

The Association for Wholistic Maternal and Newborn Health  
INVITES YOU TO BECOME A MEMBER OF

# The Mother-Friendly Childbirth Initiative Consortium Of Los Angeles County



*Promoting Mother-Baby Friendly  
Maternity Care in the Hospital,  
Clinic and Community Setting*

## A Brief Summary of the 10 Steps of the Mother-Friendly Childbirth Initiative:

- 1) **SUPPORT.** Unrestricted access to continuous emotional and physical support from a family member or a labor-support professional; including access to professional midwifery care.
- 2) **INFORMATION.** Provides accurate descriptive and statistical information to the public about its practices and procedures.
- 3) **CULTURAL COMPETENCY.** Provides culturally competent care.
- 4) **FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT.** Provides the birthing woman with the freedom to walk, move about, and assume the positions of her choice during labor and birth.
- 5) **COLLABORATION.** Has clearly defined policies and procedures for collaborating and consulting throughout the perinatal period with other maternity services; linking the mother and baby to appropriate community resources.
- 6) **EVIDENCE-BASED.** Does not routinely employ practices and procedures that are unsupported by scientific evidence, and limits others.
- 7) **PROMOTES NON-DRUG METHODS OF PAIN RELIEF.** Educates staff in non-drug methods of pain relief, and does not promote the use of analgesic or anesthetic drugs not specifically required to correct a complication.
- 8) **TOUCH.HOLD.BREASTFEED.** Encourages all mothers and families, including those with sick or premature newborns or infants with congenital problems, to touch, hold, breastfeed, and care for their babies to the extent compatible with their conditions.
- 9) **DISCOURAGES CIRCUMCISION.** Discourages non-religious circumcision of the newborn infant.
- 10) **PROMOTES BREASTFEEDING.** Strives to achieve the WHO-UNICEF "Ten Steps of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative" promoting successful breastfeeding.

For the full recommendation, and the scientific evidence supporting each of the 10 recommendations, download a copy of the peer-reviewed *Journal of Perinatal Education* (Supplement, Winter 2007, Vol. 16, No.1) at <http://motherfriendly.org>.



**CIMS**  
COALITION FOR IMPROVING  
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## Overall Goal:

To engage Los Angeles maternity care stakeholders in a conversation for action to implement evidence-based maternity care in their practice settings, using the Mother-Friendly Childbirth Initiative (MFCI), developed by the Coalition for Improving Maternity Services, as a planning and policy tool.

## Purpose of the Consortium Meetings are to:

- 1) Discuss the benefits of the Mother-Friendly Childbirth Initiative (MFCI) for hospitals, clinics, mothers, infants, and clinicians.
- 2) Provide a forum for discussion among administrators, nurses, physicians, midwives, doulas, childbirth educators of the challenges and opportunities of implementing mother-friendly care in the clinical, community or hospital setting.
- 3) Provide a forum for dissemination of evidence-based best practices for maternity care.
- 4) Support clinics, hospitals and community-based programs in developing plans of action to shift the thinking in their organizations towards mother-friendly care.

## QUARTERLY MEETINGS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFERED

For updates, go to: <http://MotherFriendlyLosAngeles.net>

or Email: [info@MotherFriendlyLosAngeles.net](mailto:info@MotherFriendlyLosAngeles.net)

## Sponsored by



*The Association for Wholistic Maternal and Newborn Health  
Promoting Mother-Baby Friendly Maternity Care*

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