

## **Abstract:**

### **Evaluation of a Novel Newborn Feeding Assessment Tool to Increase Resident Comfort and Skill in Providing Basic Breastfeeding Support to Patients**

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**Purpose:** The American Academy of Family Physicians, along with the AAP, recommends that all babies, with rare exceptions, be exclusively breastfed for approximately six months and continue breastfeeding with appropriate complementary foods for at least one year. Family physicians are uniquely positioned to champion breastfeeding efforts, as we provide comprehensive care to the whole family. Despite the growing evidence of the health risks of not breastfeeding, family physicians do not often receive adequate training about supporting breastfeeding.

**Methods:** Study design: Cross-sectional survey. Participants: Family medicine residents at Northwestern Family Medicine at Humboldt Park, Lake Forest and Delnor campuses. Measures: Outcomes were measured through quantitative and qualitative survey items.

**Results:** Data collection and review is currently underway, however preliminary results suggest that the implementation of a Newborn Feeding Assessment Tool did improve resident comfort and skill in providing basic breastfeeding support to patients. Survey results also did illustrate remaining knowledge gaps in the area of breastfeeding medicine which support the argument that one training session is not sufficient. Residents, and subsequently their patients, would benefit from a longitudinal curriculum for breastfeeding medicine.