

7.9%;  $p < .001$ ) and C (1.11 vs. 0.50;  $p < .001$ ), but not for PP (0.46 vs. 0.39;  $p = 0.45$ ). After excluding items related to cultural competency PP scores increased for intervention vs. control sites (0.47 vs. 0.26;  $p = .03$ ).

**Conclusion:** This pilot project demonstrates enhanced K, PP, and C among residents exposed to the BPPOP curriculum.

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#### 10. BREASTFEEDING EXPERIENCE AMONG A GROUP OF PUERTO RICAN MOTHERS DELIVERED BY CESAREAN SECTION

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In 2004 Puerto Rico had 52,747 births, with a cesarean section rate of 47.7%. Cesarean section can be an obstacle for the initiation of breastfeeding.

**Objective:** Explore knowledge, attitudes and experiences of pregnancy, labor and delivery among a group of Puerto Rican mothers delivered by C/S.

**Methods:** The study design was exploratory, qualitative cross-sectional. The sample was made up of Puerto Rican women participants of the WIC Program, who had a primary C/S within the previous year. Sixteen focal groups were conducted for a total of 111 women. As research instrument a guide of 36 questions was used.

**Results:** Most of the mothers did not see or hold their babies in their arms until one or two days after birth. Only a few saw the baby immediately after delivery. None had the baby with them the first hour after the C/S. Most did not breastfeed in the hospital. Only a few breastfed exclusively during hospital stay and most did not receive any help or orientation for the initiation of breastfeeding from the hospital personnel. The ones that achieved some kind of breastfeeding did it for only a few weeks and very few of the participants were breastfeeding at the time of the focal group.

**Conclusions:** All mothers lost the most important time to begin with breastfeeding and bonding. Although official data revealed that 90% of Puerto Rican women express their intention to breastfeed the majority of these mothers could not do it. Efforts should be made to reduce the C/S rate and to create consciousness among hospital personnel of the crucial need to provide help and orientation to these mothers.

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