



Why Maternity Entitlements?

*Food, Health, Care for the Mother :
Optimal health, development and
survival of the Child*

National Convention : Right To Food Campaign
Hyderabad, 7-9 April, 2006
Dr Arun Gupta/Dr Deeksha Sharma

Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India
New Delhi

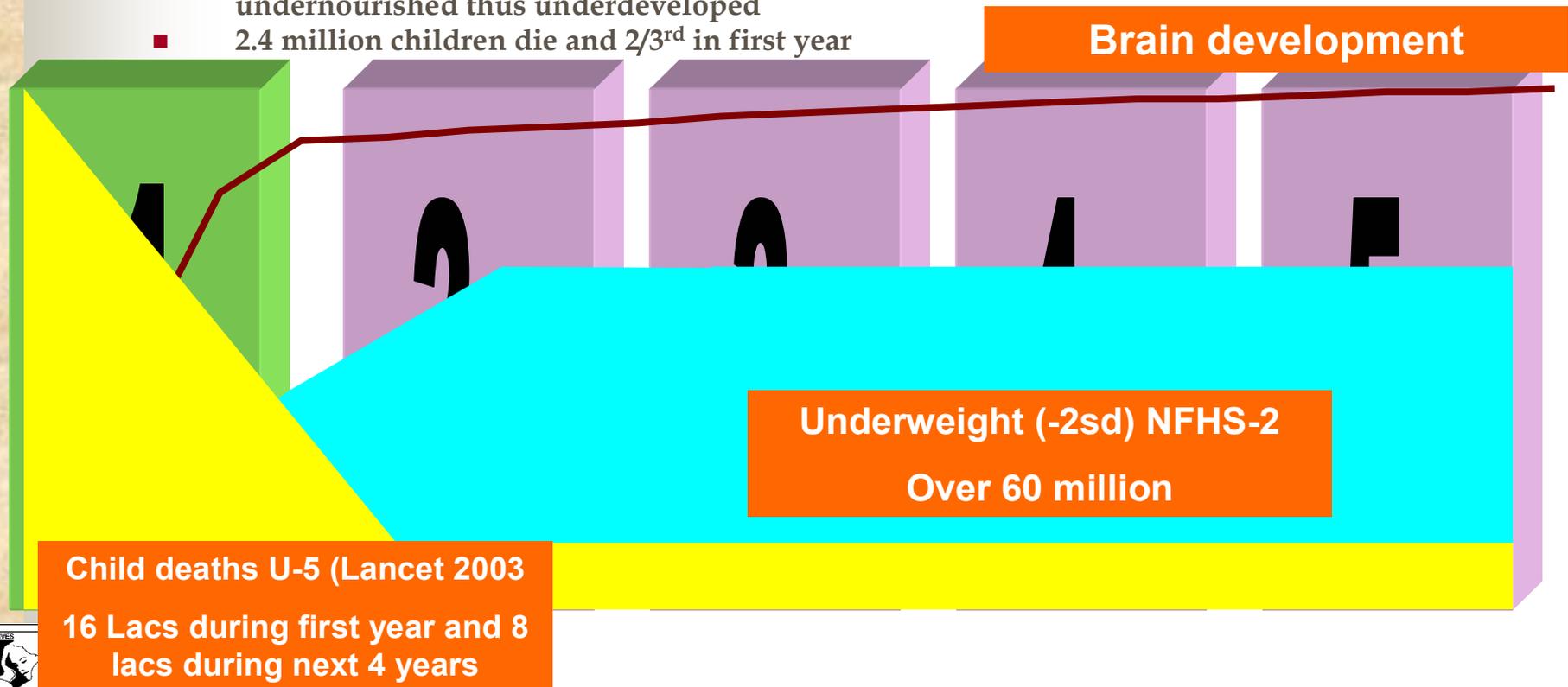


Maternity entitlements – It's Woman's Right.



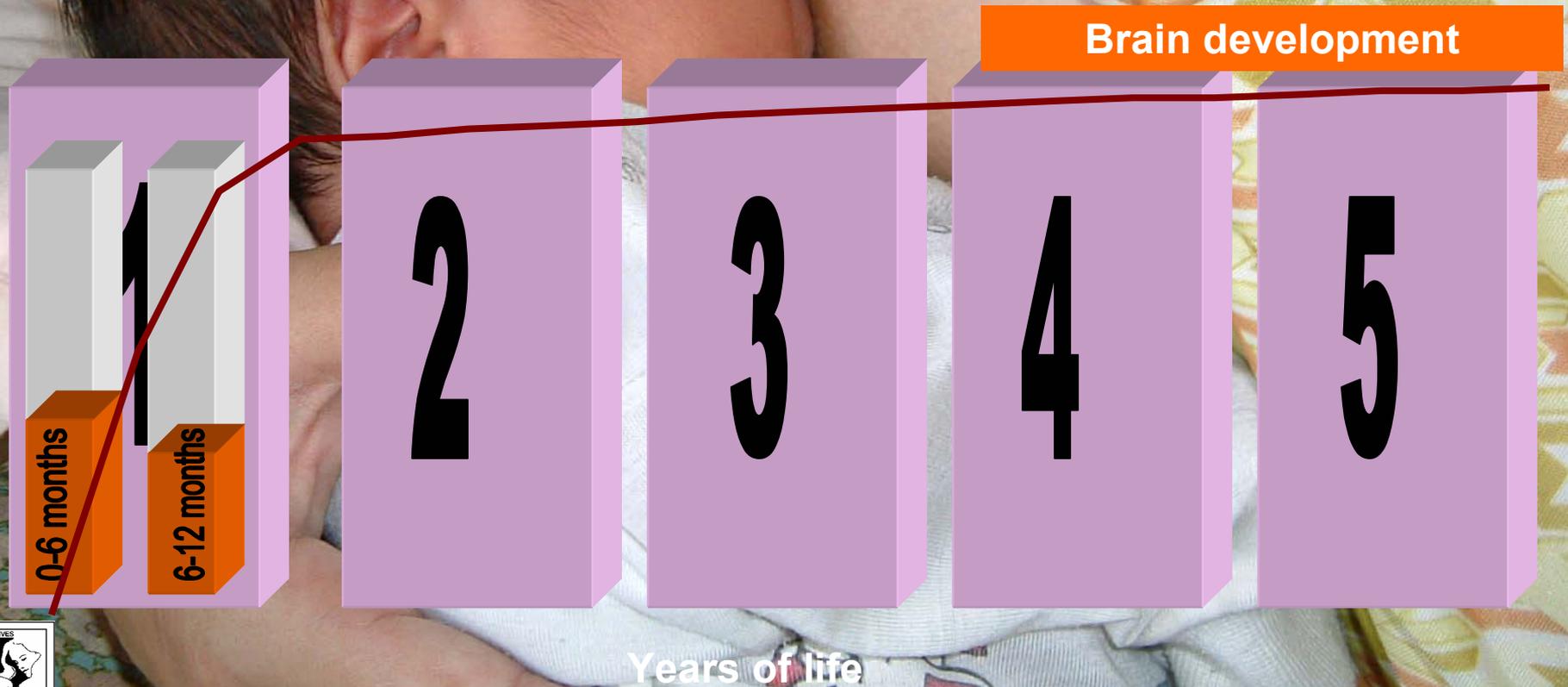
First year is critical!

- Malnutrition strikes in infancy from 11 % at 0-6 months reaches its peak by 23 months, then flat.
- 36 million under three/ nearly 60 million U-5 are underweight and undernourished thus underdeveloped
- 2.4 million children die and 2/3rd in first year

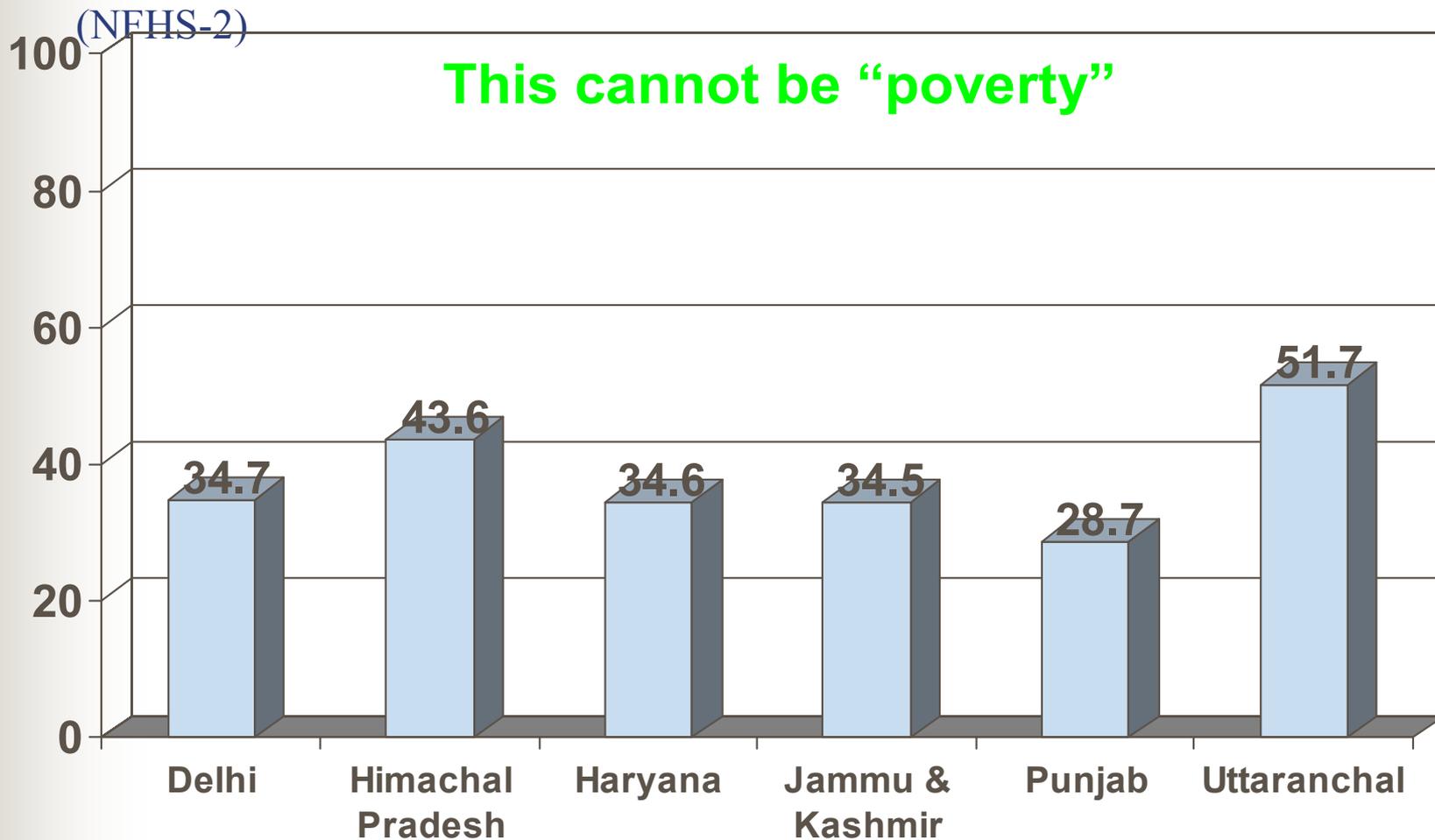


What happens with infants?

- Only 40% EX BF for the first 6 months,
- 33% adequately CF 6-9 months.
- Brain development is dependent on level of interaction with the child.



Under Weight U-3 (-2sd)



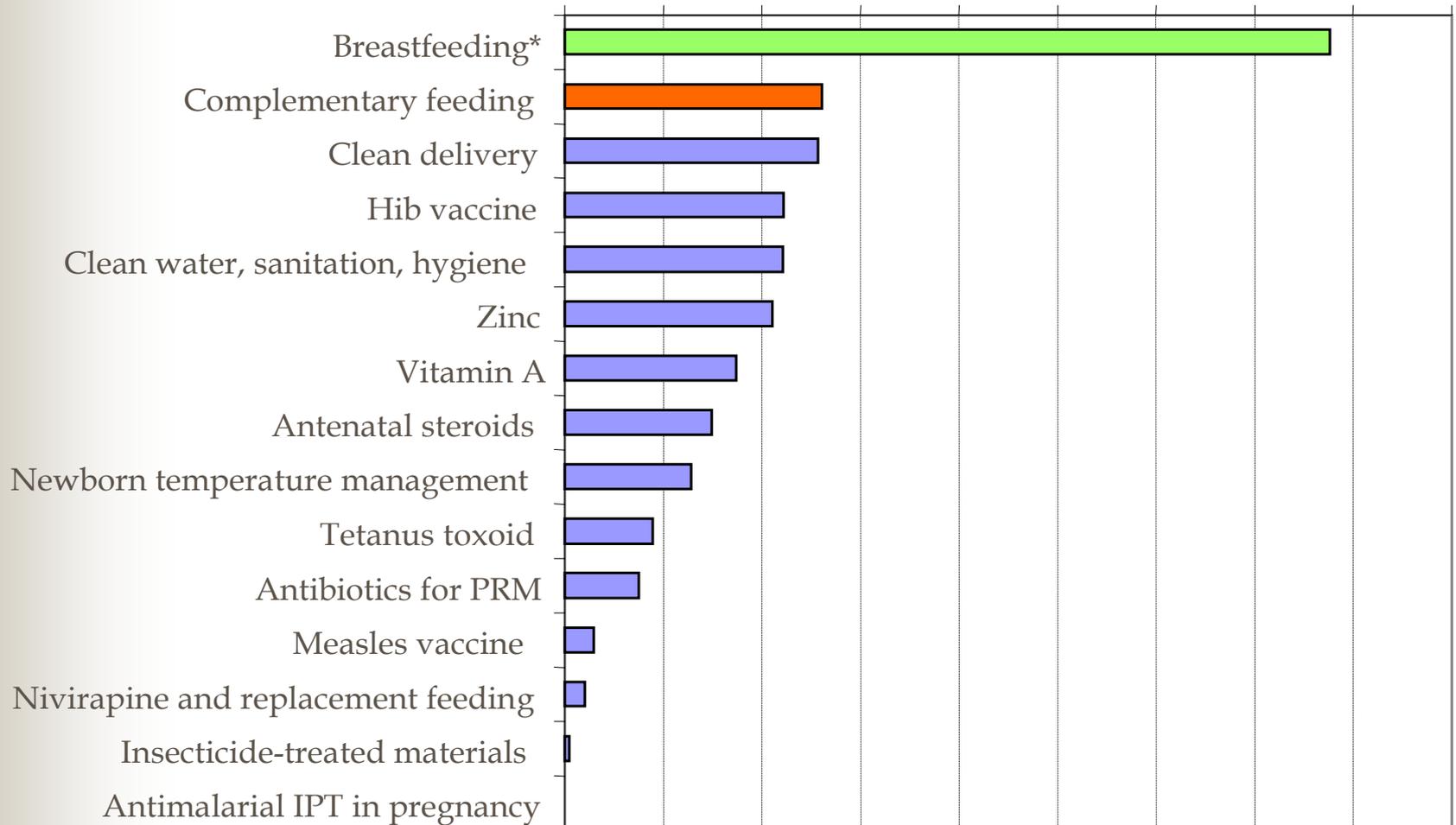
Under-5 deaths preventable through universal coverage with individual interventions (2000)

India

Percent

0% 2% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14% 16% 18%

Intervention

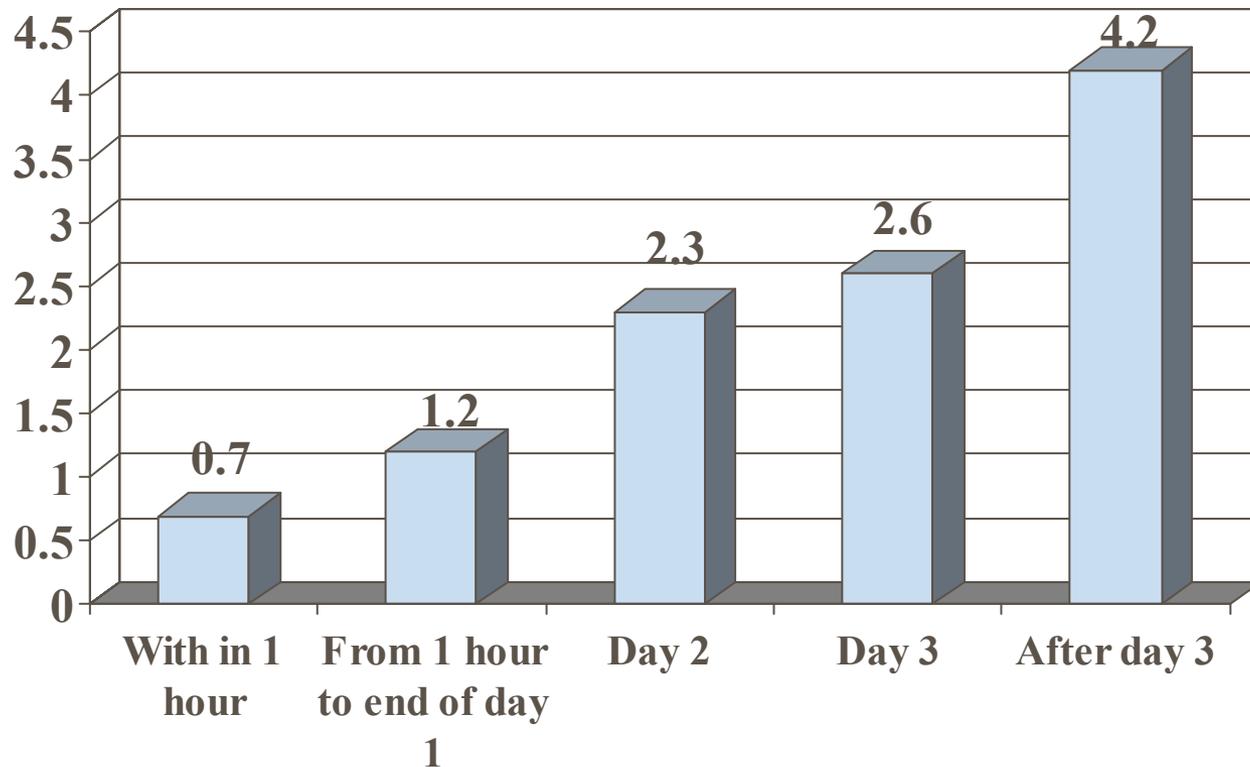


*Breastfeeding: Exclusive for first 6 months and continued for 6 to 12 months

Source: Jones et al. LANCET 2003;362:65-71



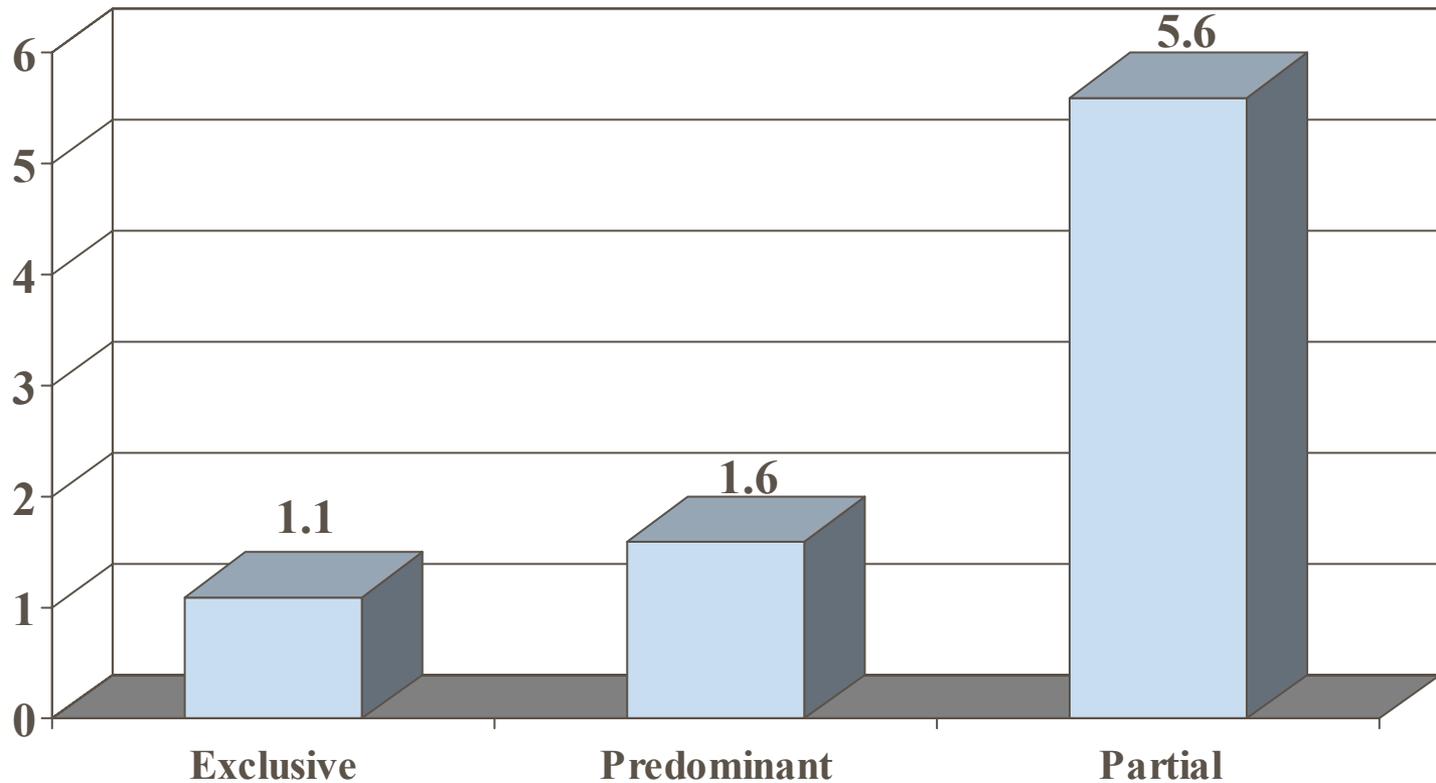
Risk of neonatal mortality according to time of initiation of breastfeeding



Pediatrics 2006;117:380-386



Risk of neonatal mortality according to established breastfeeding pattern



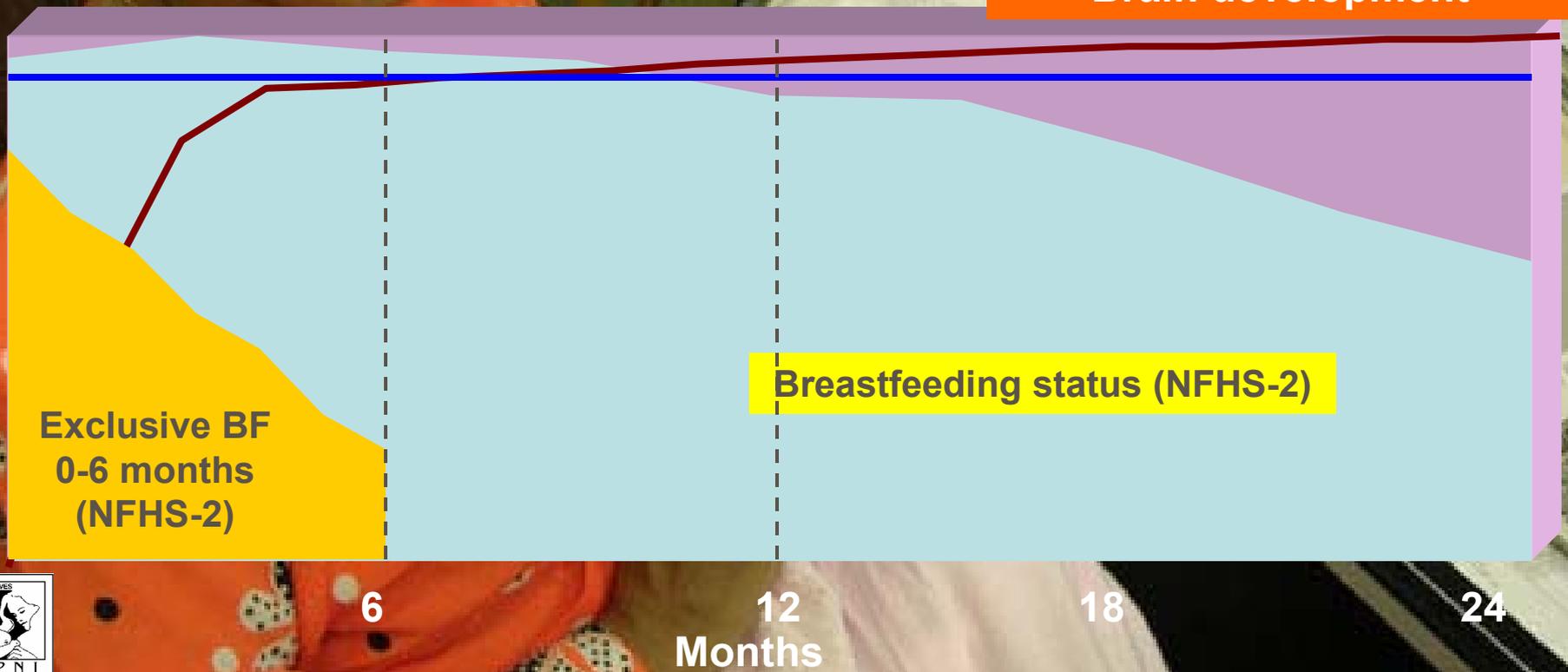
Pediatrics 2006;117:380-386



Breastfeeding!

- We are a breastfeeding nation
- We are “drop outs” in EX BF/CF
- 90% coverage can achieve reduction in infant mortality rate(IMR) (lancet Study)

Brain development



Global consensus

- Efforts should be targeted to pregnant women and children under two.
 - -"Child development Overcoming persistent 'undernutrition'" EPW, March 25-31, 2006
 - "Repositioning Nutrition as central to Development: A strategy for large scale Action", March 2006





Evidence supports !

- Employed mothers often terminate breastfeeding within a month of resuming work
- To achieve recommended six months of breastfeeding requires maternity leaves of “at least six months” *Lindberg, Journal of Marriage and the Family. 1996; 58, 239-251.*

Maternity entitlements !



Financial Assistance

Health care

Awareness of rights

Nutrition Education

Additional Food

Pregnancy

**Maternity Leave for
All (Org./Unorg.)**

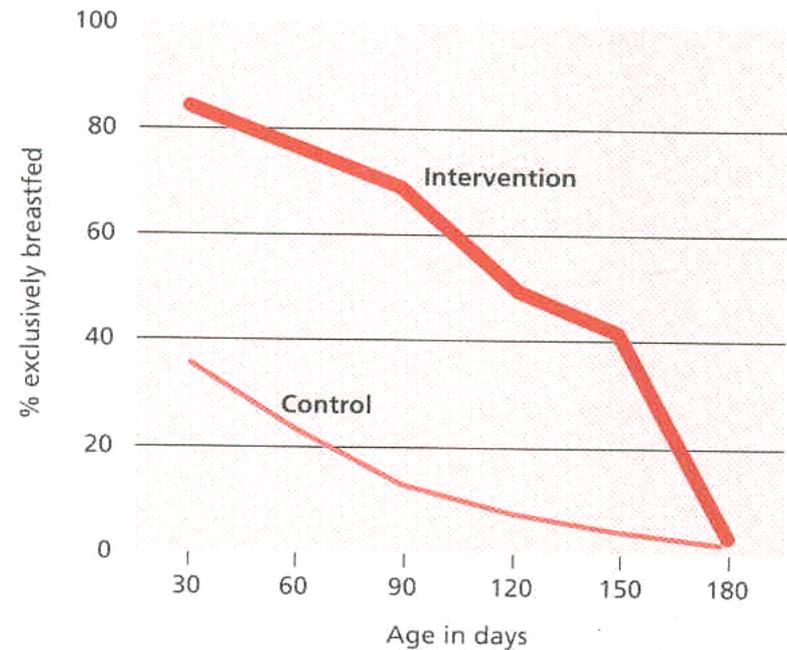
**Exclusive
BF for 6
months**

**Nursing breaks
& facilities at work place**

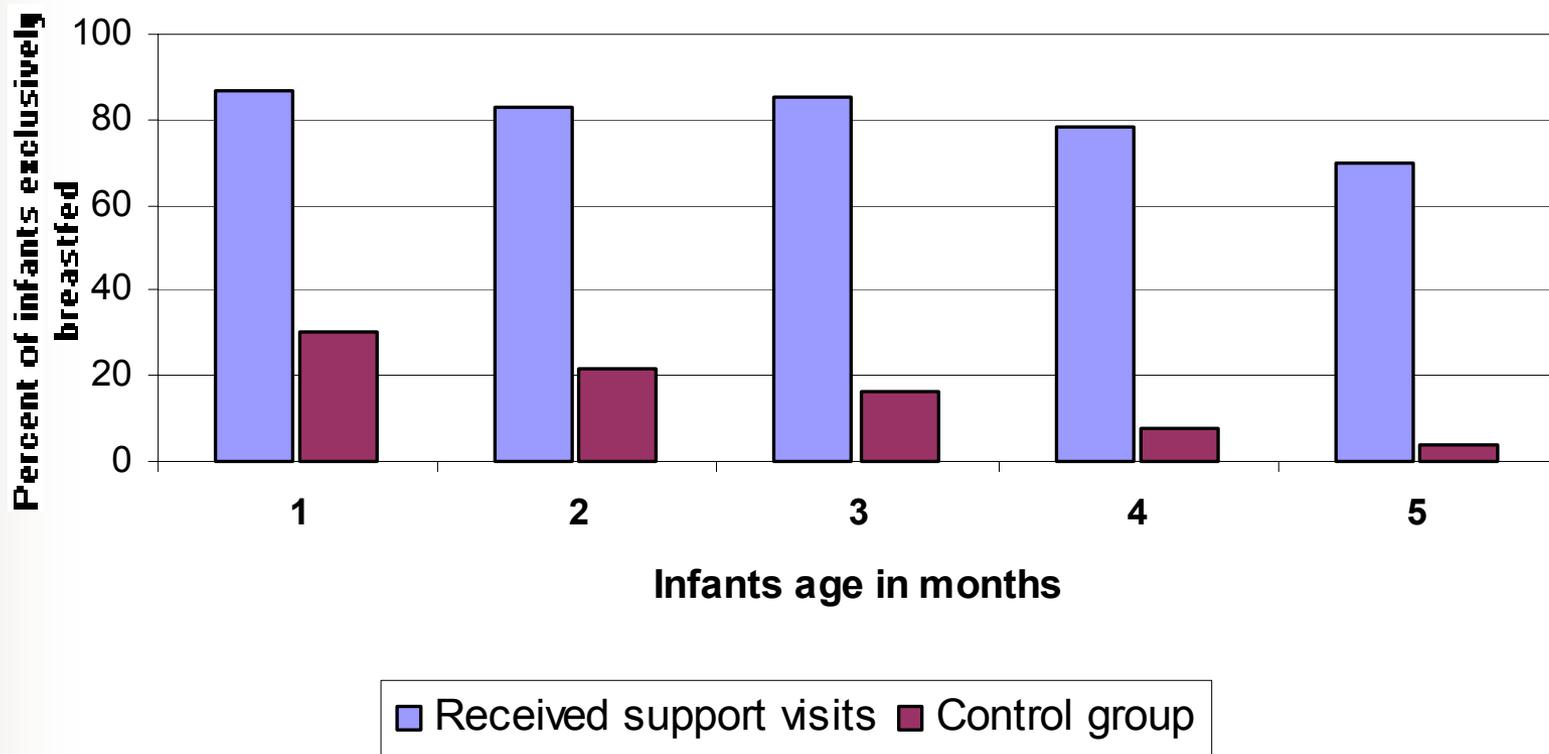
**Continued BF
with CF for 2
yrs**

The impact of community interventions: Improving infant feeding in rural Haryana, India

*The impact of community interventions:
Improving infant feeding in rural Haryana,
India through multiple contacts is feasible
and improves uptake of other child health
interventions. Health policy and
Planning 2005; 20(5):328-336.*



Effect of breastfeeding support household visits by trained local mothers



Haider R, Ashworth A, Kabir I et al. Effect of community-based peer counsellors on exclusive breastfeeding practices in Dhaka, Bangladesh: a randomized, controlled trial. *The Lancet* 2000;356:1643-1647.



What is breastfeeding education?

It includes

- Good Information
- Assistance at birth and later
- Answers to their question
- Counsel to prevent sore nipples, engorgement, and help if they come up
- Counseling on complementary feeding
- Counseling on feeding options for HIV IF

Breastfeeding Support Centers

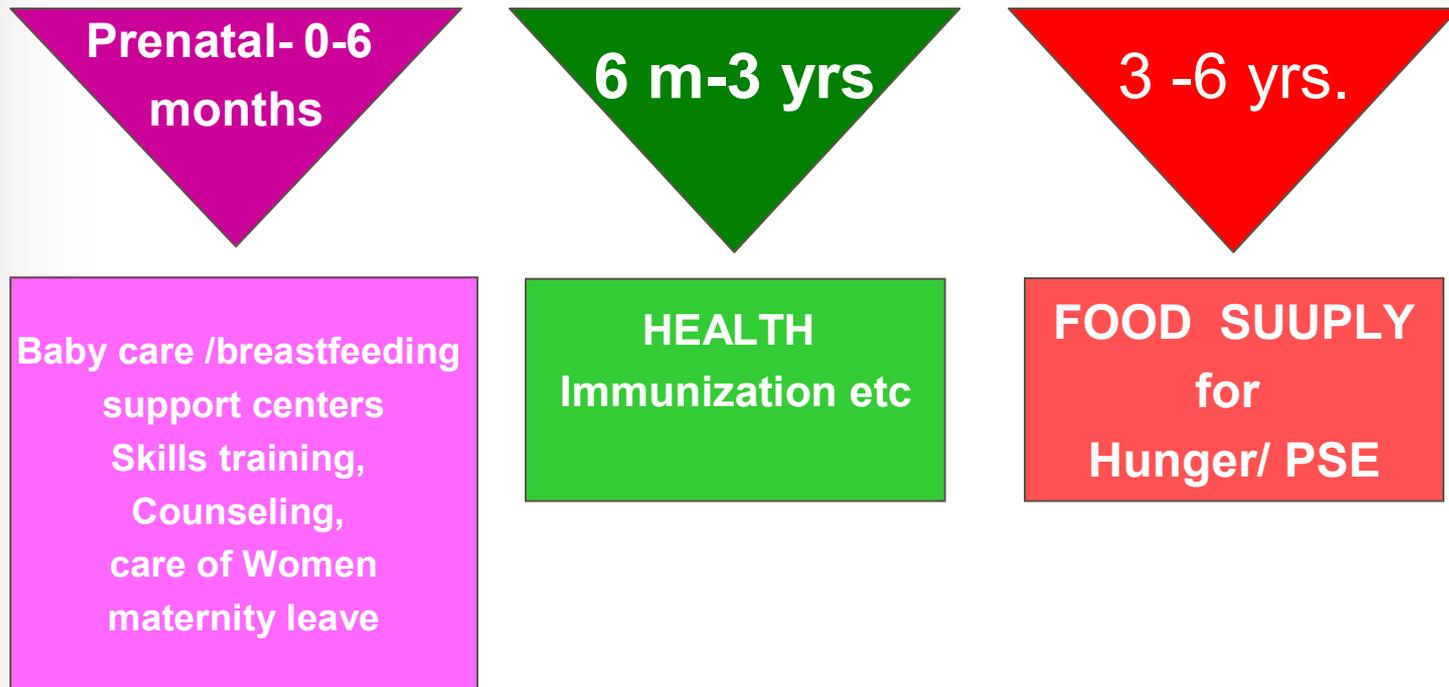




Breastfeeding Support Centers



Reorganize resources, programmes, each step requires assured resources



Emerging Issues

- Repositioning of ICDS- RCH – focus on development and survival, shift ‘SNP-food’ to education with MDM.
- Baby care centres / breastfeeding support centres/counselling home visits by skilled workers
- “One-hour breastfeeding support at birth” as entitlement, can it be included in “Supreme Court order”
- Length of maternity leave to six months; who will fund? (if not the employers)
- Informal sector workers : how they get benefits
- Family housewives’ entitlements: community responsibility.

Thank
you

