

Supplementary Submission - Madeleine Love

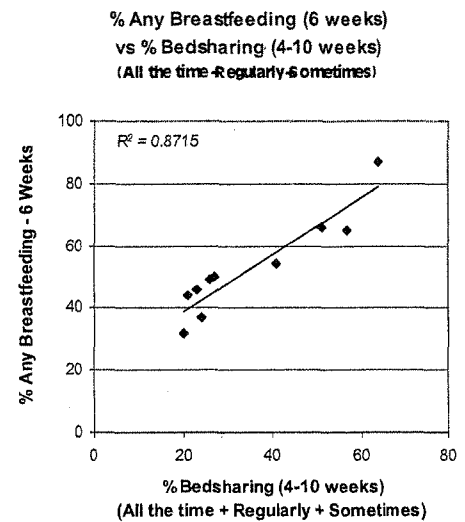
June 6, 2007; Previous submissions No. 322 and No. 365 +

This supplementary submission contains very new data released in the United Kingdom 3 weeks ago - the Infant Feeding Survey 2005¹ - which provided information on breastfeeding and bed-sharing by country of residence and ethnic group (9,416 mothers completed all survey forms).

I provide this information to further support all previous conclusions that for most women (of all races) successful breastfeeding is critically dependent on the sharing of a night-time sleep surface (commonly, "bed-sharing").

In the UK population the prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 months is half that of Australia (26%), but the category of mothers who bed-share like the Norwegians (ethnic group "Black or Black British"), breastfeed like the Norwegians. The region with the lowest bed-sharing (Northern Ireland) has the lowest breastfeeding.

The beauty of this information is that all these different categories exist under similar health services, media, infant formula regulation and marketing umbrellas. Yet there are still groups able to be successful at breastfeeding, by bed-sharing, and the relationship is linear. Costs nothing.



Category	Bed-sharing at 4 to 10 weeks					Any Breastfeeding	
	All the time	All the time + Regularly	All + Reg + Sometimes	All+Reg+Som + Rarely	Never	6 Weeks	6 Months
England	4	11	27	50	50	50	26
Wales	3	10	24	45	55	37	18
Scotland	2	7	21	43	56	44	24
Northern Ireland	2	8	20	40	60	32	14
White	3	9	23	46	54	46	23
Mixed	7	20	41	60	38	54	40
Asian or Asian British	10	24	51	70	31	66	37
Black or Black British	16	29	64	81	19	87	57
Chinese or Other Ethnic	14	20	57	77	22	65	40
All Mothers	4	11	26	49	51	49	26

Correlation Table	All the time	All+Reg	All+Reg+Som	A+R+S+R	Never	6 Weeks	6 Months
6 Weeks	0.93	0.92	0.93	0.94	-0.94	1.00	
6 Months	0.92	0.94	0.93	0.93	-0.94	0.97	1.00

¹ Infant Feeding Survey 2005; Bolling, Grant, Hamlyn, Thornton; "A survey conducted on behalf of The Information Centre for health and social care and the UK Health Departments by BMRB Social Research"; The Information Centre; (ISBN: 1-84636-124-9, www.ic.nhs.uk, email: enquiries@ic.nhs.uk) Section 4.5.2, Tables 4.33, 4.34, 2.10, 2.15