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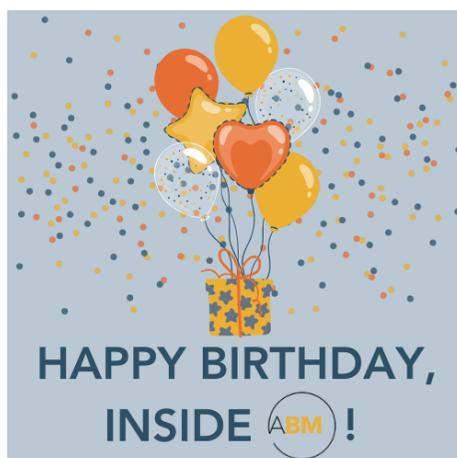
Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine Newsletter

May 2025

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*A newsletter offering for Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine members and colleagues from across the world.*

## Welcome to Inside ABM!



**Welcome to the BIRTHDAY ISSUE 24 of Inside ABM!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Inside ABM! We are 2 years old! It started as an engagement concept... an additional way of communicating with ABM members. Approximately 11,000 clicks later, our baby has grown into a popular ABM feature that keeps our members and friends informed and up to date about the exciting developments happening in our organization AND the field of breastfeeding and lactation medicine.

Here's a preview of what ABM members are reading in this month's issue of Inside ABM. Each issue brings you expert insights, clinical resources, and exclusive content to keep you informed and ahead in the field of breastfeeding medicine. To access the full newsletter and all the benefits of membership, [join ABM today!](#)

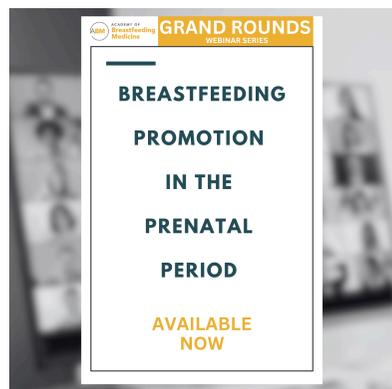


## Spotlight on Baby-Friendly USA

At ABM, we are already hard at work on planning the November 2025 ABM International Conference, which will be held virtually this year. Many readers have attended the "What Every Physician Needs to Know About Breastfeeding" (WEPNTK) training, a popular preconference feature delivered by ABM member experts that focuses on foundational knowledge and skills in breastfeeding and lactation Medicine.

This year, the coordinators of WEPNTK (Gail Herrine, MD FACOG IBCLC FABM, Kristina Herman, MD FABM IBCLC NABBLM-C, and Paula Schreck, MD NABBLM-C IBCLC FABM) have updated and augmented the content, crosswalking the popular core content with Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) Step 2 Core Competencies for Providers required for designation. Wouldn't this be great for medical students and residents? This is actually in line with the core direction BFHI: The WHO and UNICEF favor a pre-employment model for core education followed by ongoing competency verification.

To celebrate this crosswalk collaboration, we reached out to Eileen Fitzpatrick, DrPH MPH RD CLC, the CEO of Baby-Friendly USA (BFUSA), to give us some updates on all things BFUSA, including some updates on Step 2. [Join ABM to read more.](#)



## The May Grand Rounds Webinar is Available Now

Join Dr. Caroline Mullin, MD, Dr. Scott Hartman, MD, and Dr. Alecia Fields, DO FACOG, as they review [Clinical Protocol #19: Breastfeeding Promotion in the Prenatal Period](#).

They'll explain the protocol development process, highlight key recommendations, and discuss real-world clinical scenarios. They'll also address current needs for future research concerning breastfeeding promotion in the prenatal period.

[This on-demand webinar is available now in the Education Center](#), with a forum for registrants to submit questions to the presenter.

[Register and Watch Now](#)

Looking to expand your knowledge and earn CE throughout the year? You can now register for the [2025 Grand Rounds Series](#) to access all monthly webinars for the year! Gain insights into crucial topics like prenatal breastfeeding promotion, NEC, HIV and breastfeeding, tongue-tie, and more to stay informed and improve your practice.

[View the Grand Rounds Program Schedule](#)



# Mark Your Calendar for the ABM 30th Annual International Meeting

Join us November 14–16, 2025, for a Global Breastfeeding Experience—a fully virtual event built for connection, wherever you are. This November, we are bringing together voices across time zones for interactive sessions, real conversations, and insights that move breastfeeding medicine forward. As we celebrate 30 years of advancing breastfeeding medicine, this milestone gathering will spotlight the work shaping our future, and we invite you to be part of what comes next. Stay tuned for our call for abstracts for posters and cases — your research, ideas, and experience could help lead the conversation.

We're excited to encourage local watch parties for this year's virtual conference! A watch party offers a chance to gather with colleagues in your community to view sessions together, spark real-time discussions, and build local connections — all while engaging with the global conference content. Stay tuned for more details on how you can host or join a watch party near you!



## Support the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening (BABES) Enhancement Act

With summer at our doorstep, new parents are preparing to travel with their infants and navigate airport security while breastfeeding. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has special procedures for screening formula, breast milk, and baby food, but parents and caregivers continue to face problems.

[With the U.S. Breastfeeding Committee's quick, easy action tool, you can urge your representative to support the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening \(BABES\) Enhancement Act to make air travel easier for breastfeeding families.](#)

The BABES Enhancement Act would require TSA to issue enforceable guidance on hygienic handling of these infant feeding items and require an audit of TSA's compliance with the new guidance. The Senate has already passed this commonsense legislation, and [now we need your help](#) to get the House to take action to advance the bill.



## Have You Seen This? Spotlight on: Value of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative

*Review written by **Paula K. Schreck, MD NABBLM-C IBCLC FABM***

I want to disclose my bias. I am a Baby-Friendly Superfan. I oversee the maintenance of my home hospital's BFUSA accreditation and have assisted many other US hospitals in their journey to accreditation. I am also aware that the health care environment is in a constant state of compression from financial, staffing, and regulatory forces. Still, because of my strong bias, I'm surprised when I find myself and other like-minded breastfeeding leaders that I work with in a position where we must justify our hospitals' Baby-Friendly accreditations, usually to administrative leadership. [Join ABM to read more.](#)

**Thank you for previewing this month's Inside ABM!**

To access the full newsletter and enjoy all the benefits of ABM membership, consider [joining us today.](#)



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