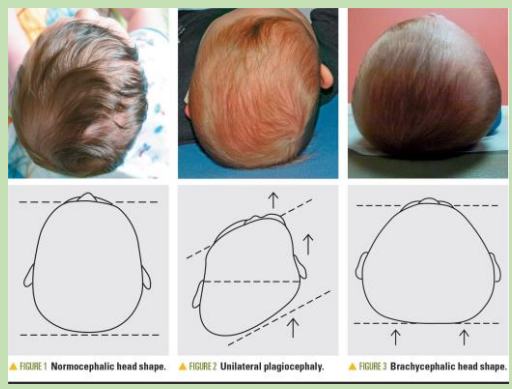


Gail MacRae Sly, Lori Robbins, Quinn Correll, Leah Whitehead, Satvinder Ghotra
IWK Health, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada

Our Goal

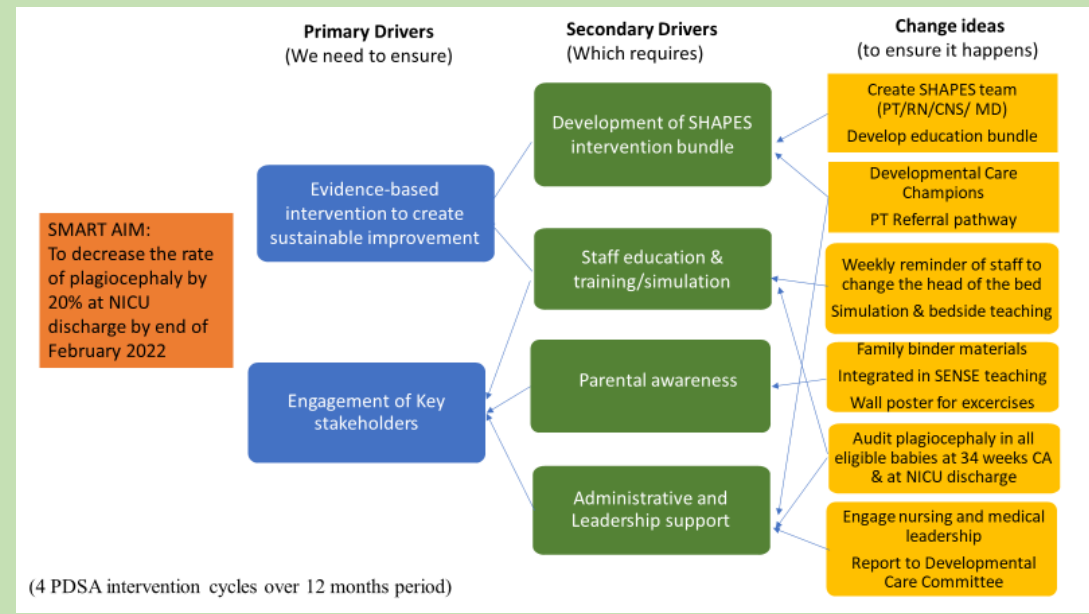
To improve plagiocephaly in very preterm (<31 weeks) and VLBW (<1500 grams) infants in the NICU



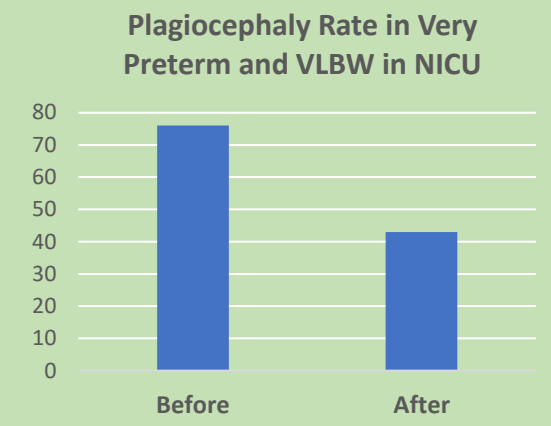
Plagiocephaly in NICU

- Plagiocephaly is a positional head shape deformity that can impact developmental outcomes
- Baseline audit (May 2020) showed that 76% of infants eligible for PFUP had plagiocephaly or head turning preference on their first visit at 4 month corrected age
- It was unknown if this was a result from NICU experience or developed post discharge
- Using the EPIQ framework, a plagiocephaly QI project was designed for 6 months

Driver Diagram



Results



There was 32% reduction in plagiocephaly rates prior to discharge form NICU from 76% to 43%

Challenges

- Delay secondary to pandemic
- Lack of parent Champion
- Restrained resources

Next steps

- Continue auditing and teaching
- New project: parental involvement in developmental care practices, improving skin-to skin care

SHAPES QI Project

- S** – support head in midline when supine
- H** – head of bed change on Sundays
- A** – assess head shape every shift
- P** – position changes with each care time
- E** – early detection and referral to PT
- S** – skin-to-skin (with alternate head turning)



Email: gail.macrae@iwk.nshealth.ca