

Banked Human Milk Mandated Benefit Sunrise
Follow Up Questions to Applicant Report
June 19, 2015

1. Can you provide an estimate of the population that may need this benefit? The applicant report provides data on how many babies may have a medical need for human milk because they are preterm, low birth weight, very low birth weight, or have developed NEC. However, it does not estimate what percentage of these babies would need banked milk because they are not receiving it from their mothers.
2. Is it your intent for this mandate to apply only to situations where the mother's milk is unavailable (unable to produce milk or a sufficient supply of milk, or the milk is contraindicated because of a mother's illness or drug use)?
3. Is donor breast milk equal to a mother's own milk?
4. The applicant report notes that human milk is donated on a voluntary basis. Is there data and/or information regarding how much is donated to existing banks or hospitals and if there is enough to keep up with the current demands?
5. If human banked milk becomes a mandated benefit in Washington, how can we ensure there will be a sufficient supply donated to meet the demand?
6. Can you provide any data or estimates of how many infants should be receiving human banked milk in the NICU, but do not due to lack of insurance coverage?
7. On page 18 of the applicant report, you include information on the total ounces of donor milk dispensed in Washington State from January to April of 2015. Is there additional data about the donor milk dispensed, such as:
 - For how many babies was it dispensed?
 - For what purpose?
 - Whether the parents were required to pay out of pocket or it was covered under the hospital's NICU policy?
8. In Graph 3 on page 19, are you assuming the projected growth rate in annual distribution for Washington will be even higher if the proposed mandate were to pass?
9. On page 22 under (ii), there is a statement that families report contacting their insurance companies and having obtained coverage but that is not known to be the common experience.
 - Where was this information obtained?
 - Is there information on how many families requested coverage and how many successfully obtained coverage?
 - Were they covered because of a maternal condition or newborn condition?
10. Can you please provide labels for Table 1? For instance, we are assuming the measurement on the left axis is ounces.