

Table 2. Presence of Hospital Written Policies Supporting Selected Postpartum and Newborn Care Practices Recommended by CDC Guidance Before, During and After the Pandemic (N = 1173)

Practices Recommended by CDC During the Pandemic	Had a Written Hospital Policy ^a					
	Before pandemic		During pandemic		After pandemic	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Temporary separation of healthy newborns from mothers with suspected or confirmed influenza until CDC-recommended criteria for close contact ^b were met.	58	10.2	299	34.2	218	27.6
Testing newborns for influenza virus infection if signs of influenza were observed.	151	16.3	359	37.8	285	30.9
Provision of infant care (e.g., diapering, bathing) and feeding by a healthy family or staff member.	442	47.8	616	65.5	549	60.0
Supporting mothers with suspected or confirmed influenza who wished to breastfeed to express milk/colostrum until criteria for close contact were met.	446	48.0	631	66.9	565	61.7

NOTE: Percentages were estimated excluding missing data.

^aAll paired t-tests assessing differences in the presence of hospital written policies between times (i.e., before versus during, during versus after, and before versus after) were statistically significant at $P < .001$.

^bCriteria for close contact recommended by CDC included the following: mother had received antiviral medications for at least 48 hours, was without fever for 24 hours without antipyretics and could control cough and respiratory secretions.