



Objectives

- Describe tactics used by Industry to influence Health Professionals
- Understand the role of Health Professionals related to the International Code and WHA resolutions

Guilt

Health professionals commonly state the concern that, if they promote breastfeeding, they may...

"impose guilt upon those who do not breastfeed." (Labbok 2008)

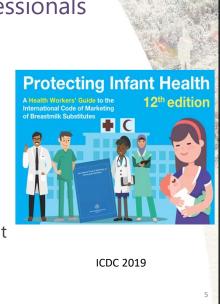
Guilt is more prevalent among mothers who formula feed than breastfeeding mothers. (Jackson 2021)

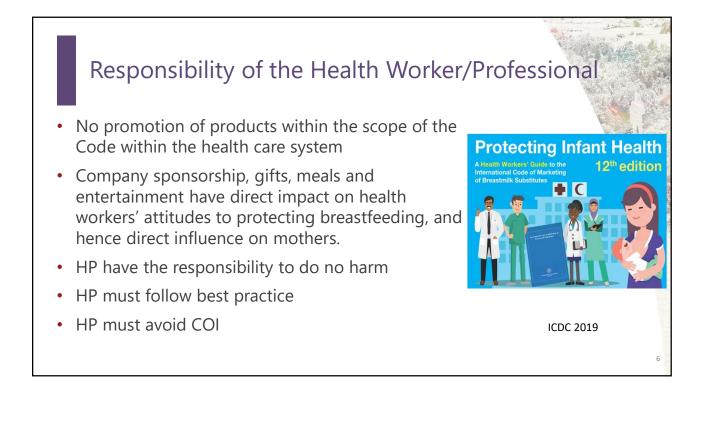


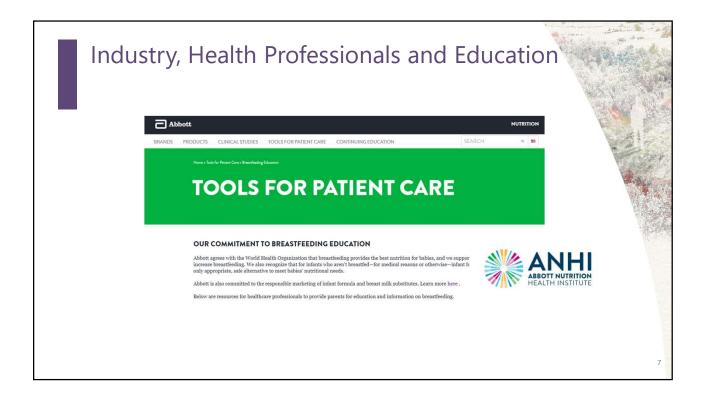
https://mobile.twitter.com/MathisenRoger/status/1435911556 361961476/photo/3

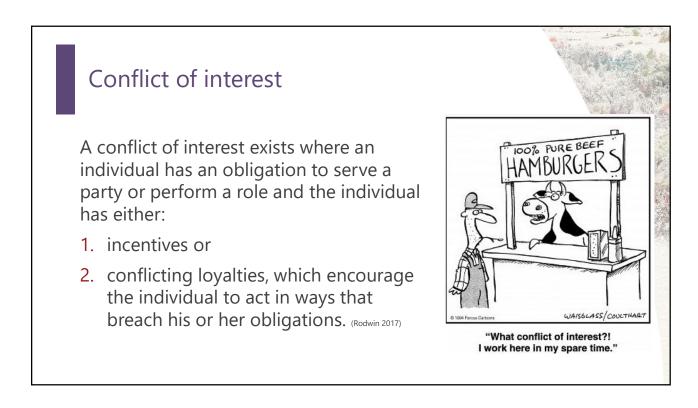
Industry and Health Workers/Professionals

- HP maybe 'used' by companies for promotion products due to close interaction with families.
- Trust is violated when HP are not aware of subtle ways marketing works, and how exploiting companies are.
- Sometimes the 'reward' seems too difficult to resist.
- The HP may not see the harm or even might see it as beneficial to their professional development.









Conflict of interest and the infant formula industry—a call to action

In the field of child health and nutrition, the primary responsibility of health professionals is to safeguard optimal health and development, which includes protection and support of breastfeeding.

The primary concern of companies who manufacture breastmilk substitutes is **profit**, and their marketing strategy often targets endorsement by health professionals. McFadden et al., 2016

The intersection of these two groups therefore leads to conflicts of interest. Clark 2017



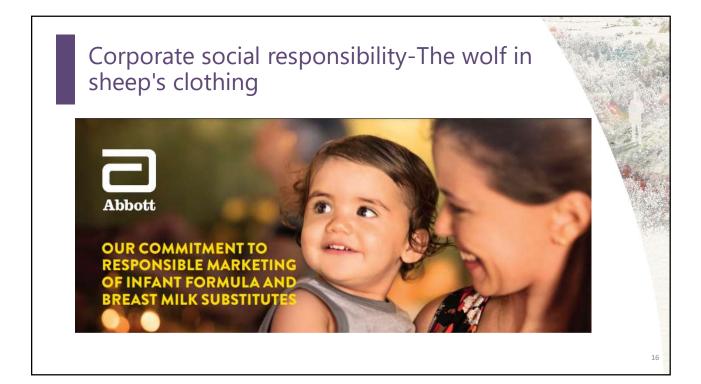




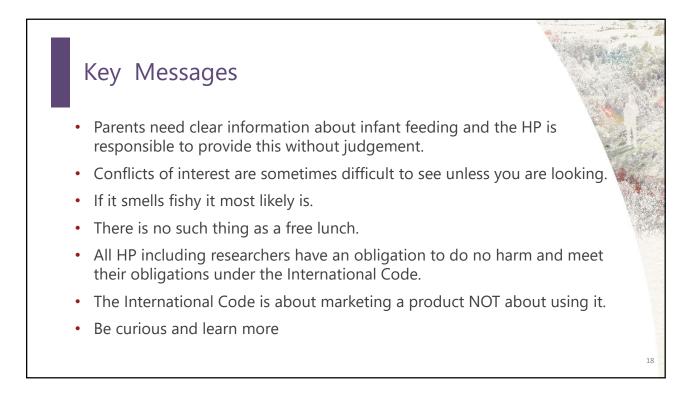












References

Labbok, M. (2008). Exploration of guilt among mothers who do not breastfeed: The physician's role. Journal of Human Lactation, 24(1), 80-84. https://doi.org/10.1177/0890334407312002

Conflict of interest and the infant formula industry—a call to action. (2019, October 16). The BMJ. https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2019/10/03/conflict-of-interest-and-the-infant-formula-industry-a-call-to-action/

McFadden A, Mason F, Baker J, et al. Spotlight on infant formula: coordinated global action needed. The Lancet 2016;387(10017):413-15.

Clark D. Avoiding Conflict of Interest in the field of Infant and Young Child Feeding: better late than never. World Nutrition 2017;8(2)

Rodwin, M. A., Attempts to Redefine Conflicts of Interest (2017). Accountability in Research: Policies in Quality Assurance, December 2017, Suffolk University Law School Research Paper No. 17-18, Available at SSRN: <u>https://ssrn.com/abstract=3084307</u>

Verfuerden, M. L., Dib, S., Jerrim, J., Fewtrell, M., & Gilbert, R. E. (2020). Effect of long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids in infant formula on long-term cognitive function in childhood: A systematic review and metaanalysis of randomised controlled trials. PloS one, 15(11), e0241800. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241800

Jackson, L, De Pascalis, L, Harrold, J, Fallon, V. Guilt, shame, and postpartum infant feeding outcomes: A systematic review. Matern Child Nutr. 2021; 17:e13141. https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.13141