Connecticut WIC Program Breastfeeding/Postpartum Nutrition Assessment Guidance

Question	Suggested Action	
Cert Action Screen Actual Delivery Date (ADD) Health Screen, pregnancy Information Tab asks about the ADD. When did this pregnancy end?	It is good practice to give the participant an idea of how long you expect the visit to take up front. It is one strategy to keep the visit on track. Often, participants' situations can be complicated, requiring more time than originally planned. If this happens, you may want to check in with the participant to reassure them that the information gathered is important and determine how much longer the visit will take. Enter or Verify the Actual Delivery (ADD). If the infant(s) was/were certified prior to	
	the mom, the ADD should be auto populated. Last Menstrual Period(LMP): 11/26/2021 Present for Cert: Is Transfer: Reason not Present: Out of State Transfer * Expected Delivery Date(EDD): 09/01/2022 Reason not Present: Out of State Transfer * Actual Delivery Date(ADD): 08/31/2022 Over Income: No * Category * Cert Start * Cert Reason * BE Woman BF Exclusively 10/23/2022 08/30/2023 CT-WIC: Cert Action Screen	
Health Screen, Pregnancy Information Tab Pg. 1 How are You and Your Baby Doing? How have you been feeling since your pregnancy ended?	Use this question to inquire how they feel now that they have delivered. It is not within the scope of WIC or the WIC CPA to diagnose or treat/counsel on postpartum depression or mental health related issues, however this question allows you to identify someone who should be referred to their medical provider and applicable community resources if they indicate feeling of sadness, depression or being overwhelmed. Only assign CT-WIC FNS Nutritional Risk Criterion #361 Depression, if a medical provider or psychologist has documented clinical depression. See Health Screen, PMAD Screening section below for more information on Edinburgh screening documentation.	
When did this pregnancy end? Month Day Year Check all that apply for the pregnancy that just ended. #311 Premature delivery (< 37 weeks) #312 Infant weighing 5 lbs. 8 oz. or less #337 Infant weighing 9 pounds or more #335 Multifetal gestation #339 Infant with congenital/other birth defect No code Cesarean Section	Selected Record Pregnancy Information Health Information PMAD Screening TRANSFER, 3.7 Cat: BE (female) DOB: of 15/1995 How are you and your baby doing? Image: Constraint of the second secon	

Question	Suggested Action
Did you have any problems during this pregnancy or delivery? How did your birth or delivery go?	Acknowledge the participant's concerns and, if warranted, discuss a possible referral before moving on to the rest of the questions. When you resume the interview, explain that gathering additional information helps you to better understand her situation and allows you to address her questions better and provide possible solutions/referrals.
Did you have one baby, twins, triplets or more? #335 Multifetal gestation How is (are) your baby(ies) doing?	Something must be checked off for this question, even if it is "None". CT-WIC auto- assigns the FNS Nutritional Risk Criteria as appropriate. Cesarean Section is not a risk factor but provides some insight into the mom's labor experience. If woman had a C-section this delivery, ask if there are any problems with healing of the incision. Refer to MD as necessary. "Other" may require additional documentation or manually assigned risk codes. If this information is on the certification form or other medical referral form that the
	participant brings to the appointment, verify and document health/clinical/medical and obstetrical risk factors. If there were delivery complications, keep in mind that these questions can be sensitive to ask/answer and therefore you may want to preface these questions with the reason why they are being asked. Take cues from the participant on how much to probe.
	Other ways to approach these questions are to ask a general question, "I need some information on your previous medical history. Do you mind if I ask you a few questions?"

Suggested Action	
These questions are required for CT-WIC and CDC data collection. It is also in the	
Federal regulations to provide breastfeeding and postpartum women and parents of children information on the risks of tobacco, drugs, and alcohol. These can be	
sensitive questions to ask/answer so be aware and use cues from the participant	
when using probing questions.	
Ask about nicotine / tobacco use and desire and /or plans to reduce or quit. Ask	
 Ask about nicotine/tobacco use and desire and/or plans to reduce or quit. Ask about methods to quit that have been used. Refer to available resources. If participant discusses any Substance Use, (street drugs or abuse of prescription 	
medications), refer as appropriate.	
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<u>File - Scheduler - Certification - Benefits - Miscellaneous - Reports - Help - Messages - Fri 1/6/2023 💩 🧟 🖉 🕖</u>	
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Pregnancy Information Health Information PMAD Screening	
Nicotine + Tobacco Use ≝ * 4. Are you currently or have you ever used Nicotine and/or Tobacco products? ☑ Yes □ No	
Last 3 months of pregnancy *** Smoking Tobacco (cigarettes, pipes, cigars)? Yes No If yes, how many a day?	
#8 * Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (e-cigarettes, vaping devices)? □ Yes □ No #8 * Smokeless Tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, dissolvables)? □ Yes □ No	
Current	
 * Smoking Tobacco (cigarettes, pipes, cigars)? Yes No If yes, how many a day? * Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (e-cigarettes, vaping devices)? Yes No 	
● * Smokeless Tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, dissolvables)?	
No Smoke less Tried to stop without success Stopped completely Smoke more	
● * 6. In the past week, have you been in an enclosed space where tobacco/nicotine was used? □Yes ☑ No	
Alcohol Use # 7. Last 3 months of pregnancy? Yes Vo If yes, # of days per week	
the * 8. Current?	
● * Alcohol Intake □ High Risk (>=8 drinks/wk or >=4 drinks/day)	
□ Binge (>=4 drinks within 2 hours) ☑ Less than High Risk and Binge 1-2 xwk	
1 2 3 Save Cancel Next	
CT-WIC: Health Screen, Pregnancy Information Tab pg. 2 (breastfeeding women)	
 Ask about secondhand smoke exposure. If the participant uses nicotine or tobacco products, emphasize that it will be more difficult to quit if they are around others who use. Discuss need for smoke-free environment for baby. Stress that secondhand smoke will stay on clothing and hands, and that all smokers should change clothes and wash hands prior to holding baby. Ask about alcohol use. If BF, remind mom that alcohol passes into breast milk and will impact baby. If they are around others who drink, ask how being around others who drink makes them feel. If interested, you may want to discuss risks of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) for future pregnancies and the need to avoid alcohol use. You can offer suggestions for harm reduction, for example, limiting time begin around others who are using alcohol. For more professional resources on how to address nicotine/tobacco, substance, and alcohol use, you can visit, https://beyondlabels.marchofdimes.org/substance-use/ there is a good self-directed training/toolkit on reducing stigma associated with the above behaviors. 	

Question	Suggested Action
Question Alcohol Use Last 3 months of pregnancy? Current? #372 (Alcohol and Substance Use) for any current behaviors.	Suggested Action Image: Standards California Image: Standards California Image: California Image: California </th
Lab Screen, Anthropometric Data What was your weight at delivery? How much did you weigh just before you delivered your baby? More details about prenatal weight status and weight gain are captured in the Health Screen, Health Information Tab Pg. 1	The bold question is required for CT-WIC processing and CDC data collection. It also provides information on weight and obstetrical related risk factors. CT-WIC will auto-populate the gained during pregnancy field based on answers to questions on screen. Image: Colspan="2">Image: Colspan="2" Image: Cols

Question	Suggested Action
	CT-WIC: Lab Screen (Post-Partum Women)
	CT-WIC auto-assigns FNS Nutritional Risk Criteria based on delivery weight entered. Delivery Weight MUST be entered to complete screen.
	#101 Underweight Pre-pregnancy BMI <18.5
	#111 Overweight/Obese Pre-pregnancy BMI <u>></u> 25
	Breastfeeding Women 6 Months Postpartum or more CT-WIC uses Current BMI \geq 25
	#133 High maternal weight gain March of Dimes has some important talking points regarding the importance of the postpartum visit. <u>https://www.marchofdimes.org/pregnancy/your-postpartum-checkups.aspx</u>
	Key points are:
	 A postpartum checkup is a medical checkup you get after having a baby to make sure you're recovering well from labor and birth.
	 Postpartum care is important because new moms are at risk of serious and sometimes life-threatening health complications.
	 Make a postpartum care plan with your provider during pregnancy and talk to your provider about your postpartum care team.
	• Get a complete postpartum checkup no later than 12 weeks after giving birth.
	 If you had pregnancy complications or have a chronic health condition, you may need extra postpartum checkups.
Health Screen, Health Information Tab Pg. 1	To enrich your assessment of weight status, ask about feelings about the current weight. One way to approach the topic is, "After delivery, it is comment for participants to be concerned about their weight. How do you feel about your current
What concerns if any do you have about your weight?	weight?" If change is desired, ask, "What change with your weight would you like to see happen?" Then, ask how they hope to achieve it. Ask if they need ideas or suggestions to achieve goals and provide appropriate resources.
	If the current BMI is high and they do not desire a change, this indicates the pre- contemplation stage. Encourage them to contact you should they want to discuss this subject in the future. Note, CT-WIC will not assign a weight related risk for women until 6 months postpartum to allow for return to normal weight. The only risk factor will be related to the weight gain for the pregnancy, not current weight, or BMI.
Do you have any of these allergies? Milk	This question will assist you in tailoring nutrition education and the food package.
Egg Peanut Soy Other	If yes /responded or selected— Find out more information and assign risk(s) as appropriate. Ask for medical documentation when appropriate.
If checked CT-WIC auto-assigns FNS Nutrition Risk Criterion #353 Food Allergy	

Question	Suggested Action	
Do you have any health or medical		
issues?	This question provides an opportunity to update information received previously.	
Do you have any medical conditions/ health concerns?	If no MD—make referral as appropriate.	
Returning participants: Have you changed your doctor or had any changes in your health or medical conditions?		
Do you go for regular dental check- ups? Do you have any dental/oral health	Ask about date of last dental visit, and if they have any problems with decay and/or bleeding gums when she brushes. Discuss need for good oral health of mother to help prevent transmission of decay-causing bacteria to baby. <i>Emphasize</i>	
problems? Please describe.	the need to avoid practices that will lead to transfer of bacteria to baby's mouth, including cleaning pacifiers in the mouth; testing baby's food temperature before feeding; sharing spoons, cups, and other utensils; kissing baby's hands and mouth. Refer to dental provider as needed.	
Have you been experiencing? Constipation Diarrhea	Refer to the Prenatal Nutrition Assessment Guidance for more details and tips on mitigating these symptoms. A referral to the health care provider may be	
Nausea	appropriate.	
Vomiting/Upset Stomach Difficulty Chewing or Swallowing	Additional information regarding postpartum care can be found at March of Dimes webpage.	
	Your body after baby- first 6 weeks.	
	https://www.marchofdimes.org/pregnancy/your-body-after-baby-the-first-6-	
	weeks.aspx Warning signs of Health Problems After Birth	
	https://www.marchofdimes.org/pregnancy/warning-signs-of-health-problems-after- birth.aspx	
Do you take the following?		
Prenatal Vitamin, Vitamin/Mineral Supplement	This question provides an opportunity to learn about various supplements, vitamins, and medications the participant is taking. Ask about prenatal vitamin intake. If taking prenatal vitamin, affirm the behavior. If yes is checked, CT-WIC will enable	
If yes, # per week? Excessive? Yes/No	the other questions confirming daily intake or excessive intake.	
	Folic acid:	
CT-WIC FNS Nutrition Risk Criterion	Discuss sources of adequate folic acid, which can come from supplements or foods. Point out the WIC cereals that contain 100% DV folic acid. Discuss folic acid's role in	
#427.1 Executive Intelled of Dietery	possibly preventing birth defects, and the need to consume adequate folic acid to protect future pregnancies.	
Excessive Intake of Dietary Supplements		
#427.4	Contact MotherToBaby- Toll-free 866-626-6847. In CT only 800-325-5391 or Local 860-679-6199	
Inadequate vitamin/Mineral	e-mail: MotherToBaby@uchc.edu	
Supplementation per Public Health Policy	www.MotherToBabyCT.org They are also on Facebook!	
	Provides up to date information on exposures in pregnancy and breastfeeding.	

Question	Suggested Action
Do you take the following? Check	
all that apply. Herbs Herbal Supplements Prescription medications ((including birth control) Over-the-counter medications None	This question must have an answer, even if "None." For Vitamin or supplement intake, including herbal supplements you can also refer to the NIH website <u>http://nccam.nih.gov/health/</u> , <u>Medications and Mothers' Milk</u> or <u>University of Rochester</u> hotline (585-275-0088—leave message if necessary and someone will call you back) for information of specific supplements and their compatibility with breastfeeding.
	Prescribed medication: If BF, consult <u>Medications and Mothers' Milk</u> or medical professionals <u>University of Rochester</u> hotline (585-275-0088 business hours 10:00am- 3:30pm EST—leave message if necessary) to identify any meds that are contraindicated for BF women. See above re: MotherToBaby service.
	Ask about birth control method; advise breastfeeding participants to talk to their doctor about progesterone-only birth control pills if that is the birth control method chosen.
	Participants receiving methadone therapy <u>can</u> breastfeed. Assessment of the individual situation—maternal HIV status, her mental health status, her social situation, and whether she is stable in her recovery program, will need to be considered when recommending breastfeeding. Refer physicians to the AAP paper "The Transfer of Drugs and Other Chemicals Into Human Milk (PEDIATRICS Vol. 108 No. 3 September 2001, pp. 776-789) for more information.
	Pregnancy Information Health Information PMAD Screening ************************************
 Health Screen, PMAD Screening 1. Are you currently enrolled in the home visiting program? Yes/No If yes is selected, please select one: 	This screen is used to document results from administering the 10 question or 3 question Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS). While it is not within the scope of WIC or the WIC CPA to diagnose or treat/counsel on postpartum depression or mental health related issues, administering the EPDS will assist staff in determining if a referral to a provider and/or applicable community resources is needed.
Nurturing Families Network (NFN, MIECHV) Early Head Start Triple P Child First	Reference CT Protocol – Addressing Maternal Mental Health in the Connecticut WIC Programs: Guidance for WIC Nutritionists

Question	Suggested Action
Family Resource Center (PAT) Other If yes, administer Edinburgh 3- question screening and record score. Score	While the total score is used to determine if a referral is needed, it is equally important to focus on the responses to questions. For example, if there is a negative EPDS score (<11 on 10 question or <3 on 3 question), support by offering information on the common experience of emotional and psychological changes during pregnancy and postpartum as it relates to the responses. Only assign CT-WIC FNS Nutritional Risk Criterion #361 Depression, if a medical provider or psychologist has documented clinical depression. WIC Perinatal Mental Health Initiative Goals Meet the anticipatory guidance mandate for WIC Nutrition Risk Criterion #361. Conduct maternal depression screening using the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) within WIC visits. Increase collaboration efforts with Connecticut early childhood home visitation services. Fill gaps in perinatal mental health services for mothers in Connecticut. Pregnancy Information Health Information PMAD Screening 1 Are you currently enrolled in the home visiting program? Types @No If Yes is adding Pagestion screening and record score. Score: It No, administer Edinburgh 10-question screening and record score. Score: 2 Did participant check Yes, quite often, "Sometimes", or "Hardly Ever" to Edinburgh Question #10 (The thought of harming myself has occured to me.) Yes @No Follow protocol for referal to emergency resources CT-WIC: Health Screen, PMAD Screening
Breastfeeding Screen, Breastfeeding Information Tab Pg. 1 Have you ever breastfed? Yes/No If yes, appropriate questions will be enabled. If no, you will be prompted to ask about formula on Infant's Nutrition Screen. Are you currently breastfeeding?	Bolded questions are required for CT-WIC processing and CDC data collection on initiation, duration, and type of breastfeeding behaviors. Refer to the https://wicbreastfeeding.fns.usda.gov/start or https://wicbreastfeeding.fns.usda.gov/overcome for common topics related to breastfeeding and new mothers.
Yes/No If yes, complete the Frequency field- drop down menu. Exclusively Fully Mostly Limited If no, the Date BF Ceased and Reason(s) BF Ceased Field will be enabled. Enter the date and reason(s) Bf ceased based on feedback from mom.	

Question	Suggested Action	
	BF Information BF Suppo	ort & Notes BF Pumps & Aids
	BF Status History	
	Date Assigned	Category Frequency
	1/12/2022 BE Woman BF Exclusively 11/17/2021 BP Woman BF Partially	Exclusively Mostly
	Have you ever breastfed? • Yes • No	Htt Date BF Ceased:
	HX * Are you currently breastfeeding? Yes No	Reason BF Ceased: Reason
	* Frequency: Exclusively V BF Amount Guide	·
	(Hx) * Are you currently giving your baby any	Reason Formula Added: Reason
	supplemental formula? Yes No	Insufficient Weight Gain
	foods? Yes No	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	HX First formula at 1 weeks HX * Verified: 01/12/2022	New Category:
	HX How is breastfeeding going?	
	How many times is the baby breastfeeding or given breast	st milk in a day (24 hours)?
	HX Are there any concerns about breastfeeding?	<i>"</i>
	New	
	CT-WIC: Breastfeeding Information Scre	en
	or other liquid or solid food. Only breast prescribed medicines have been given fro "fully". Exclusive could be used interchan below based on age of infant and if <u>all r</u>	om birth. This is more descriptive than geably with the revised definition of "fully <u>nilk feeds are breastmilk</u> . However, we to 6 months because past that point, it is
Are you currently giving your baby any supplemental formula? Yes/No If yes, the First formula at weeks	all milk feeds are breastmilk. Solids are particular also consider how solid foods are provide For example, if an infant is getting cerear with infant formula, this practice should be breastfeeding status/intensity. <u>This account</u>	mula from 0-1 month. From 6-12 months, provided as appropriate. Nutritionists shou ed and what mom is using to mix first food I 2 times per day and that cereal is mixed e considered in the assessment of
and Reason formula added fields will be enabled. The date the information verified will be added to this screen.	Additionally, since there is some range of	acceptable introduction of solid foods, we are food introduction as early as 4 months.
How is feeding your baby going? How many times is the baby breastfeeding or given breastmilk in 24 hours?	Mostly = The infant has taken mostly bre- solid food in the past 48 hours. Half or m Example, an infant is getting 8 milk feeds breastmilk. An infant can receive up to h supplemental formula provided is based	ore of the <i>milk feeds</i> are breastmilk. s per day, 4 or more milk feeds should be alf of the full formula package. Any
Are there any concerns about breastfeeding?	breast milk but has had alternative liquid	are breastmilk. The infant has had limited such as infant formula, with or without soli
Some examples of other open-ended questions are in the Suggested Actions.	food, in the past 48 hours. An infant can formula. Any supplemental formula is ba be breastfeeding at least one time per d	sed on an individual assessment. Mom mu
Tell me more about your concerns about breastfeeding or breastfeeding support system.	Provide guidance on proper preparation Infant Nutrition Assessment Guidance for	
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Question	Suggested Action
Nutrition Screen,	 The additional questions below provide an opportunity to find out more information to assess a mother's perception of breastfeeding. These questions can be combined with infant assessment questions. Use the checked boxes to tailor counseling and support. Ask mom what her breastfeeding duration plans are and who she has for support. Ask mom about her perception of how breastfeeding is going. If she indicates that she needs help, probe more to determine the specific problems she is having. If necessary, refer her to a local agency CLC or IBCLC in the area. Ask mom about ber perceptions of milk supply (subjective). Ask specific questions about breastfeeding (objective) that will help validate milk supply. 1. How often is baby breastfeeding in 24 hours? 2. How long does baby stay at breast for each feeding? 3. Is there active suck/swallowing (milk transfer) at feedings if baby stays at the breast for extended periods of time? 4. Ask about the number of wet/dirty diapers per day and assess for adequacy. 5. If pumping, ask about what type of they are using, how often they are pumping and what results are. If exclusively pumping, ask about plans to get baby to breast. Refer to CLC or IBCLC as needed. 6. Ask if baby has been weighed since hospital discharge. Find out what the weight was and MD/ health professional's assessment of weight. 4. Ask about any plans to return to work or school. Ask about plans to feed the baby upon return to work/school. Discuss pumping if needed, including the type of pump to meet needs. If there are specific breastfeeding concerns assessed/detected, assign appropriate FNS Nutrition Risk Criterion #602 (Breastfeeding Complications or Potential Complications). If referred for lactation assistance, follow-up. Refer to the Connecticut WIC Program Guidelines for Breastfeeding Promotion and Support for more information on breastfeeding policies and appropriate clinic environment
Foods, Drinks and Mealtimes How do you feel about your appetite?	The goal is to use these questions to engage the participant in conversation about their eating habits and mealtimes and find out how eating has changed or not changed since delivery. Questions do not need to be asked in order on screen. You can refer participants to <u>https://connecticut.wicresources.org/women.html</u> for the Nutrition Guides related to their category. Tips for New Moms. As an FYI
Do you drink any of these beverages? (Variety of drinks)	 breastfeeding resources can be found at the bottom of the webpage under Resources. Ask what changes have been made in eating habits since delivery. Many
Are you eating enough of these foods on most days? Check all that apply. (Food groups)	common things that happen to after delivery including grazing, skipping meals, preparing unbalanced meals due to lack of time to cook and "forgetting" to eat. Provide participant with appropriate tips for improved nutrition, including smoothies; cereal with milk and fruit; cheese and crackers;

Question	Suggested Action	
Have you made any changes to what you are eating since having your baby? Tell me more. Are there any foods you avoid or can't eat? If yes, what are they? Are you on a special diet or meal plan? Yes/No If yes, what kind? Are you on a Kosher diet? (Kosher Flag is RED in Food Prescription Screen) How often are you eating meals/snacks away from home?	 raw vegetables; toast with peanut butter; hummus with crackers. Remind participant their body needs a balanced diet to recover and heal from pregnancy/delivery. Query about special diet Rx or foods that are being avoided. If appropriate tailor food package. Ask about <u>habits that will lead to healthy feeding relationships with child/children.</u> Query about <u>variety of foods</u>—Ask a question such as "What are the vegetables you usually eat during a typical week?" Discuss need for including a variety of colors with fruits and vegetables. Ask about <u>family meals</u>. Discuss importance they play in good eating habits for children. Ask how they <u>plans for meals and snacks</u>. Discuss how important planning is in ensuring healthy habits and food budgeting. 	
Tell me about your daily physical activity. Have you made any changes to your activity level since having your baby? Tell me more.	Ask about physical activity—type and frequency. Remind them to discuss any physical activity plans with her MD if she is <6 weeks PP. Based on the information gathered, you may provide information/resources to address the participant's concerns, questions or identified barriers to positive health outcomes.	
Does your family have enough food?	These questions allow the nutritionist to gauge household food security and provide appropriate referrals. If referrals are made, document in Referral Screen in CT-WIC.	
Do you have access to refrigerator and stove/hot plate?	ees * 1. How do you feel about your appetite? ees * 2. Do you drink any of these beverages?	
Do you have adequate food storage?	Whole milk 2% milk 1% milk Skim milk Evaporated milk Lactaid Other milk Soy beverage 100% juice Fruit drinks Soda Water Malta Coffee/ tea (hot or iced)	
If no, Inadequate storage is in RED on Food Prescription Screen	 * 3. Are you are eating enough of these types of foods on most days? * Milk/ Yogurt/ Cheese Yes No * Meat/ Fish/ Eggs/ Beans/ Peanut Butter Yes No * Fruits/ Vegetables/ Salads Yes No * Bread/ Cereal/ Pasta/ Rice Yes No * Bread/ Cereal/ Pasta/ Rice Yes No * Are you made any changes to what you are eating since having your baby? 5. Are there foods you avoid or can't eat? 6. Are you on any special diet or meal plan? Yes No if yes, what kind? 7. How often are you eating meals/ snacks away from home? 8. Tell me about your daily physical activity: * 9. Does your family have enough food? Yes No * 10. Do you have access to a refrigerator and stove/ hot plate? Yes No * 11. Do you have adequate storage? Yes No * 12. Are you on a kosher diet? Yes No CT-WIC: Nutrition Screen (Post-Partum Women) 	