

## **The Breast Milk Initiative Fact Sheet**

The Breast Milk Initiative is a program that provides FREE pasteurized human breast milk to HIV+ women who have delivered a baby or who will be delivering a baby. It is not recommended that HIV+ women feed their babies their own breast milk due to the risk of transmitting the virus. This program provides a safe alternative option for HIV+ women so that their infants can still benefit from the high nutritional value of breast milk.

### **Who is eligible? HIV+ Women Who:**

- Have or will be delivering a baby
- Are a resident of the state of Michigan
- Have a prescription from a licensed health care provider

**Women are eligible to receive breast milk until their infants are up to one year of age.**

### **How to enroll a patient:**

- Speak with your patient to determine if this program will benefit them. Make sure that they have adequate storage space (fridge and freezer) and discuss with them proper storage of human breast milk (chart on back).
- If you feel that your patient and their baby will benefit from this program, you must write a prescription and **fax** it to **Bronson's Milk Bank at (269) 341-8365**.
- The prescription **MUST** include the following information (template on back):
  - Name and date of birth of mother
  - Name and date of birth (or expected delivery date) of infant
  - Delivery hospital
  - Home address
  - Quantity of donor milk in ounces per day for how many days/weeks/months, and refills requested
  - Bill to MDHHS Breast Milk Initiative

**Questions?** Please call us at (517) 241-5900.

## Human Breast Milk Storage Guidelines:

	Storage Location and Temperatures		
Type of Breast Milk	<b>Countertop</b> 77°F (25°C) or colder (room temperature)	<b>Refrigerator</b> 40°F (4°C)	<b>Freezer</b> 0°F (-18°C) or colder
Thawed, Previously Frozen	<b>1–2 Hours</b>	<b>Up to 1 Day</b> (24 hours)	<b>NEVER</b> refreeze human milk after it has been thawed
Leftover from a Feeding (baby did not finish the bottle)	Use within <b>2 hours</b> after the baby is finished feeding		