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Increasing Kangaroo Care in a New Small Baby Unit

Dianne Wilderson

Children's Mercy Hospital

Barb Haney

Children's Mercy Hospital

Ashley Mirabile

Children's Mercy Hospital

Beckie Palmer

Children's Mercy Hospital

Jenny Heltzer

Children's Mercy Hospital

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Dianne Wilderson; Barb Haney; Ashley Mirabile; Beckie Palmer; Jenny Heltzer; Erin Keith-Chancy BSN,CCRN; Brooke Smith; Christian Anthony Schneider; and Abdebayo Oshodi

Increasing Kangaroo Care in a New Small Baby Unit

Dianne Wilderson MSN, RNC-NIC; Barb Haney MSN, RN-NIC, CPNP-AC, FELS0; Ashley Mirabile DNP, CCRN, CPNP-PC; Beckie Palmer MSN, RN; Jenny Heltzer RN, RNC-NIC; Erin Keith-Chancy MSN, CCRN; Brooke Smith BHS, RRT-NPS, Christian Schneider BSH, RRT-NPS, Adebayo Oshodi, MD

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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.

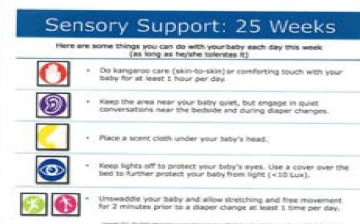
Project Aim:

- 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.



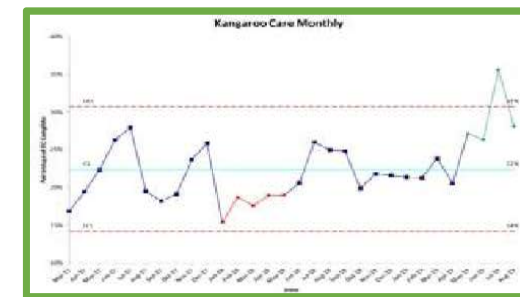
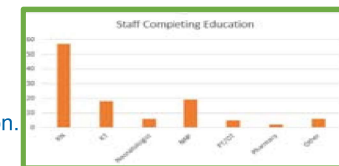
- Ensured kangaroo wraps were available.



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.

