hundred key health and policy leaders will meet in Washington, D.C. on June 16-17 to identify targeted strategies for establishing a national breastfeeding agenda as part of our nation's Health Reform, building on the essential recommendations and positive outcomes of the First Annual Summit held last June.

With continued support from the Kellogg Foundation, the Second Annual Summit, "First Food: The Essential Role of Breastfeeding," will feature presentations by public officials, including Surgeon General Regina Benjamin, Governor James Douglas (VT), Senator Jeffrey Merkley (OR), Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY), as well as high-level officials from the FDA. The CDC, Chamber of Commerce, White House Domestic Policy Council, the HHS Offices of Women's Health, Minority Health, and the Indian Health Service, among other agencies, will all be participating.

Disparities in breastfeeding rates and the contributing barriers will be addressed by panelists representing high-risk population groups, community-based organizations, industry, academia, health care providers and payors, among other stakeholders in maternal and child health, designed to engage Summit participants in thought-provoking discussion and to create an action agenda.

A more macro view will be provided by prominent national health economist Charles E. Phelps, PhD, Professor and Provost Emeritus of Economics, Community and Preventive Medicine at Rochester University and member of the Working Group on Health Care Policy at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He will discuss the Economics and Ethics of Healthcare Financing and their implications for breastfeeding, coinciding with the release of his book, *Eight Questions You Should Ask About Our Health Care System (Even if the Answers Make You Sick)*, by Hoover Institution Press on June 21st.

The proceedings of the Summit will again be published as a special supplement to the Academy's official, peer-reviewed journal **Breastfeeding Medicine** this fall and widely disseminated to more than 2,500 influential health policymakers and providers from the public and private sectors, including all Governors, Senators, and members of Congress.

The Summit is being presented by the **Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine** and its official peer-reviewed journal, [Breastfeeding Medicine](#), published by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., and is being supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for the second year. The proceedings and recommendations emanating from the Summit will be published in **Breastfeeding Medicine** this fall. Proceedings of the 1st Summit are available on our [website](#).

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.

Breastfeeding Medicine is an authoritative, peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal published bimonthly in print and online. The Journal publishes original scientific articles, reviews, and case studies on a broad spectrum of topics in lactation medicine. It presents evidence-based research and clinical advances and explores the immediate and long-term outcomes of breastfeeding, including the epidemiologic, physiologic, and psychological benefits of breastfeeding.

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