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Subject: Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Counseling 6-23 Months

Posted by [DataDENT](#) on Fri, 01 Mar 2019 19:08:47 GMT

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WHO-UNICEF Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) guidelines recommend complementary feeding counselling to caregivers of children 6-23 months. Although, most countries include counseling for breastfeeding and complementary feeding in their nutrition programming efforts, few data are available to monitor population-based coverage of counseling for IYCF. We propose two indicators on IYCF counseling that will complement the existing postnatal counseling question and provide countries with data to track coverage of IYCF counseling--promoting both breastfeeding and complementary feeding--through the first two years of life. NOTE: We have posted a separate recommendation about indicators of early breastfeeding counseling coverage--from pregnancy through age 1 month.

1. Mothers with children 6-23 months who received any Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counseling in the last 6 months

Definition: Proportion of mothers with children 6-23 months who received any IYCF counseling in the last 6 months

2. Mothers with children 6-23 months who received age-appropriate IYCF counseling in the last 6 months

Definition: Proportion of mothers with children 6-23 months who received age-appropriate IYCF counseling in the last 6 months

Attached to this post is a completed submission form with full justification for the recommendation.

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This recommendation originated in a consultation focused on measuring coverage of programs to support breastfeeding and complementary feeding, co-convened by Alive & Thrive, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and Data for Decisions to Expand Nutrition Transformation (DataDENT). It was further discussed and endorsed at the September 2018 Technical Consultation on Measuring Nutrition in Population-Based Household Surveys and Associated Facility Assessments--a 2-day working meeting convened by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and United States Agency for International Development in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and coordinated by DataDENT. The consultation included more than 60 technical experts, survey program representatives from DHS, MICS, LSMS and SMART, country data stakeholders, and donors from the nutrition measurement community.

The recommendation is also supported by a nutrition metrics working group that was previously anchored by the Countdown to 2030 initiative; this working group has co-authored a paper forthcoming in BMJ Global Health on the global gaps in nutrition coverage measurement, especially highlighting the gaps in measurement of infant feeding counseling and support interventions.

This recommendation was authored by IFPRI and reviewed by Laurence Grummer-Strawn (WHO), Chika Hayashi (UNICEF), Vrinda Mehra (UNICEF), Chessa Lutter (RTI), Monica Kothari

(PATH), and Purnima Menon (IFPRI).

This recommendation is endorsed by the WHO-UNICEF Technical Expert Advisory Group on Nutrition Monitoring (TEAM). Out of the 10 sets of recommendations endorsed by TEAM, this recommendation was prioritized as Tier 2 of 3 (high priority data need).

This recommendation is also endorsed by Countdown to 2030, Alive & Thrive, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), the nutrition team at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

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### File Attachments

1) [5. IYCF counseling\\_25 Feb.docx](#), downloaded 1139 times

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