



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

FCC Taskforce

January 2023 Webinar



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



INFANT AND FAMILY CENTERED DEVELOPMENTAL CARE: EVIDENCE FOR PRACTICE

Joy V. Browne, PhD, PCNS, IMH-E (IV)
Clinical Professor, Dept of Pediatrics
University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine
Pronouns: she/her/hers



USING THE EVIDENCE TO GUIDE PARENTS IN OPTIMIZING THE EARLY NICU ENVIRONMENT

Bobbi Pineda, PhD OTR/L, CNT
Assistant Professor, University of Southern California
Chan Division of Occupational Science and
Occupational Therapy,
Pronouns: she/her/hers



VARIATION IN FAMILY CENTERED CARE METRICS ACROSS CALIFORNIA

Jochen Profit, MD, MPH
Professor of Pediatrics (Neonatology), Stanford School of
Medicine
Chief Quality officer at CPQCC
Pronouns: he/him/his



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

FCC Core Team



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Program Manager



Caroline Toney-Noland, MSc
*Program Manager,
CPQCC*

Co-Chairs



Malathi Balasundaram, MD
*Clinical Associate Professor
Stanford School of Medicine
FCC Committee Chair
El Camino Health, CA*



Colby Day, MD
*Assistant Professor of Neonatology
University of Rochester Medical Center
Associate Medical Director of Golisano
Children's Hospital NICU*



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Partners



CPQCC

california perinatal
quality care collaborative

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

pac/lac

Perinatal Advisory Council:
Leadership, Advocacy and Consultation

Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine

NEONATOLOGY TODAY

Peer Reviewed Research, News, and Information in Neonatal and Perinatal Medicine



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Grants



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

FCC Taskforce Phase 3 small group QI efforts on implementing & strengthening Family Centered Care Committes & Family Partnership Councils in 34 centers

“Supported by a grant from Genentech, a member of the Roche Group”
&
“Prolacta Bioscience Foundation”



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Agenda



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Taskforce updates: Colby Day, MD

Speaker: Dr. Joy Browne

Speaker Q&A: Colby Day, MD

Speaker: Dr. Bobbi Pineda

Speaker Q&A: Caroline Toney Noland, MSc

Speaker: Dr. Jochen Profit

Speaker Q&A: Malathi Balasundaram, MD

Closing & Feedback Survey: Malathi Balasundaram, MD



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Executive Council - Family Partners



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



*Jennifer
Canvasser*



*Lelis
Vernon*



*Elizabeth
Simonton*



*Necole
McRae*



*Keira
Sorrells*



*Marybeth
Fry*



Kimberly Novod



*Michael
Hynan*



*Morgan
Kowalski*



Nicholas Hall



*Molly
Fraust-Wylie*



Michelle Wrench



Betsy Pilon



Vishal Kapadia



Katherine Huber



Meegan Snyder



Kristy Love



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

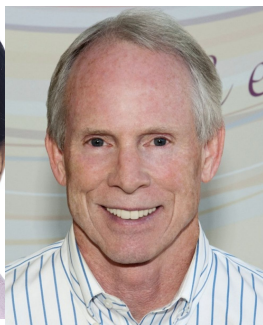
Executive Council Health Care Providers



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



***Dr. Dharshi
Sivakumar***



***Dr. Bob
White***



***Dr. Emily
Whitesel***



***Dr. Daphna
Barbeau***



***Dr. Robert
Cicco***



***Dr. Kerri
Machut***



Dr. Jessica Fry



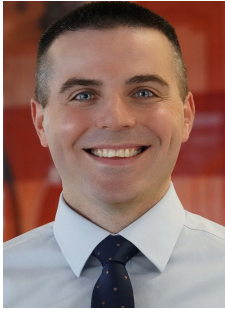
***Dr. Vargabi
Ghei***



Dr. Henry Lee



***Dr. Wendy
Timpson***



Dr. Jeff Meyers



Dr. Tim Palmer



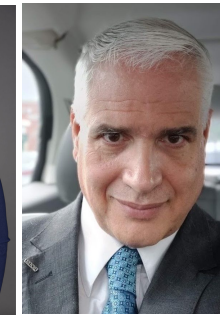
Dr. Joy Browne



Aida Simonian



Lori Gunther



***Dr. Mitchell
Goldstein***



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

One Year Anniversary FCC Task force



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

- 340+ listserv members from 90+ hospitals
- UK, Israel, Cambodia, Canada
- FCC Padlet: Scan QR Code



The screenshot shows a dashboard for the Family Centered Care Taskforce. At the top, it says "Family Centered Care Taskforce" with a heart icon and "Caroline + 1 • 9d". Below this are five main sections: "Taskforce Overview", "Educational Webinars", "Resources and Past Webinars", "Questions?", and "Key Contacts".

- Taskforce Overview:** A text post about FCC in the NICU, stating it is a key factor in improving infant health outcomes and family mental health outcomes. It mentions that despite this, very few NICUs across the US have implemented a mode of NICU care focused on FCC. The team has successfully garnered enthusiastic interest from 37 NICUs across the US to complete virtual trainings and engage in small group discussions from May 2022 to May 2023 around this topic.
- Educational Webinars:** Contains two posts. The first is a link for calendar invites and zoom information. The second is an "Upcoming Webinars" post for Oct 13th, 2022, 11-12:30 PM PDT, featuring Dr. Amanda Yeaton-Massey, Sha Sha Chu, Betsy Pilon, Vishal Kapadia, and Michelle Wrench. The second webinar is for Nov 10th, 11-12:30 PM PDT, featuring Dr. Mike Hynan, Dr. Sivakumar & Michelle Wrench, and Meegan Snyder & Kiera Sorrells. A third webinar is for Jan 12th, 2023, 11-12:30 PM PDT, featuring Dr. Bobbi Pineda, Dr. Joy Browne, and Dr. Jochen Profit.
- Resources and Past Webinars:** Features a post for the "NICU Toolkit for Black Families" from milkab.ucsf.edu.
- Questions?:** Includes a "FCC Q&A Padlet" link, a "Ask your peers!" section with a listserv link, and a "Tweet at Us!" section with the handle @FCCTaskforce.
- Key Contacts:** Lists "Co-Chairs" Malathi Balasundaram, MD and Colby Day, MD, and "Family Partners" including Keira Sorrells, Marybeth Fry, Kimberly Novod, and Necole McRae.

INFANT AND FAMILY CENTERED DEVELOPMENTAL CARE: EVIDENCE FOR PRACTICE

Joy V. Browne, Ph.D., PCNS, IMH-E (IV)

And Carol Jaeger, DNP, RN, NNP-BC

On behalf of the IFCDC Consensus Committee





FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

**Please see slide handouts,
the link is available on padlet.**



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Dr. Joy Browne

Speaker Q&A

Family Centered Care Taskforce

Bobbi Pineda PhD, OTR/L, CNT

Assistant Professor

University of Southern California

Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

Keck School of Medicine

Department of Pediatrics, Neonatology

Occupational Science in the NICU

- Occupational disruption: a disruption to typical patterns of occupation which could be due to environment constraints or health conditions
 - Can lead to changes in identity, routines, and participation in occupations
- Occupational disruption is evident in daily NICU experiences
 - Parental role alteration
 - Infant environmental exposures
 - Experiences that lay the foundation for later development and occupations
 - Engagement in infant occupations: oral feeding and social interactions

Parents in the NICU

- Mental health challenges and low confidence are common
- Parents of low SES have less participation in the NICU
- Parent engagement is related to outcomes



> [Early Hum Dev.](#) 2018 Feb;117:32-38. doi: 10.1016/j.earlhumdev.2017.12.008. Epub 2017 Dec 21.

Parent participation in the neonatal intensive care unit: Predictors and relationships to neurobehavior and developmental outcomes

Roberta Pineda ¹, Joy Bender ², Bailey Hall ³, Lisa Shabosky ³, Anna Annecca ³, Joan Smith ⁴

> [Early Hum Dev.](#) 2018 May;120:31-39. doi: 10.1016/j.earlhumdev.2018.03.009. Epub 2018 Apr 4.

Maternal mental health during the neonatal period: Relationships to the occupation of parenting

Rachel Harris ¹, Deanna Gibbs ², Kathryn Mangin-Heimos ³, Roberta Pineda ⁴

Published: 14 February 2013

Parental presence and holding in the neonatal intensive care unit and associations with early neurobehavior

L C Reynolds ✉, M M Duncan, G C Smith, A Mathur, J Neil, T Inder & R G Pineda

[Journal of Perinatology](#) 33, 636-641 (2013) | [Cite this article](#)

*Parents are the key drivers of their infants' sensory experiences and development



Optimal Programming in the NICU Requires Intention

- Brings infants and parents together to optimize outcome
- Engages parents in achieving their important role
- Optimizes the environment for the infant through interactions with their parents
 - Tailors the intervention to the specific age of the infant
 - Is responsive to the infant's current medical interventions and behavioral cues
- Lays the foundation for future interactions

Overview of the SENSE Program

- Evidence-based: Incorporates what we know to date on sensory experiences in the NICU and packages it in an easy to follow format for parents and health care professionals
- Provides choices of different tactile, auditory, visual, kinesthetic and olfactory/gustatory experiences to provide the infant every day in the NICU
- The amount of time and type of sensory exposures are based on postmenstrual age
 - Sensory development
 - Infant tolerance
 - Behavioral cues
- Intended to be parent-delivered
 - Parent education materials
 - Sensory support team can fill in gaps
- Incorporated into daily life within the NICU
- Typically overseen by a neonatal therapist who does parent education and

SENSE II

Supporting & Enhancing NICU Sensory Experiences 2nd Edition



*A Guidebook for
Parents in the NICU*

Table of Contents

- Welcome Letter.....Page 4
- Glossary.....Page 5
- Chapter 1 - Parenting In The NICU:
 What You Can Do For Your Baby.....Pages 6-12
- Chapter 2 - Experiencing The World:
 Our Body’s Senses.....Pages 13-22
- Chapter 3 - Growing Up In The NICU:
 Supporting Your Baby’s Developing Senses.....Pages 23-35
- Chapter 4 - How Your Baby Talks To You:
 Watching Baby’s Signals.....Pages 36-42
- Chapter 5 - Your Time With Your Baby:
 When To Interact.....Pages 43-52
- Chapter 6 - Helping Your Baby’s Senses:
 Week-By-Week Sensory Plan.....Pages 53-72
- Chapter 7 - Helping Your Baby’s Senses:
 A “How-To” Guide.....Pages 73-85



1

Parenting in the NICU

What You Can Do For Your Baby

Importance of Parents

- The role of the parent is different than any other job on the team and can't be done by anyone else but you.
- You are the most important person in your baby's life.
- You are the person who knows your baby best.
- You taking part in the NICU will help your baby grow and develop.
- Your baby knows you: your voice, your scent, your touch, your heartbeat.



Your Baby's Medical Treatments

- Having a baby in the NICU means that medical treatments are needed.
- Medical treatments are not only helping to keep your little one healthy, but are also helping your baby to grow.
- Because your baby is undergoing medical treatments, you are needed even more.
- **You can help your baby feel more comfortable by talking, touching, or holding your baby before, during, or after needed medical treatments.**
- **You are an important part of your baby's care. Ask the NICU care team questions about anything you don't understand.**





2

Experiencing the World

Our Body's Senses

SENSE: Copyright 2017, by Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and 2022, by University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California. All rights reserved.

13

We Have Seven Basic Senses

1. Touch.
2. Hearing.
3. Smell.
4. Taste.
5. Seeing.
6. Body Awareness (understanding the parts of your body, where they are located, how they feel, and what they can do).
7. Movement.



In the Womb: Hearing

- Baby's hearing develops by the 24th week of pregnancy.
- Sounds from the outside world are muted by the body.
- In the womb, your baby can hear the heartbeat, gushes of fluid, blood flowing in the veins, and noises of the stomach.
- Your baby can hear voices from the outside and can also feel vibrations.
- Your baby can recognize parents' voices after birth.
Knowing the parents' voices is important for bonding between parents and the baby.
- Hearing allows your baby to learn about language and communication.





3

Growing Up in The NICU

Supporting Your Baby's Developing Senses

The NICU Experience



- Premature birth and staying in the NICU changes how your baby experiences the world.
- Your baby no longer has the protection of the parent's body, and your baby experiences all of the noise, light, touch, pain, and gravity that is in the outside world.
- Your baby's senses continue to develop just like they would in the womb, but now those senses are getting different stimulation.
- **It is important to make sure that your baby receives the right kind of stimulation, so that it will support the developing senses.**
- How? By giving sensory experiences that are backed by research, and by spending quality time with parents every day.
- Your health care team can help guide you about the types of sensory experiences that are best for your baby. This may change as your baby grows stronger.
- This guide provides suggested types of activities along with how long to conduct them. All the activities in this book have research that has shown them to benefit you and/or your baby.

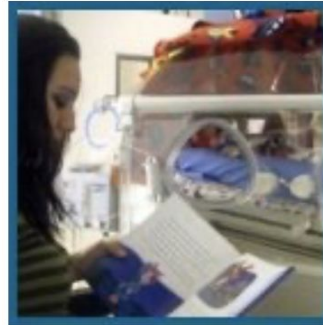
Supporting Your Baby's Sense of Touch Through Kangaroo Care and Holding



- **One of a baby's favorite activities in the NICU is kangaroo care, also known as skin-to-skin holding.**
- **While there are different ways to do kangaroo care, it usually involves having your baby (with only a diaper on) placed on your bare chest.**
- Kangaroo care can be done by any parent.
- Holding your baby skin-to-skin helps with bonding with your baby. Your baby can hear your heartbeat, smell you, and feel your touch (much like when they were in the womb).
- Kangaroo care helps your baby keep a stable temperature and makes your baby feel comfortable and secure.
- Kangaroo care helps to steady your baby's vital signs, improve sleep, and decrease stress for both you and your baby.
- Holding your baby in your arms also benefits you and your baby.

Supporting Your Baby's Sense of Hearing

- **Your baby's favorite voice is YOURS. Your voice will provide something familiar, secure, and comfortable.**
- Hearing can help the baby develop language skills later in life.
- The sound level of your singing, reading, or talking should be quiet (that of a whisper), so that your baby does not wake up from sleeping.





4

How Your Baby Talks To You

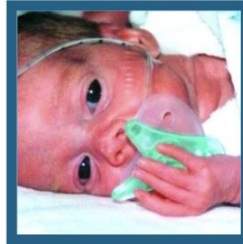
Watching Baby's Signals

Approach Behaviors: “I’m Ready to Interact”



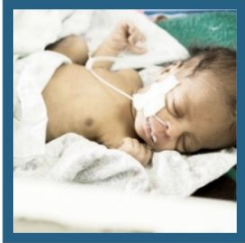
Focused Attention

Baby will make eye contact with you.



Bright Eyed & Sucking Movements

Regular Breathing Rate



Face, Arms, and Legs Relaxed



Good Color



Awake, Quiet, & Alert

Baby nestled, relaxed, and ready for interaction.

Self-Calming Behaviors: “I’m Doing OK”

Foot Bracing

Babies may put one foot on top of the other or push against your hand or the bed for support.



Sucking

Babies may suck on the breathing tube at times. They also may suck on a pacifier or their fingers. Sucking can be very calming.



Hand Clasp or Finger Grasping

Babies may grasp their own hands or close their fingers around your finger.



Stressed Behaviors: “I Need a Rest”



Hyper-Alert
Wide-Eyed
Staring Gaze



Looking Away



Limp/Flaccid
Unable to respond
to stimulation

Exhausted



5

Your Time With Your Baby

When To Interact

Sleep is Important!

- Sleep is important for your baby, but having positive sensory experiences with you is most important.
- **By planning activities around your baby's sleep, your baby can have both uninterrupted sleep AND positive sensory experiences.**
- Some activities can be done while your baby is sleeping and may help your baby sleep.
- Other activities can be structured around a time when your baby is going to be waking soon.



Things To Do When Baby Is Asleep

- **Some positive sensory experiences can be done during sleep and may even help your baby sleep!**
- Some examples of activities that can be done when your baby is sleeping or to help them sleep include:
 - Giving your baby a pacifier.
 - Giving hand hugs.
 - Doing things for your baby's hearing (like reading, talking, or singing) that are the sound of a whisper.
- All of these things can be done at any time of day, including in between scheduled care times.



Things To Do When Baby Is Asleep

- Activities during sleep are different from activities you may do when your baby is awake.
 - Activities during sleep tend to be low-intensity and often do not involve movement.
- It is important to try only one thing at first, and then you can add another activity as long as your baby stays asleep.
- Here is an example of what you can try while your baby is sleeping:
 - Speak softly to your baby at the sound of a whisper.
 - Wait 30 seconds to one minute. If your baby tolerates it and does not wake up, add one steady hand gently to the forehead.
 - Wait another 30 seconds to one minute. If your baby tolerates it and does not wake up, add your other hand gently onto the stomach.





6

Supporting Your Baby's Senses

Week-By-Week Sensory Plan

SENSE: Copyright 2017, by Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and 2022, by University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California. All rights reserved.

Week-By-Week Sensory Plan



Touch
(Tactile)



Hearing
(Auditory)



Smell
(Olfactory)



Seeing
(Visual)



**Movement &
Body Awareness**
(Vestibular & Proprioception)

Each week in the NICU, your baby's senses are developing.

This next section will introduce activities to do with your baby every day. The postmenstrual age at the top of each page will help you find the activities appropriate for your baby's current developmental stage.

The symbols on the left show which sense each activity is for.

You will see recommendations for the amount of time to provide sensory experiences for your baby. These are goals. Some babies will enjoy more or less of an activity, and you might not always be able to do as much as you would like. Do what you can, and follow your baby's lead!

Sensory Support: ≤ 23 Weeks

Here are some things to do with your baby each day this week
(as long as tolerated)



Touch

Do kangaroo care (skin-to-skin) or a hand hug with your baby for at least 1 hour per day.



Hearing

Engage in quiet conversations near the bedside and during diaper changes.



Smell

Provide at least 3 hours per day of parent scent or the smell of breast milk.



Seeing

Protect your baby from direct or bright light.



Movement & Body

Awareness

- Unwrap your baby and allow stretching and free movement for at least 2 minutes prior to a diaper change at least 1 time per day.
- Allow your baby to experience being in at least 2 different positions for at least 10 minutes each.

Sensory Support: 32 Weeks*

*Denotes change from previous week

Here are some things to do with your baby each day this week
(as long as tolerated)



Touch

Give at least 2 hours of positive touch each day by doing one or more of these things:

- Provide a hand hug.
- Do kangaroo care (skin-to-skin) for at least 1 hour.
- Hold your baby in a blanket for 15 minutes at a time, or longer if your baby's temperature remains stable.
- Do massage for up to 15 minutes.



Hearing

Give at least 1 ½ hours of positive sound each day by doing one or more of these things:

- Read, sing, and/or speak to your baby (can be broken up into 30 minute periods several times per day).
- Play soft music or recorded voice.

**At the sound of a whisper or quiet conversation.*



Smell

Provide at least 3 hours per day of parent scent or the smell of breast milk.



Seeing

- Cycle light to your baby with natural light (or lights on, when there is no natural light) during the day and dim light or darkness at night.
- Avoid direct and bright lights.



Movement & Body Awareness

- Unwrap your baby and allow stretching and free movement for at least 2 minutes prior to a diaper change at least 3 times per day.
- Allow your baby to experience being in at least 2 different positions for at least 10 minutes each.
- Rock during holding for at least 3 minutes.

Sensory Support: \geq 40 Weeks

Here are some things to do with your baby each day this week
(as long as tolerated)



Touch

Give at least 3 hours of positive touch each day by doing one or more of these things:

- Provide a hand hug.
- Do kangaroo care (skin-to-skin) for at least 1 hour.
- Hold your baby in a blanket.
- Do massage for up to 15 minutes at a time.



Hearing

Give at least 3 hours of positive sound each day by doing one or more of these things:

- Read, sing, and/or speak to your baby (can be broken up into 30 minute periods several times per day).
- Play soft music or recorded voice.

**At the sound of a whisper or quiet conversation.*



Smell

Provide at least 3 hours per day of parent scent or the smell of breast milk.



Seeing

- Cycle light to your baby with natural light (or lights on, when there is no natural light) during the day and dim light or darkness at night.
- Avoid direct and bright lights.
- While shielding your baby from direct light, have your baby try to focus on or follow your face.



Movement & Body

Awareness

- Unwrap your baby and allow stretching and free movement for at least 2 minutes prior to every diaper change.
- Allow your baby to experience tummy time and being in at least 3 other positions for at least 10 minutes each.
- Rock during holding for at least 7 minutes.



7

Helping Your Baby's Senses

A "How-To" Guide

Massage

- Your care team can help you decide if massage is right for your baby.
- **Do massage only if your baby is showing “I’m Doing OK” or “I’m Ready to Interact” signs.**
- The focus should be on your baby relaxing, rather than the number and type of strokes.
- Apply a hand hug to start.
- Strokes should be done slowly and with gentle pressure.
- Avoid light touch and avoid heavy pressure.
- Up to 15 minutes of massage (at different times of the day) can benefit your baby.



Research Findings

- 400+ hospitals are implementing the SENSE program
- Parents and health care professionals have positive perceptions about the SENSE program
- More parent engagement in the NICU
- Increased parent confidence
- Better infant outcomes

SENSE Program: The Future

- Updated every 5 years to reflect the most current evidence
- Training programs
- Program accessibility through availability as a not-for-profit entity

*Ultimate goal: provide a structured format to aid parents in interacting with their infants in an age-appropriate and individualized manner while in the NICU



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Dr. Bobbi Pineda

Speaker Q&A



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



VARIATION IN FAMILY CENTERED CARE METRICS ACROSS CALIFORNIA

Jochen Profit, MD, MPH

Professor of Pediatrics (Neonatology), Stanford School of
Medicine

Chief Quality officer at CPQCC

Pronouns: he/him/his



Family Centered Care Metrics – Pilot Results

Jochen Profit, MD, MPH

Professor of Pediatrics

Chief Quality Officer, California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative

Disclosure

Dr. Profit's equity research has been supported by:

- [NICHD R01 - HD083368 \(PI: J Profit\)](#)
- [NICHD R01 - HD084667 \(PI: J Profit\)](#)
- [NICHD R01 - HD094847 \(Co-PIs: J Profit, E Main\)](#)

Dr. Profit's care culture and burnout research has been supported by:

- [NICHD R01 - HD083368-01 Co-PIs: J Profit, JB Sexton\)](#)

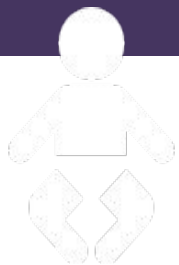
Dr. Profit serves as an unpaid Advisory Board Member of the NEC Society

By the numbers



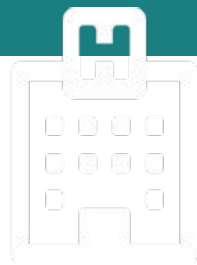
500K

CMQCC



17K

CPQCC/CMQCC



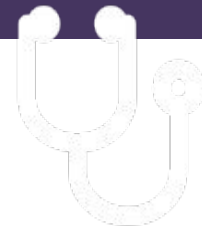
140



7K

ACUTE
NEONATAL
TRANSPORTS

CPeTS



9K

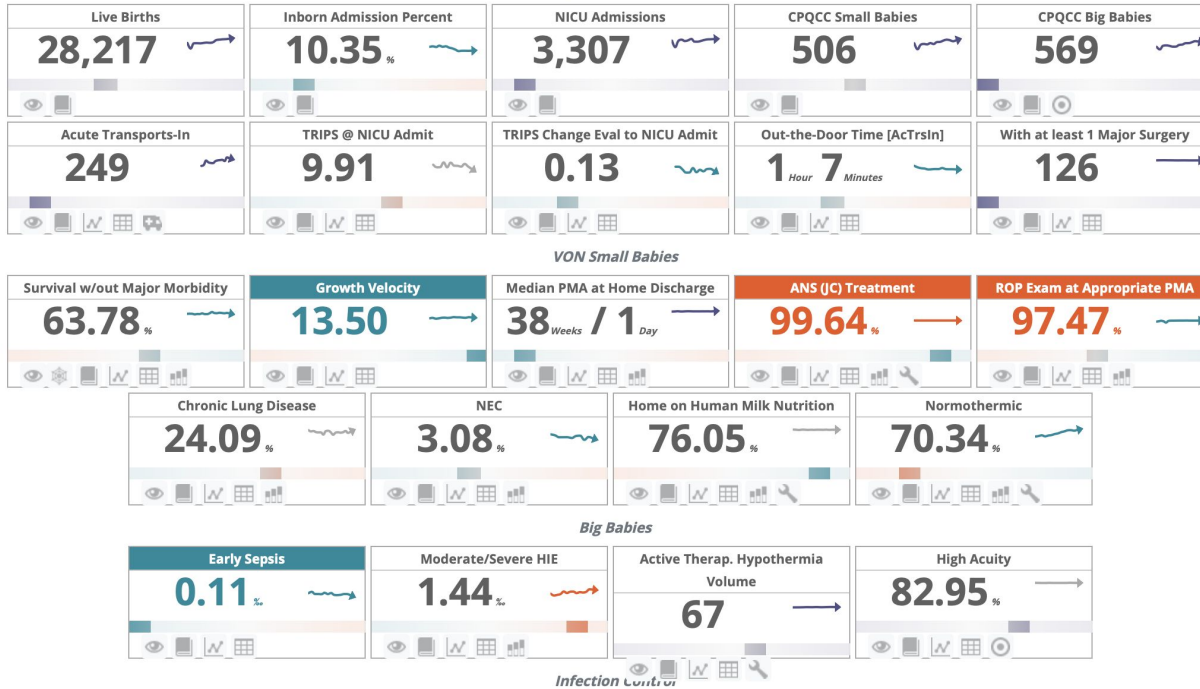
HIGH-RISK
INFANTS
REGISTERED

HRIF

Our Programs

- 1 **NICU/HRIF Database**
- 2 **Quality Improvement**
- 3 **Education**
- 4 **QI Research**

NICU/HRIF Database

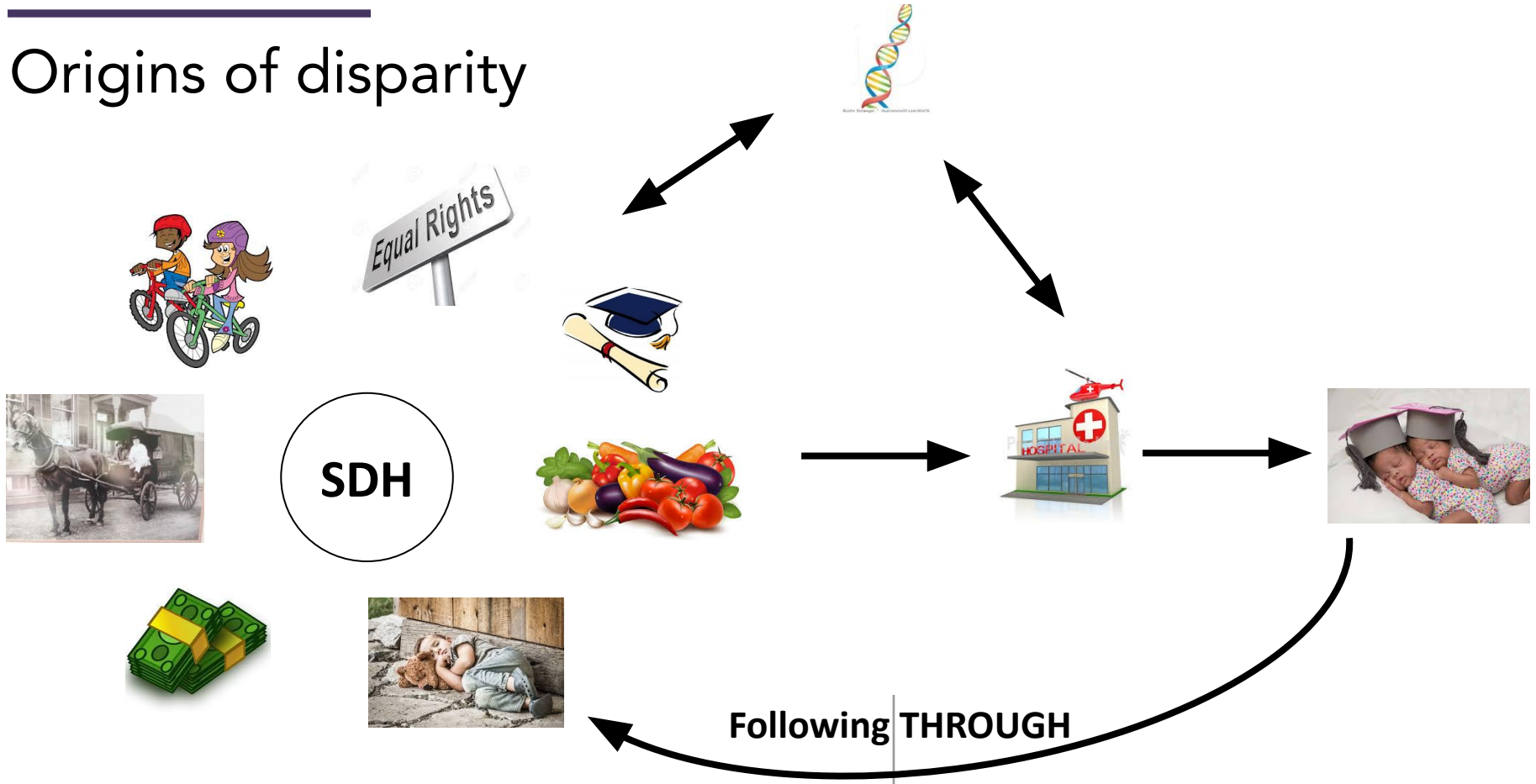


- Web-based system that analyzes and displays critical information on newborns admitted to and transferred between NICUs across California
- Customizable reports allow for comparison of data across a wide range of parameters
- Individualized member support by a team of knowledgeable analysts
- Linkages with the HRIF program allow for tracking of long-term neurodevelopmental outcomes of high risk infants

Inequities in Perinatal Care



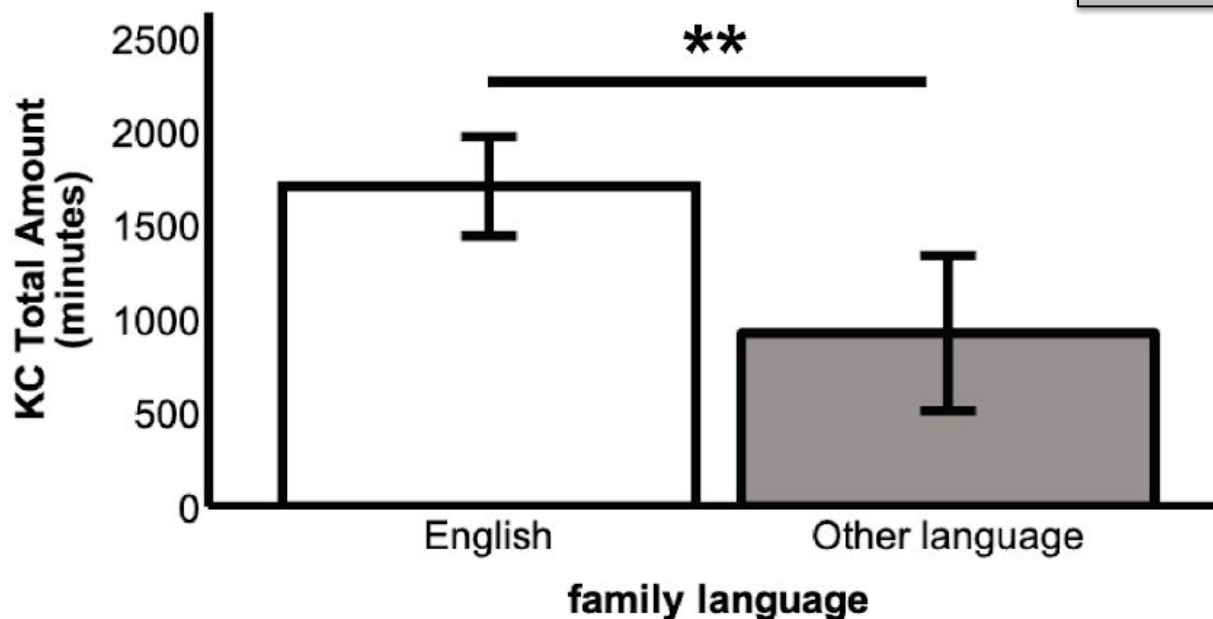
Origins of disparity



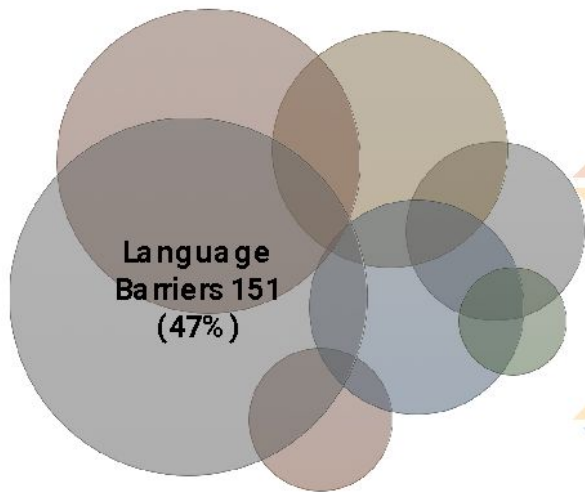
But we treat all
patients the same!

Access to Skin-to-Skin Care

Brignoni-Pérez E et al.
J Dev Behav Pediatr. 2022
Jun-Jul 01;43(5):e304-e311



Overlapping Dimensions



Social,
Economic
or Racial
Privilege: 12
(3%)

Types of Disparate Care

Neglectful Care: 83 (26%). NICU staff ignore, avoid or neglect family needs (e.g. breastfeeding support) when considered difficult or unpleasant or when obstacles considered too great to overcome.

Judgmental Care: 82 (26%): Staff evaluate a family's moral status based on race, class or immigration. Circumstances or behaviors judged more harshly. Discrimination occurs through staff attitudes or resource allocation.

Systemic Barriers: 139 (44%): Staff unable or unwilling to address barriers families face such as transportation, child care, housing, employment, translation needs, or religious or cultural needs.

Priority Treatment and/or Assertive Families: 12 (3%). Families connected to NICU receive priority treatment. Assertive families receive more attention.

Suboptimal
Care: 312
(96%)

Privileged
Care:
12(3%)

Sigurdson K, Profit J, et al. Disparities in NICU Quality of Care: A Qualitative Study of Family and Clinician Accounts. *J Perinatol* 2018 May;38(5):600-607

Neglectful care

Just a general observation when I worked as a charge nurse... Nurses tended just to **ignore parents who did not speak their language**. Often the use of a translator didn't occur daily for education and updates. These parents would have to **sit by their baby's bedside and wonder** how they were doing.
...these parents did not get the opportunity to interact and bond with their baby as a result.

Judgmental care

I see this all the time... the way we treat black moms is definitely different than how we treat white moms. Age plays a factor too - young moms are judged very unfairly. One black mom was judged very harshly for being late for a feeding even though she had a long and challenging transit ride to get to the hospital. A white mother who was late on the same day was greeted with sympathy...

Accounts told of *disparate care of families*, not strictly infants



CPOCC EQUITY DASHBOARD

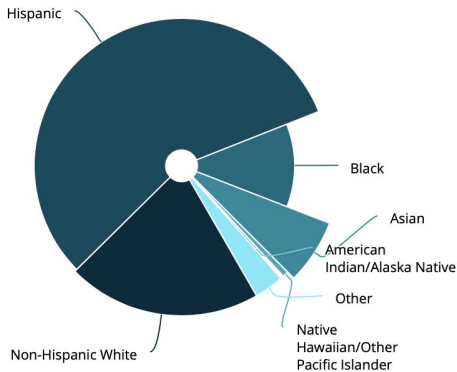
Health Equity Dashboard as of Sep 17, 2020 at 04:36



Safety Net Hospitals

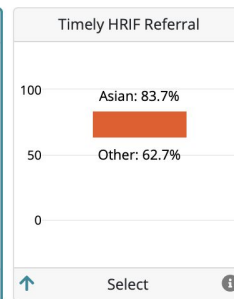
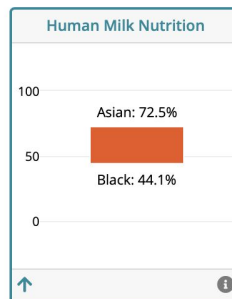
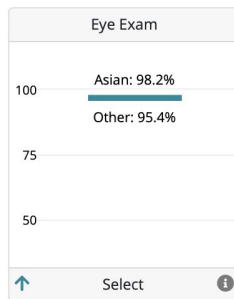
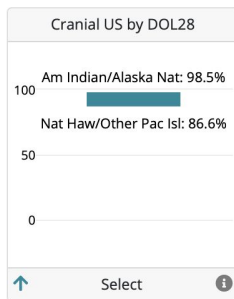
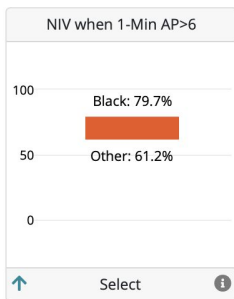
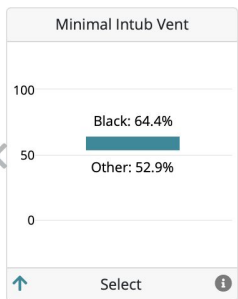
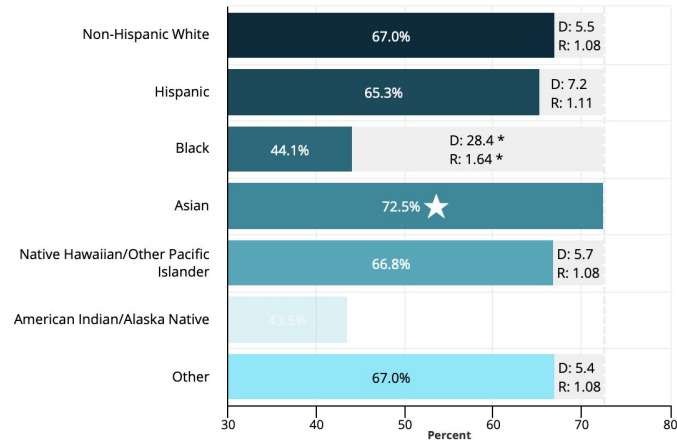
2015 - 2019

Race/Ethnicity Distribution for all VON Small Babies
Radii proportional to % with Human Milk Nutrition



Human Milk Nutrition by Race/Ethnicity

Reset zoom

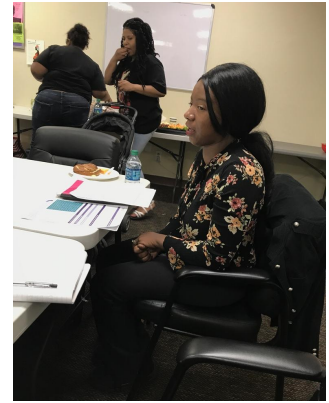


Equity measurement

a. Measuring Family

Centered Care

- * Expert panel with FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES.
Focus groups and interviews with minoritized families
- * DELPHI METHOD
Structured method for expert input without need for consensus
Two rounds of multi-criteria ratings of measures
SELECTION CRITERIA:
 - Median rating ≥ 7 (scale of 1 (low) – 9 (high))
 - Pass test for agreement (80% of ratings between 7-9)
 - Pass test for disagreement (90% of ratings were between 4-9)
- * OVERALL GOAL
Develop a balanced scorecard of measures across multiple domains



Sigurdson K, Profit J, Dhurjati R, Morton C, Scala M, **Vernon L***, **Randolph A***, Phan JT, Franck LS. **Former NICU Families Describe Gaps in Family-Centered Care. *Qual Health Res* 2020. *NICU moms**

Three Candidate Measures Selected – 21 NICU Pilot

ENGAGING FAMILIES AS PARTNERS

- Family presence at the bedside
- Family not present at the bedside
- **NICU family advisory council (✓)**

PROVIDING SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

- NICU social worker availability
- Time to social worker contact
- **Days to first LISW contact (✓)**
- Frequency of social worker contact

FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN HANDS-ON CARE

- **Days to first skin-to-skin care (✓)**
- Frequency of skin-to-skin care
- Days to skin-to-skin by two family members

COMMUNICATING WITH FAMILIES

- Frequency of updates to families by MD/NNP/RN
- Frequency of updates to families with limited English proficiency by MD/NNP/RN
- Provision of interpreter services

SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING

- NICU lactation consultant availability
- Time to first lactation consult
- **Hours to first oral colostrum (✓)**

- Post-discharge care coordination*
- Continuity of care by RN*
- Continuity of care by MD*

*Care coordination measures to be subjected to additional research- Not selected at this time

Measures of Family Centered Care

- Days to first skin-to-skin care
- Days to first social work contact
- Hours to first oral colostrum

Point-of-care derived measures developed in collaboration with disadvantaged families. Measures selected through a modified Delphi panel that included family representatives.

Christine Morton¹, Mucien Profit¹, Ravi Dhurjati¹, Ashley Randolph¹, Melissa Scala¹, Lelis Vernon², Jessica T. Phan⁴, and Linda S. Franck⁵

Abstract

Care and outcomes of infants admitted to neonatal intensive care vary and differences in family-centered care may contribute. The objective of this study was to understand families' experiences of neonatal care within a framework of family-centered care. We conducted focus groups and interviews with 18 family members whose infants were cared for in California neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) using a grounded theory approach and centering the accounts of families of color and/or of low socioeconomic status. Families identified the following challenges that indicated a gap in mutual trust and power: sharing conflict with or lack of knowledge about social work; staff judgment of or unwillingness to address barriers to family presence at bedside; need for nurse continuity and meaningful relationship with nurses and inconsistent access to transition services. These unmet needs for partnership in care or support were particularly experienced by parents of color or of low socioeconomic status.

Keywords

family-centered care; neonatal care; quality of care; grounded theory; patient- and family engaged research; California; qualitative

A growing body of literature documents parents' critical role in promoting the health outcomes of low birthweight and preterm infants and a variety of models have been promoted toward that end (Franck & O'Brien, 2019). Historically, families were not permitted in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) or were only permitted on a limited schedule as "visitors" (White et al., 2013). Family-centered care, as an approach to NICU care, recognizes the strengths and needs of a patient's family and their important role in promoting recovery from illness and long-term health outcomes (Franck & O'Brien, 2019).

The origins of family-centered care can be traced back to British children's hospitals in the 1950s when nurses began to involve parents in the care of their hospitalized children (Jolley & Shields, 2009). The approach came to influence care in the United States over the 1980s, as families gradually came to be seen as active care partners of their children (Brewer et al., 1989). Family-centered care, consisting of interrelated principles and practices that recognize the central importance of family members in an individual's health and well-being, has since been widely applied across the lifespan and in various health care settings (Davidson et al., 2017; Johnson, 2000). It is now understood under the larger umbrella concept of "patient- and family-centered care" in that the principles of working with patients and families (rather than doing

"to" or "for" them) can be applied to any care setting (Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care, 2020). For the purposes of this project involving parents of former NICU patients, we use the term "family-centered care" throughout.

Models of care that explicitly involve families are now considered best practice in the NICU and the implementation of family-centered care promotes mutual respect and shared decision-making between clinicians and families, ensuring timely and quality psychosocial supports and hospital resources that facilitate family well-being and involvement (Committee on Hospital Care and Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care, 2012; Franck & O'Brien, 2019). Family-centered care also includes direct care delivered by families to their infants.

¹Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, California, USA
²Vermont Oxford Network, Burlington, Vermont, USA
³QLO Pediatrics, Sacramento, California, USA
⁴University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA
⁵School of Nursing University of California, San Francisco, California, USA

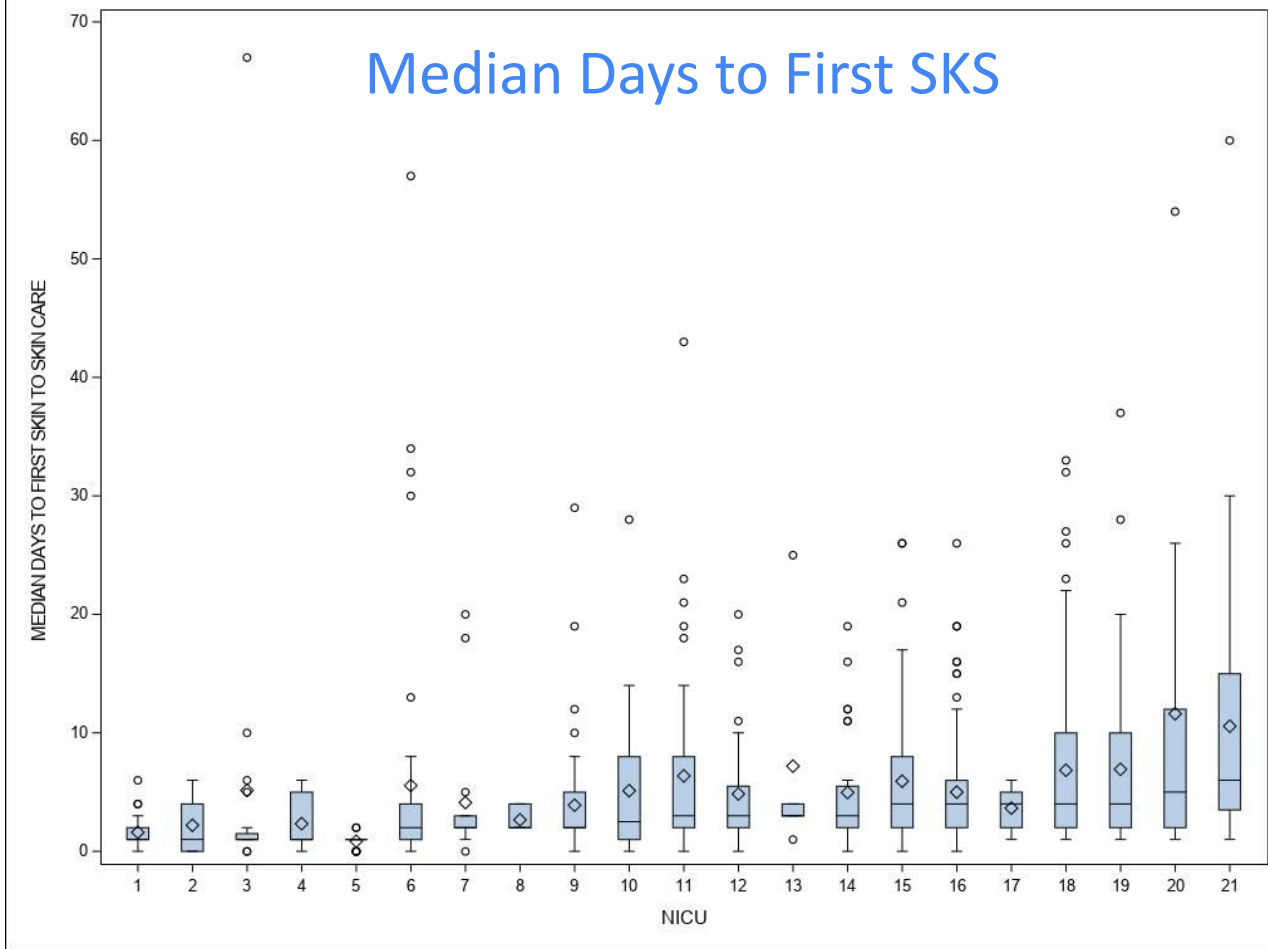
Corresponding Author:
Krista Spurgeon, Department of Pediatrics, Stanford University School of Medicine, MSO B Room x1019, 1265 Welch Road, Stanford, CA 94305, USA
Email: kspurd@stanford.edu

Family centered care measures among hospitals participating in the FCC Pilot

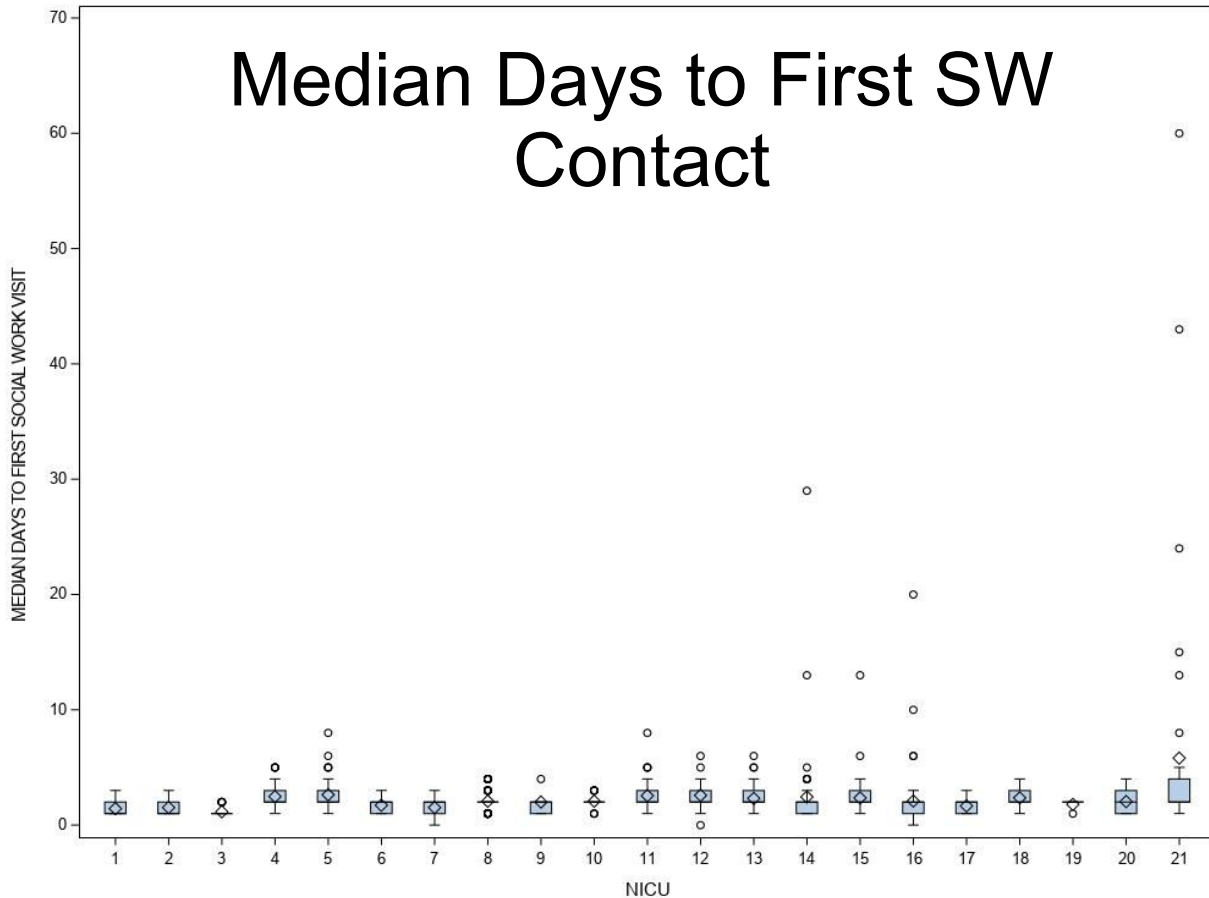
Measure	Mean	(sd)	Median	(IQR)	Range (min-max)
Days to first skin-to-skin care	4.31	4.94	2.54	(1.30-5.51)	(0.18-40)
Days to first SW contact	1.93	0.37	1.98	(1.63-2.17)	(1.15-2.96)
Hours to oral colostrum	31.16	21.61	27.67	(18.0-41.69)	(0.03 - 167.5)

N= 1236 VLBW or high acuity larger infant from 21 NICUs from January 1 to December 31, 2021

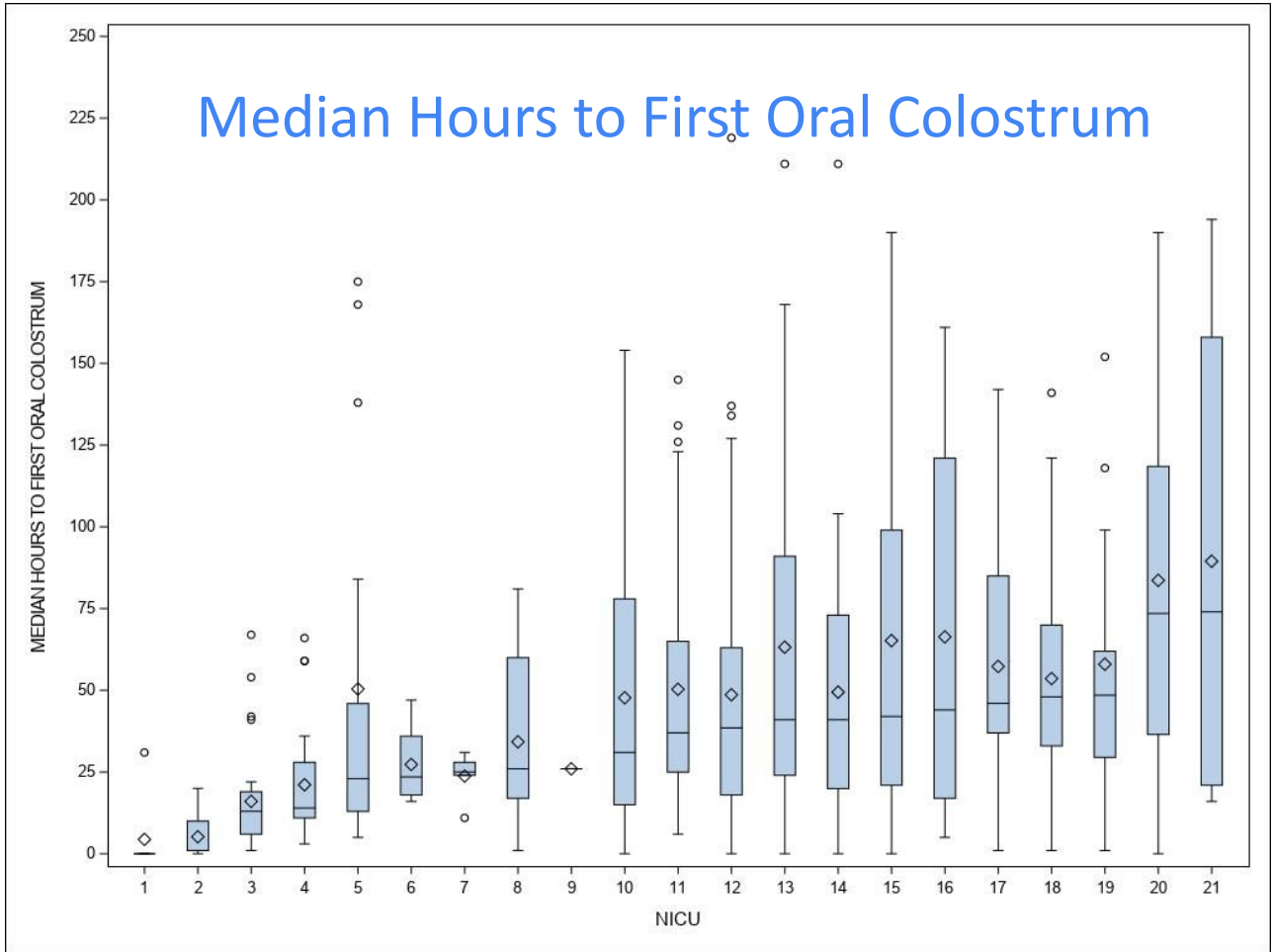
Median Days to First SKS

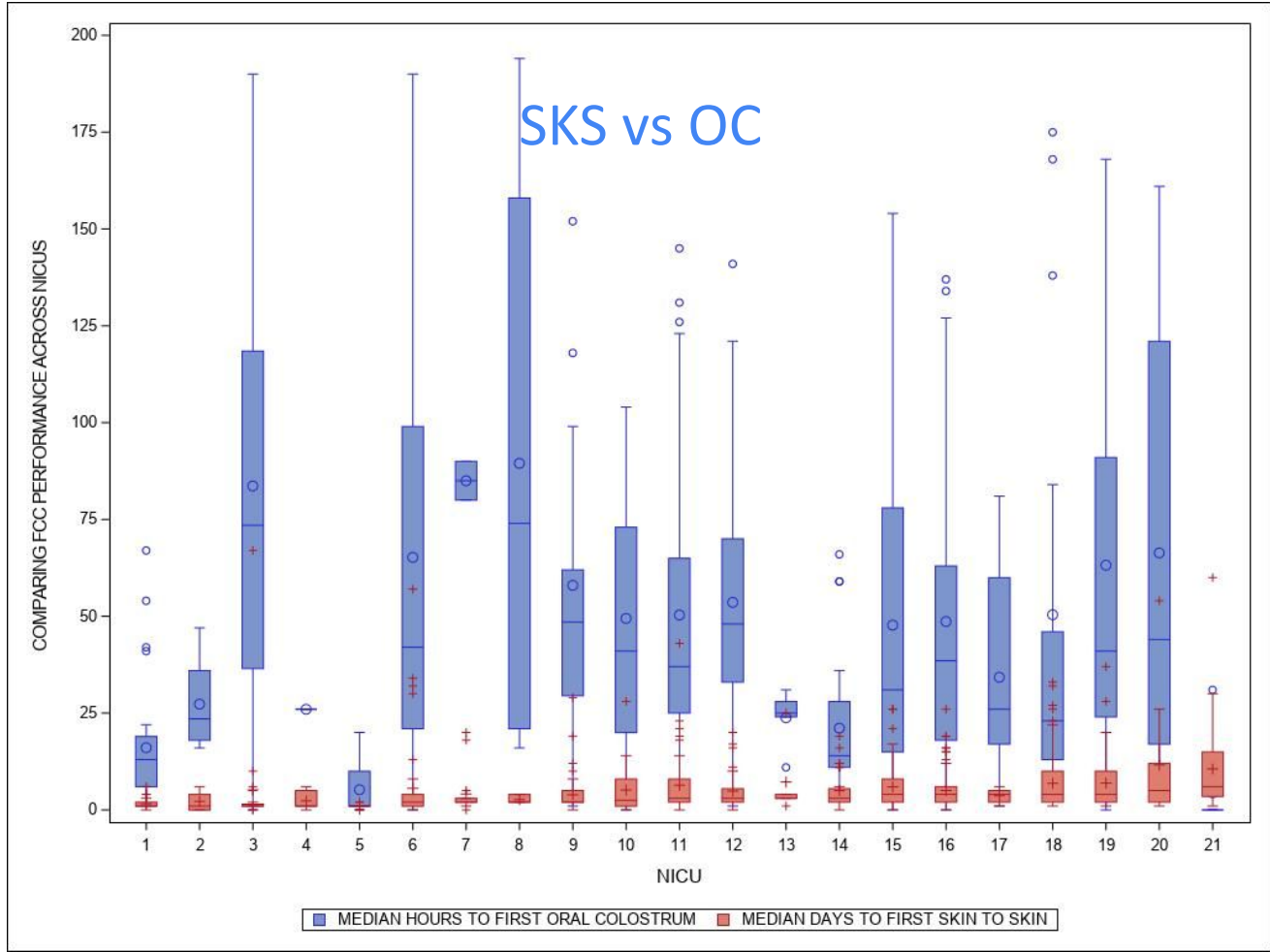


Median Days to First SW Contact



Median Hours to First Oral Colostrum



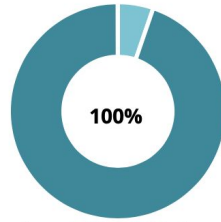


Family centered care measures among hospitals participating in the FCC Pilot by Safety Net and Ethnicity

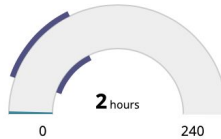
	NON SAFETY	SAFETY		WHITE	NON-WHITE	
Measure	Median (IQR)	Median (IQR)	p-value	Median (IQR)	Median (IQR)	p-value
First skin-to-skin care, days	2.1 (3.9)	2.8 (4.3)	<.001	1.8 (2.8)	2.8 (4.4)	<.001
First SW contact, days	2.04 (0.4)	1.9 (0.6)	<.001	2.0 (0.5)	2.0 (0.6)	0.2
First oral colostrum, hours	24.5 (19.8)	32.0 (22.8)	<.001	25.9 (19.7)	29.1 (24.8)	0.002

FCC Focusboard

Priming with Oral Colostrum at this NICU



Percent with Oral Colostrum



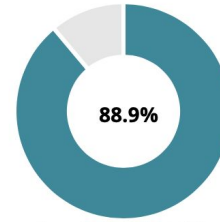
Median Hours to Oral Colostrum

The practice of priming with oral colostrum confers benefits to VLBW infants and signals NICU culture and commitment to use of mother's milk for nutrition.

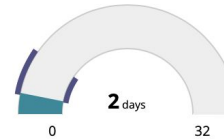
The percent and median shown are based on all inborn infants who were hospitalized at your hospital for at least 48 hours, who did not have anomalies affecting the ability to prime with oral colostrum, and who were not exposed to maternal substance use during fetal life.

Explore this topic ... [Go](#)

Skin-to-Skin at this NICU



Percent with Skin-To-Skin



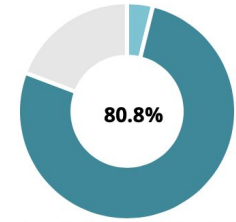
Median Days to Skin-To-Skin

Skin-to-skin care is protective against a variety of adverse neonatal outcomes. SKS requires holding of the infant by a family member. Positive touch is not counted. Infants that are transferred are included.

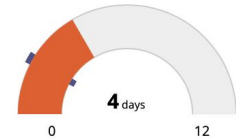
The percent and median shown are based on all inborn infants, who were hospitalized at your hospital for at least 5 days, and who did not have anomalies affecting the ability to provide skin-to-skin admitted to your NICU, and who never experienced high frequency ventilation.

Explore this topic ... [Go](#)

Social Worker Visit at this NICU



Percent with Social Worker Visit



Median Days to First Social Worker Visit

Timely social worker assessment is critical to identifying psychosocial and material needs of NICU families and to connect families to appropriate supportive services. Timely social worker contact, within 2 days of NICU admission, is also mandated by CCS regulations in California. The goal of this measure is to examine whether the needs of families are being assessed in a timely manner and to identify opportunities for improvement.

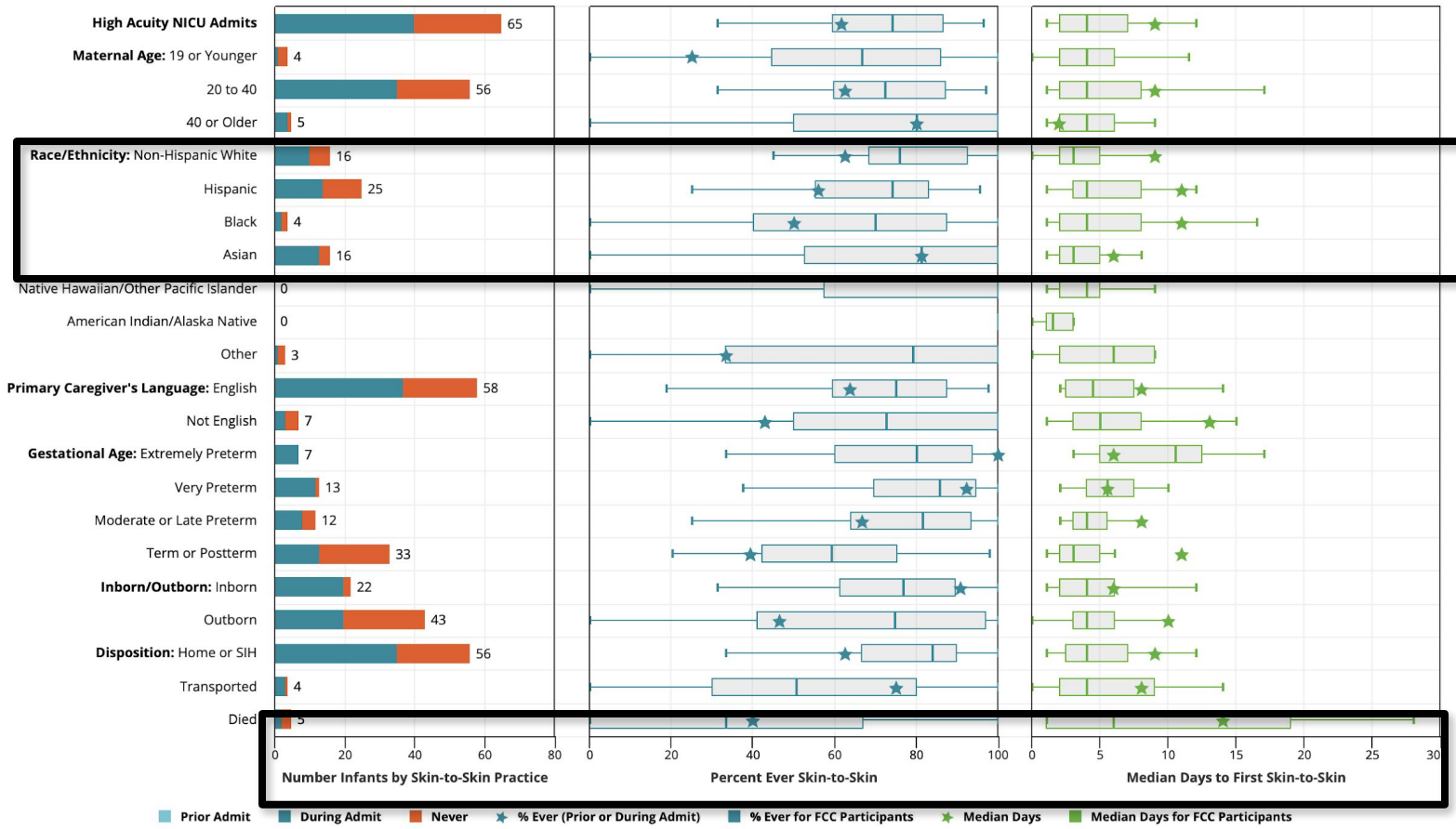
The percent and median shown are based on all inborn and outborn infants who were hospitalized for at least 3 days.

Explore this topic ... [Go](#)

Exclude infants with ...
 Congenital Anomalies ⓘ
 High Frequency Ventilation ⓘ
 NICU Outcomes
 Outborn or Transport-Out/Death prior DOL 7 ⓘ
 GA > 31 weeks ⓘ
 All
 Regional NICUs

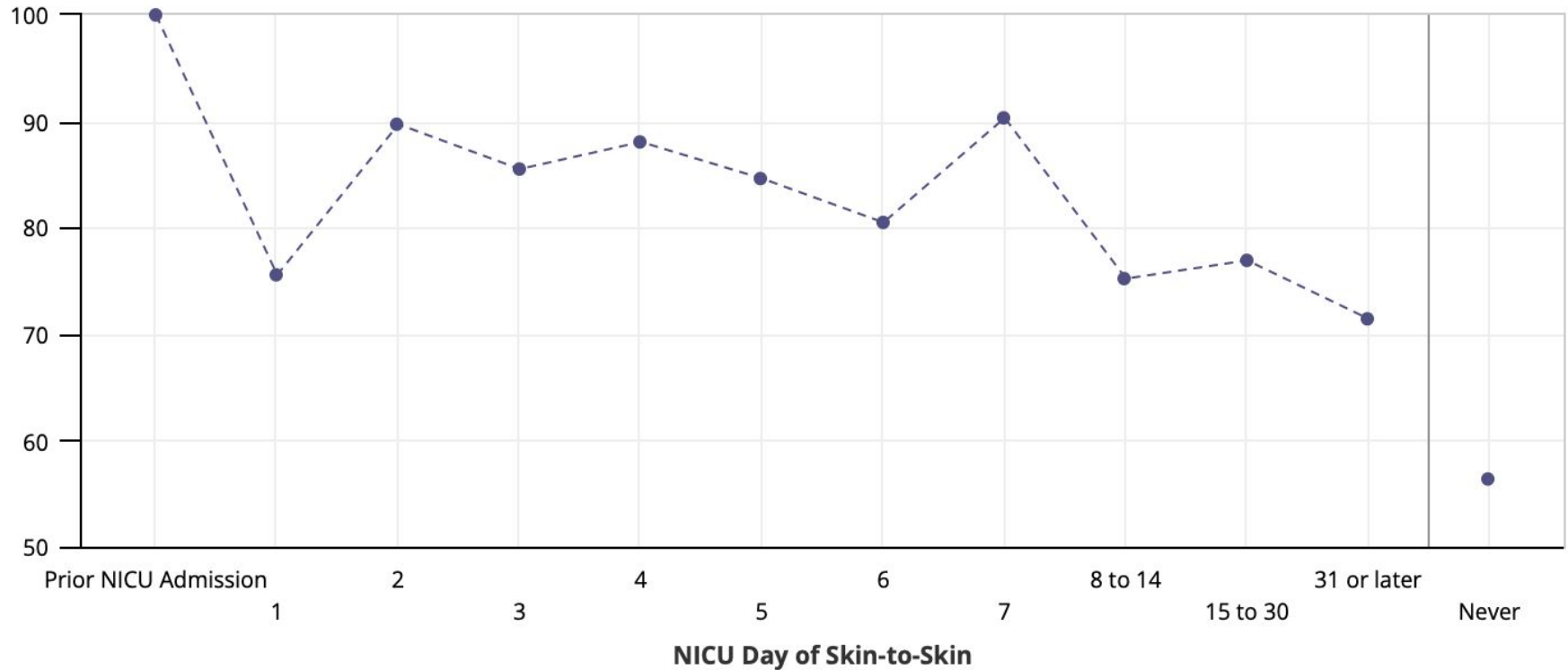
Number and Percent of Infants with Skin-to-Skin Ever and Median Days from NICU Admission to First Skin-to-Skin Compared to FCC Participants

Number of high acuity infants after exclusions: 432. Percent for which skin-to-skin practice is captured as not missing/unknown: 15.0%



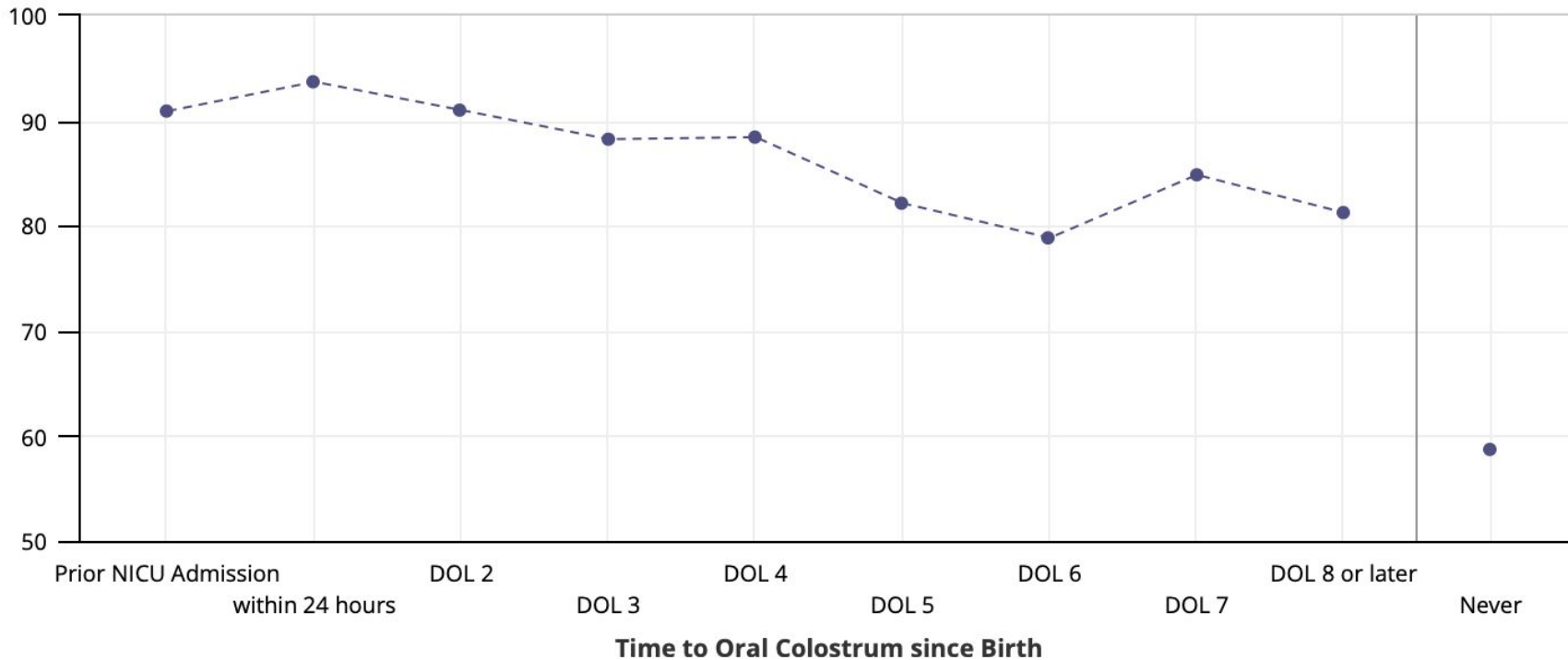
Human Milk Nutrition at Home Discharge by Timing of Skin-to-Skin

The risk-adjusted percent is based on the subset of infants born at 31 weeks gestation or earlier.



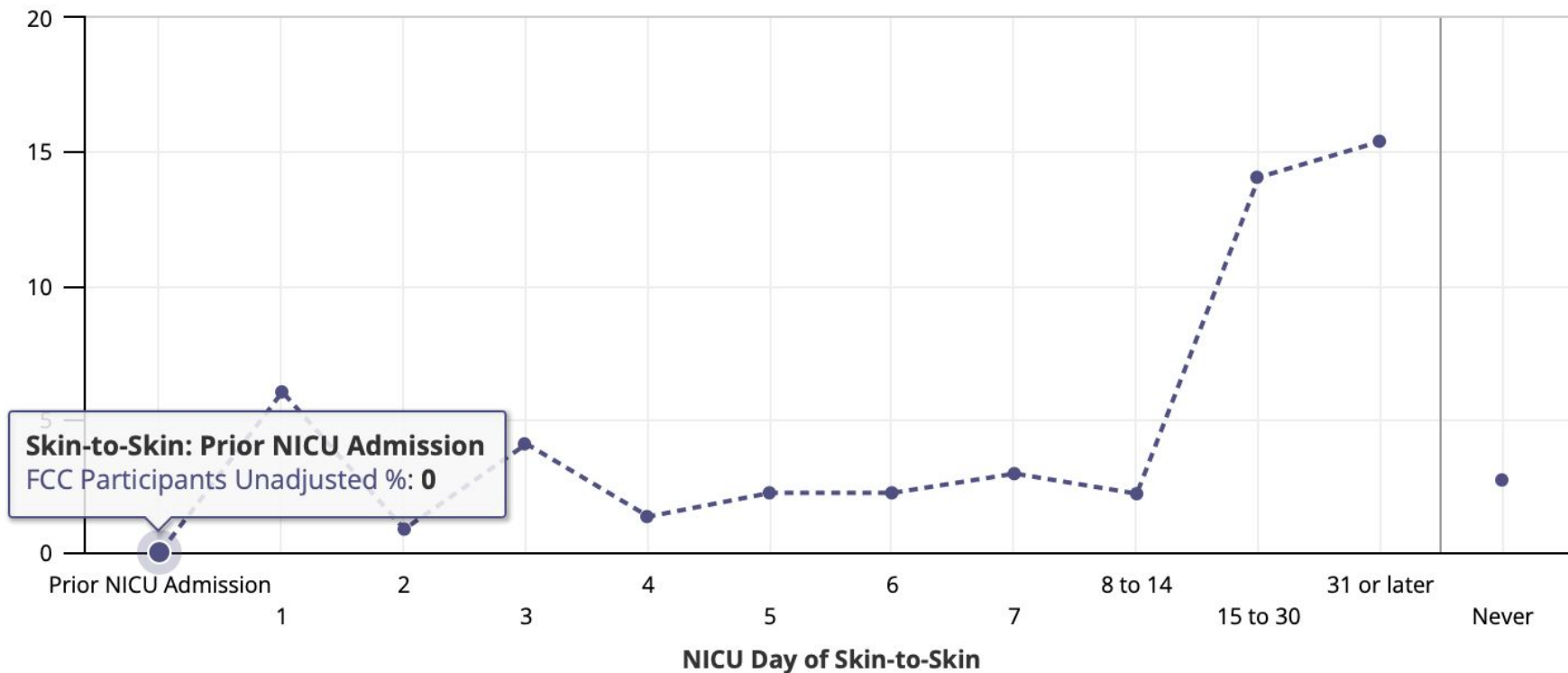
Human Milk Nutrition at Home Discharge by Timing of Priming with Oral Colostrum

The risk-adjusted percent is based on the subset of infants born at 31 weeks gestation or earlier.



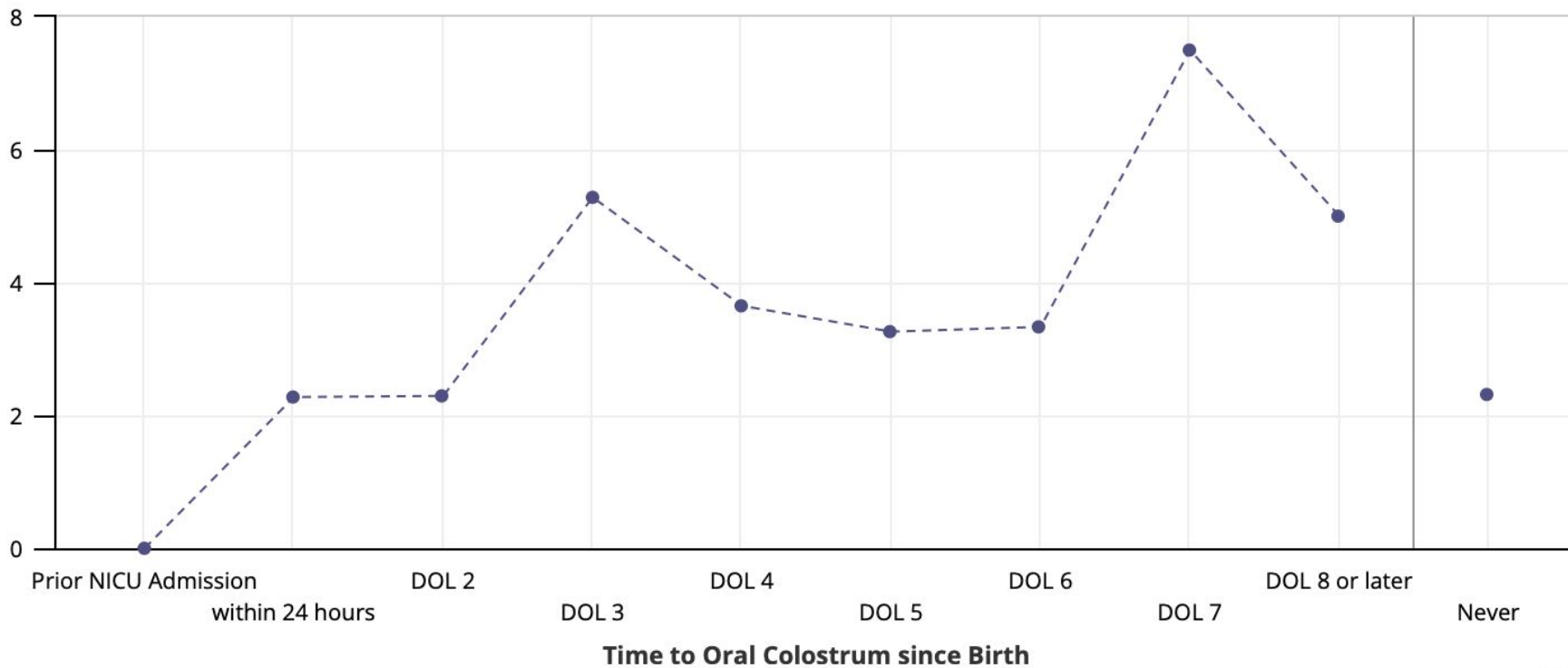
Nosocomial Infection by Timing of Skin-to-Skin

The risk-adjusted percent is based on the subset of infants born at 31 weeks gestation or earlier.



Nosocomial Infection by Timing of Priming with Oral Colostrum

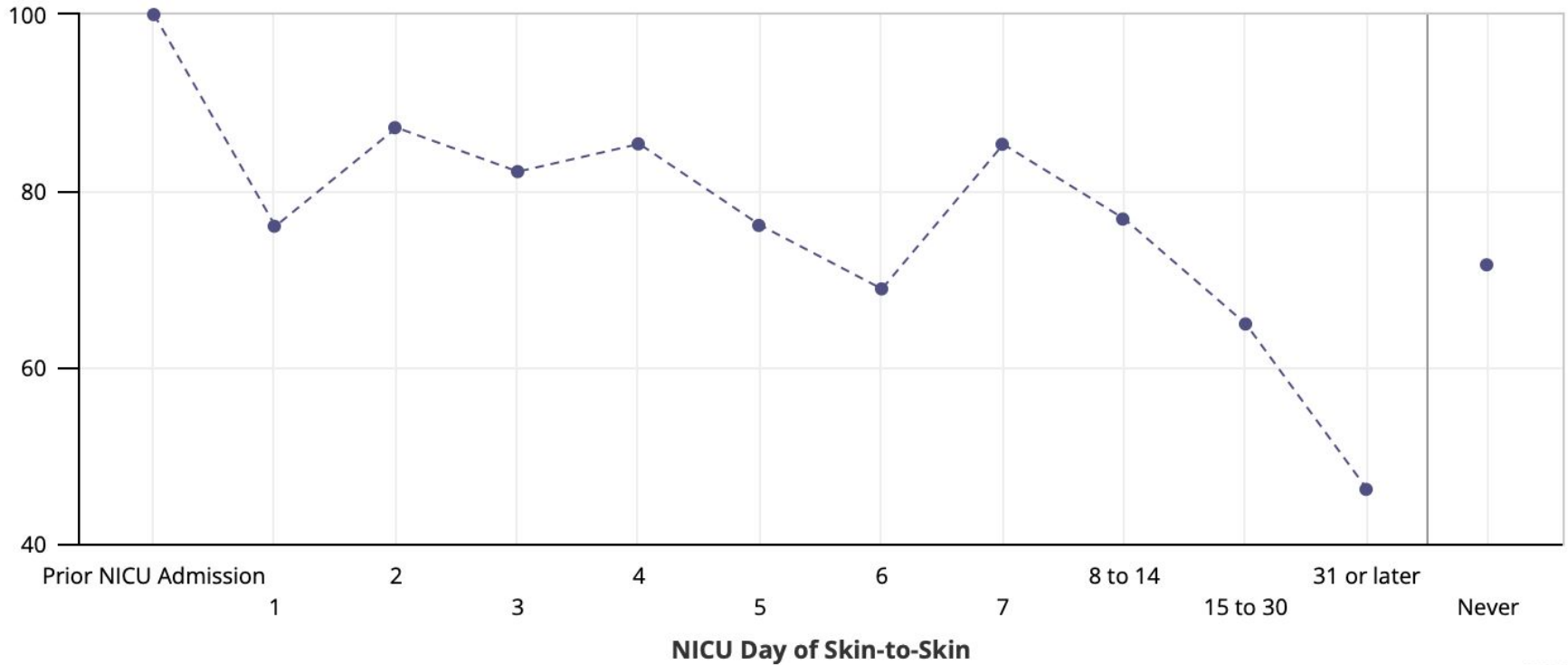
The risk-adjusted percent is based on the subset of infants born at 31 weeks gestation or earlier.



CPQCC

Survival without Major Morbidity by Timing of Skin-to-Skin

The risk-adjusted percent is based on the subset of infants born at 31 weeks gestation or earlier.



Summary

- **We don't practice in a social cocoon**
- Institutional and interpersonal racism in the NICU needs to be addressed
- Family centered care is a key disparities pathway
- Preliminary data on SKS and OC are promising



Thank you

Beate Danielsen, MA, PhD

Ravi Dhurjati, PhD

Malathi Balasundaram, MD

Kimber Padua, BS

Linda S. Franck, PhD

Jessica Liu, MPH, PhD

profit@stanford.edu

@CPQCC 



Days to first skin-to-skin care

Definition

Time in days between NICU admission to the first instance of skin-to-skin care by any member of the family

Numerator

of days between NICU admission to the first instance of skin-to-skin care by any member of the family

Denominator

-NA-

Days to first skin-to-skin care

Inclusions

All VLWB infants(<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA

Exclusions

All VLBW infants (<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA who die within 3 days of NICU admission

Risk Adjustment

Yes

Delayed Social Worker Contact

Definition

% of infants with social worker contact after 3 days from the date of admission

Numerator

Number of VLBW infants with social worker contact after 3 days from date of admission

Denominator

All VLWB infants(<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA

Delayed Social Worker Contact

Inclusions

All VLWB infants(<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA

Exclusions

All VLBW infants (<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA who die within 3 days of NICU admission

Risk Adjustment

None

Time to Priming with Oral Colostrum

Definition

Time (hours) to oral administration (buccal swab) of colostrum to NICU infants

Numerator

Time (hours) to oral administration (buccal swab) of colostrum to NICU infants

Denominator

-NA-

Time to Priming with Oral Colostrum

Inclusions

All VLWB infants(<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA

Exclusions

All VLBW infants (<1500g) or 22-29 weeks GA who die within 12 hours of NICU admission

Risk Adjustment

None



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

Dr. Jochen Profit

Speaker Q&A



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE

FCC Taskforce Webinar

March 16, 11-12:30 PT

Importance of NICU discharge guidelines and standards



VINCENT C. SMITH, MD MPH

Pronouns: He/Him
Professor of Pediatrics
Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine
Division Chief of Newborn Medicine
Department of Pediatrics
Boston Medical Center
Boston University School of Medicine

KRISTY LOVE

Pronouns: she/her
Executive Director
National Perinatal Association
Parent Advocate



Using technology to provide early and consistent discharge education to NICU Families



MALATHI BALASUNDARAM, MD, FAAP

Pronouns: she/her
Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Neonatology
Dept of Pediatrics, Stanford School of Medicine
Attending Neonatologist,
El Camino Health, Mt View, CA

Register using the QR code or
the link [here](#)



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASK FORCE



Evaluation Link for Today's
Webinar