

Good Data, Healthy Babies: Improving Breastfeeding Rates with the IFC Tool

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Purpose

To illustrate trends in data collection on infant feeding choice within the IHS, and to show how the Infant Feeding Choice (IFC) Collection Tool can help clinics using RPMS monitor breastfeeding rates and improve breastfeeding support for mothers and infants.

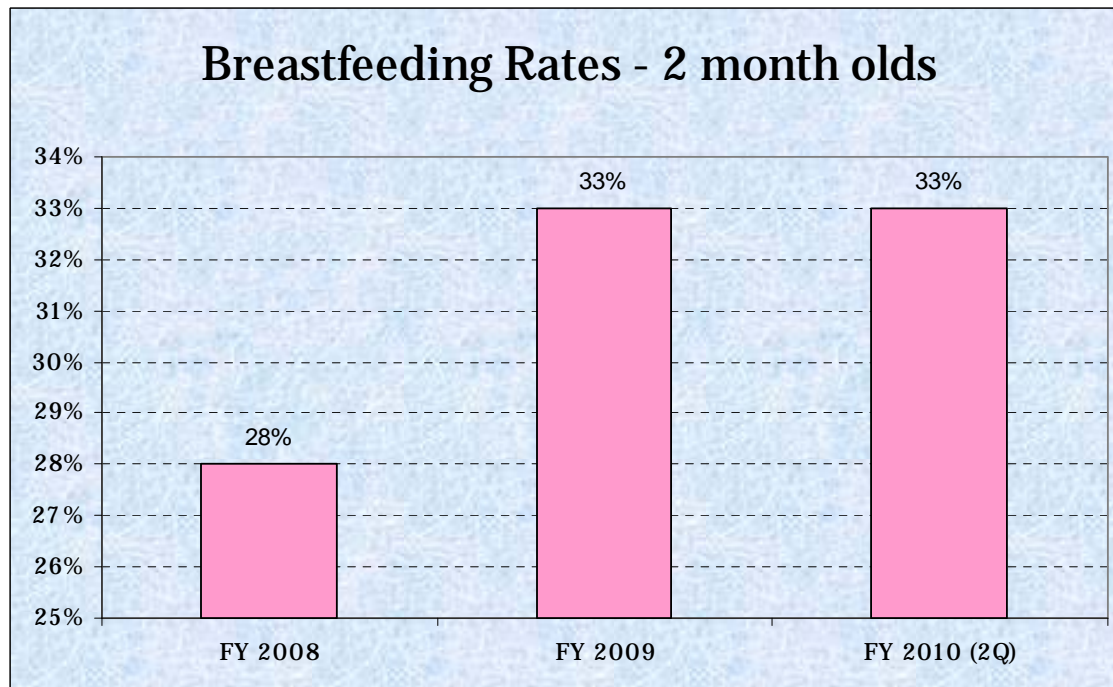
Background

Breastfeeding has been recognized as having a critical role in the prevention of pediatric obesity and diabetes, and has been associated with lower rates of pediatric ear infections, infant diarrhea, and pediatric hospitalizations, as well as a reduced risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The Infant Feeding Choice Collection Tool was developed to collect data on breastfeeding among infants. This tool was developed at Phoenix Indian Medical Center, but is now available to all I/T/U sites using RPMS, including EHR sites.

GPRA/Performance Measurement

Since FY 2008, all Federal sites are required to report breastfeeding rates among infants aged 2 months as an agency performance measure; this measure is also under consideration to become a Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measure for all sites. The Clinical Reporting System (CRS) collects data on breastfeeding rates for 2, 6, 9, and 12-month old infants using data from the Infant Feeding Collection Tool within RPMS.

Breastfeeding rates at Federal sites



Uses of the IFC Tool

The Infant Feeding Collection Tool allows clinics to collect standardized information about infant feeding choice within their patient population. This information can be used by providers and tribal agencies to evaluate the short and long-term impacts of early feeding choice on their communities. The data allows sites to track initiation rates of breastfeeding, duration rates of breastfeeding, age trends in breastfeeding (including the introduction of solids and formula), and the impact of parity and birth weight on feeding choice. Over the long term, this data could be used to assess the impact of feeding choices on health outcomes among children, including the incidence of obesity and chronic illnesses, as well as progress in local and national programs designed to increase incidence and duration of breastfeeding.

Just a Click: Using the Tool in EHR

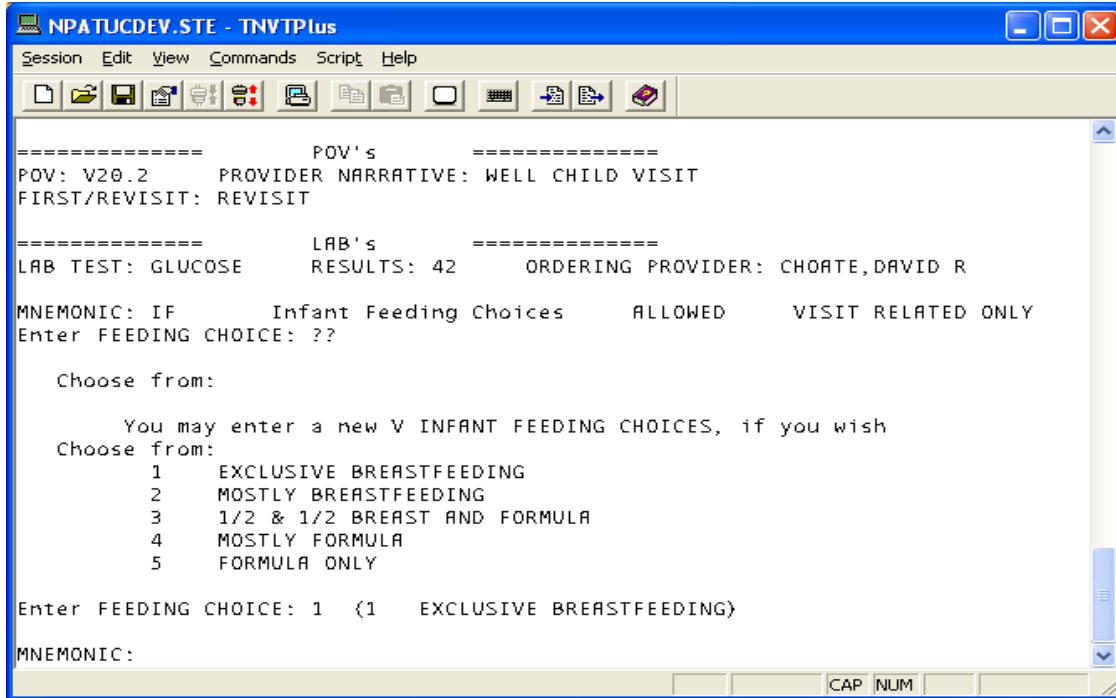
To enter feeding data in EHR, select the patient and visit, then go to the Personal Health Section. This is usually located on the Wellness tab. From the Personal Health dropdown list, select Infant Feeding, then click the Add button. At the Add Infant Feeding Record window, click the appropriate box and then click on "OK".

The screenshot displays an EHR interface with a navigation bar at the top containing tabs: NOTIFICATIONS, REVIEW, VITALS, CC/PROBS, MEDS, LABS, REPORTS, ORDERS, WELLNESS, IMMUNIZATIONS, POV, SUPERBILL, NOTES, and MORE... The 'WELLNESS' tab is active. Below the navigation bar, there are three main sections: 'Education', 'Health Factors', and 'Personal Health'. The 'Personal Health' section is expanded, showing a dropdown menu with 'Infant Feeding' selected. To the right of the dropdown are 'Add', 'Edit', and 'Delete' buttons. Below the dropdown, there is a red-bordered box containing a checkbox labeled 'Formula Only'. To the right of the 'Personal Health' section is an 'Exams' section with its own 'Add', 'Edit', and 'Delete' buttons. The 'Education' section on the left contains a table with columns for Visit Date, Education Topic, and Comprehension. The 'Health Factors' section on the right contains a table with columns for Visit Date, Health Factor, Category, and Comment.

Visit Date	Education Topic	Comprehension
06/18/2004	Immunizations-Schedule	
06/18/2004	Immunizations-Patient Literature	
12/09/2003	Immunizations-Schedule	GOOD
08/28/2003	Immunizations-Patient Literature	GOOD
06/26/2003	Immunizations-Patient Literature	GOOD
06/26/2003	Medications-Information	FAIR
04/16/2003	Immunizations-Patient Literature	GOOD
03/04/2003	Child Health - Newborn (0-60 Days)-Information	GOOD
02/15/2003	Child Health - Newborn (0-60 Days)-Nutrition	GOOD
02/15/2003	Child Health - Newborn (0-60 Days)-Growth And Development	GOOD
02/15/2003	Child Health - Newborn (0-60 Days)-Safety/Injury Prevention	GOOD
02/15/2003	Child Health - Newborn (0-60 Days)-Information	GOOD
02/15/2003	Child Health - Newborn (0-60 Days)-Follow-Up	GOOD

PCC Users

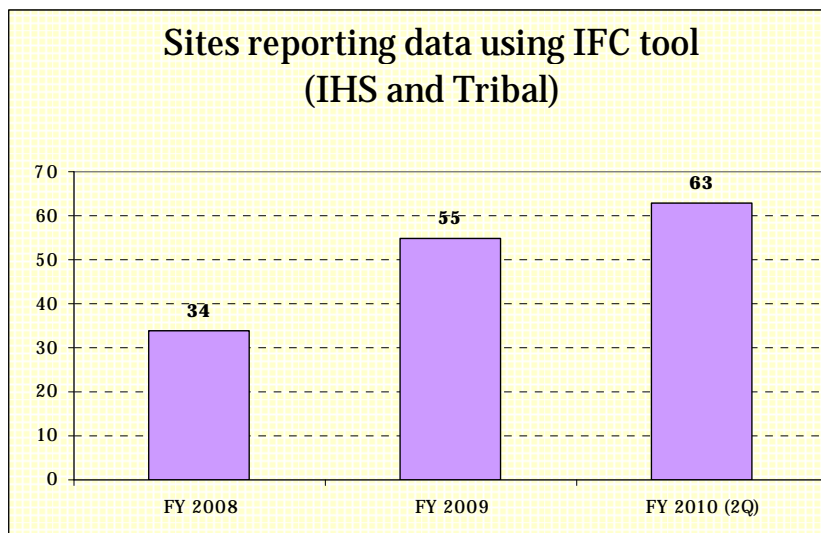
The IFC tool can be used by sites running PCC as well. Create a new visit or select an existing visit to append. At the Mnemonic prompt, type "IF" (Infant Feeding Choices) and press Enter. Type the number corresponding to the type of feeding and press Enter. If you do not know the number, type "??" and press Enter to see a list of choices.



Data Quality

The number of sites that have adopted the IFC tool continues to grow. While the agency reports rates from Federal sites only, use of the IFC tool among tribal sites is also increasing.

Federal and Tribal sites reporting breastfeeding data since FY 2008



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