

# Supplementing Micronutrients and Trace Elements to Improve Growth and Outcomes in VLBW Infants



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In this presentation Brian K. Stansfield, MD, examines the role of micronutrients and trace elements in supporting optimal growth and clinical outcomes in VLBW infants. Dr. Stansfield reviews how lactation stage, gestational age, and milk source influence micronutrient content and identifies potential gaps in sodium and zinc delivery. Clinical study data support the benefits of targeted micronutrient supplementation within human milk-based feeding programs. The session emphasizes actionable strategies that complement fortification, reduce micronutrient deficits, and promote growth, while maintaining the benefits of human milk-centered nutrition.

**Date**

**Time**

**Location**

**Organized by**

**For more info contact**

## Target Audience

This education was developed to support physicians, nurses, registered dietitians, and other healthcare professionals who care for preterm infants and newborns.

## Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Describe the micronutrient and trace element profile of preterm and donor human milk
- Evaluate how milk source and micronutrient supplementation influence preterm infant growth outcomes
- Apply current evidence to implement sodium and zinc supplementation strategies in VLBW infants

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