

2005The Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership and Greater Kentucky Chapter Program

Professional Education Problem Statement:

Folic Acid: A 1999 March of Dimes survey of health care providers (non-random sample of academic centers with OB/GYN residency programs) showed that only 28.7% always recommended folic acid to their patients. Only 26.8% reported recommending folic acid most of the time. According to a 2001 Gallup Poll, only 18% of women mention their health care provider as their source of information on folic acid.

Prematurity: The March of Dimes estimates that one of every eight babies is born premature. Health care providers have a valuable role with their clients to reduce prematurity. This includes educating patients about the signs of preterm labor, advising patients to eliminate or reduce risk factors, and implementing sensitive programs that target women at high risk for preterm birth.

Goal: All health care providers will counsel women of childbearing age to take a multivitamin with folic acid every day and will make their clients aware of the signs and symptoms of preterm labor.

Objectives (Objectives are measurable statements that specify the outcomes of program activities, products or services within a specific time frame).	Activities to achieve objective (Describe the methods necessary to achieve objectives. Tell who is going to do what, where, how and when.)	Progress
<p>Objective 2.1 <i>Increase by at least 200 the number of health professionals who are aware of the signs and symptoms of preterm labor and that folic acid must be taken before pregnancy to prevent neural tube defects by December 2005.</i></p>	<p>Activity 1 Through the FA Partnership and Professional Education Subcommittee, provide information about prematurity and/or the benefits of folic acid at trainings for health professionals through at least 6 events by December 31, 2005.</p>	
	<p>Activity 2 Through the FA Partnership, send articles on perinatal topics to at least 6 health publications by December 31, 2005.</p>	
	<p>Activity 3 Exhibit perinatal materials at a minimum of 6 Health Professional Conferences by December 2005. (The Department for Public Health, the Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership, the Kentucky Perinatal Association, and MOD staff or volunteers will do the exhibits).</p>	

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Professional Education - Continued		
<p>Objective 2.1 (Continued) <i>Increase by at least 200 the number of health professionals who are aware of the signs and symptoms of preterm labor and that folic acid must be taken before pregnancy to prevent neural tube defects by December 2005.</i></p>	<p>Activity 4 Increase knowledge of members of the Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership on the benefits of folic acid and/or prematurity issues by distributing a minimum of 6 articles electronically by December 2005.</p>	
	<p>Activity 5 In collaboration with the March of Dimes, provide a clinically oriented overview of issues related to prematurity at a summit conference with attendance by a minimum of 50 health care professionals by December 2005.</p>	
	<p>Activity 6 Through the Folic Acid Partnership, collaborate on further development of the website by contributing a minimum of ten links related to professional education about prematurity by December 31, 2005.</p>	

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Professional Education - Continued		
<p>Objective 2.2 Increase, by at least 50, the number of health care providers who recommend taking a daily multivitamin containing folic acid to their patients of childbearing age and who have been provided information about issues related to prematurity by December 2005.</p>	<p>Activity 1 Through the Folic Acid Partnership and Professional Education Subcommittee provide individualized support and resources to at least 50 primary care providers and/or health care professionals in the community.</p>	
	<p>Activity 2 Distribute a letter and packet of information about prematurity using March of Dimes brochures to all OB/GYNs in Kentucky by December 31, 2005.</p>	
<p>Objective 2.3 Increase collaboration with other professional organizations in Kentucky by December 2005.</p>	<p>Activity 1 Attend a minimum of five meetings of other professional organizations to increase knowledge about the Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership by December 31, 2005.</p>	