



# Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine

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## QUALITY OF EVIDENCE:

Where “levels of evidence” are indicated in Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM) protocols, we consistently use the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) “Quality of Evidence,” summarized below.

(Guide to Clinical Preventive Services, 2nd edition; Report of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. US Preventive Services Task Force. Washington (DC): US Department of Health and Human Services; 1996.

## U.S.P.S.T.F. “Quality of Evidence”

Level of Evidence	Explanation
I	Evidence obtained from at least one properly randomized controlled trial.
II-1	Evidence obtained from well-designed controlled trials without randomization.
II-2	Evidence obtained from well-designed cohort or case-control analytic studies, preferably from more than one center or research group.
II-3	Evidence obtained from multiple time series with or without the intervention. Dramatic results in uncontrolled experiments (such as the results of the introduction of penicillin treatment in the 1940s) could also be regarded as this type of evidence.
III	Opinions of respected authorities, based on clinical experience descriptive studies and case reports or reports of expert committees.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK15430/>; Last accessed 3/6/2011