THE BABY-FRIENDLY HEALTH INITIATIVE IN IRELAND

Introduction Process

1. Facility receives general information on BFHI

2. Facility discusses information and seeks further information

3. Further information on BFHI is provided and discussed with the BFHI national coordinator

Options:

- Facility decides not to participate
- Facility decides to participate

4. Facility decides to participate:
   - Facility BFHI Committee established
   - Training undertaken, practices implemented and become routine.
   - Self-appraisal tool is used. (go to next flow chart)

5. Facility decides not to participate:
   - General contact regarding BFHI and supportive practices is maintained.

Assistant from the BFHI National Coordinator is available at all stages.
THE BABY-FRIENDLY HEALTH INITIATIVE IN IRELAND
Designation Process

Facility appraises its own practices, studying the *Global Criteria*, using the *Self-Appraisal Tool* and carrying out audits.

Either: Meets high standards, as indicated by the self-appraisal, audits and document review.

Or: Does not meet standards and recognizes need for improvements.

External assessors conduct an assessment using the *Hospital External Assessment Tools*.

Facility studies the *Global Criteria*, analyses gaps and develops a plan of action to raise and sustain standards.

Either: Meets the *Global Criteria* for a baby-friendly hospital.

Or: Does not meet the *Global Criteria* for a baby-friendly hospital.

Facility implements plan of action, and baby-friendly practices become routine.

Facility has informal contact and site visit to assist with actions and help determine if the facility is ready.

The facility receives the *Baby Friendly Award* and Plaque.

Assessment team writes report and discusses with facility. Facility analyses problem areas and develops plan of action.

Monitoring and reassessment takes place (*see next diagram*).

Assistance from the BFHI National Coordinator is available at all stages.
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Monitoring and Reassessment Process

Facility receives Baby Friendly Award

Facility monitors its practices and works to maintain standards. (Details elsewhere)

Facility analyses problem areas and develops plan of action.

At year 5 (or sooner if standards fall) a full reassessment, using the External Assessment Tool, is carried out

Facility passes reassessment and BFH award is renewed. Monitoring and reassessment process continues.

Practices improve.

Facility fails reassessment. BFHI award is withdrawn.

Facilities analyses problem areas and develops plan of action and re-enters at previous stage.

Practices do not improve.

Annual reports show that standards are maintained.

Annual reports show that standards are not maintained.

BFHI award is withdrawn.

Assistance from the BFHI National Coordinator is available at all stages.