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Increasing Kangaroo Care in a New Small Baby Unit

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Increasing Kangaroo Care in a New Small Baby Unit

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Background and Aim

Background:

- Parental presence in a premature infant's life is critical to optimizing developmental outcomes.
- First emotional bonding is built through touch.
- Premature infants are exposed to significant amounts of negative "procedural touch".
- Encouraging parents to complete kangaroo care allows infants to experience "nurturing touch", offsetting negative touches.



- As our 84-bed Level IV NICU designed a 7 bed Small Baby Unit (SBU), an area of focus was increasing our kangaroo care rates for patients ≤ 32 weeks.
- Staff often felt uncomfortable with kangaroo care especially on ventilated patients.

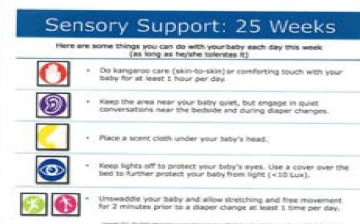
Project Aim:

- Increase the percent of eligible patients receiving kangaroo care from 19% to 30% by September 2019.

Methods

Interventions:

- Identified dedicated SBU team.
- Required education of SBU team:
 1. Read articles on neonatal neuro-protective best practices.
 2. Attend 4-hour SBU education (2 hours didactic-2 hours simulations; 1 simulation section focused on kangaroo care)
- Added OT consult to SBU admission power plan.
- SENSE program started on all SBU patients.



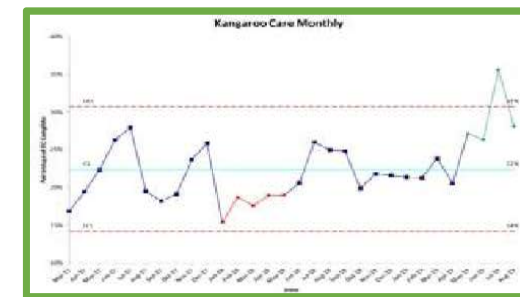
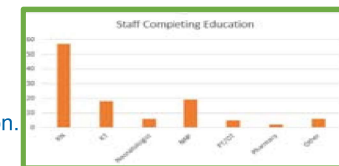
- Ensured kangaroo wraps were available.



Results and Conclusions

Results:

- 113 staff completed education.
- OT consults completed on all SBU patients.
- 20 kangaroo wraps purchased.
- Kangaroo care rate in NICU increased from 19% (prior to SBU) to 36% (Post SBU opening).



Conclusion:

Due to increased multidisciplinary awareness of importance of kangaroo care in the SBU more parents completing kangaroo care.

Next Steps:

- Unit looking at purchasing a dedicated kangaroo chair.
- RT planning a PDSA related to kangaroo care on HFOV.

LOVE WILL.

