Mothers & Babies in Delivery Room Uninterrupted Skin-to-skin Contact for Stable Preterm Infants Following Birth

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Background

Uninterrupted skin-to-skin care (SSC) for 2 hours after birth is recommended for optimal outcomes of mother and term/late preterm infants

Benefits in stable preterm infants include reduced hypoglycemia and stress and improved: cardiorespiratory stability; temperature regulation; breastfeeding success

Despite evidence, this practice is not being offered to stable late preterm infants. Currently, the standard of care for this population is direct transfer to NICU immediately/shortly after birth

Indicators of Success

In medically stable preterm infants (32-34$^{6/7}$ weeks' gestation), uninterrupted SSC with their mothers (or delegate) until at least 2 hours following birth will be:

1. Initiated in greater than 90% of infants born vaginally
2. Initiated in greater than 60% of infants delivered via C/S
3. Continued in greater than 70% of infants during transport between Birth Unit and the NICU
4. Initiated in greater than 60% of infants who require minimal respiratory support (nasal canula / CPAP)
5. Associated with normothermia, stable blood glucose, and receiving mother's own milk within first 48hrs & at discharge

Lessons learned

Advocate for parents & babies to be together

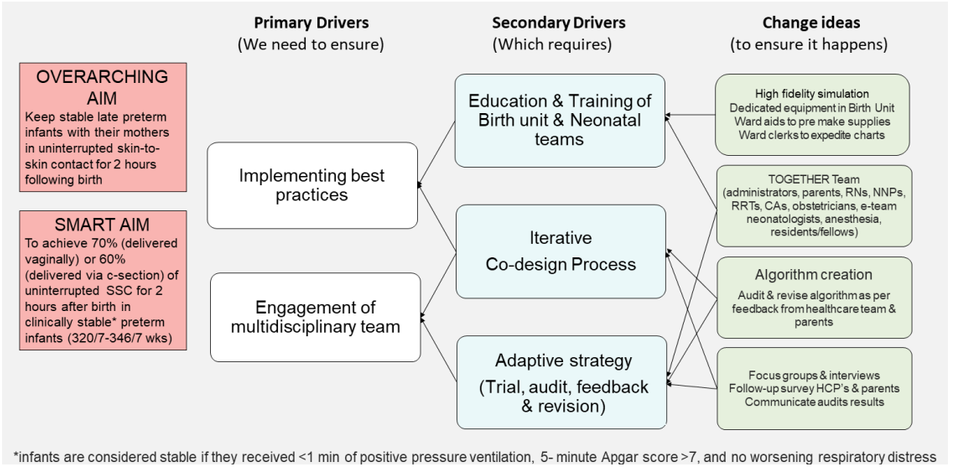
Share our successes & disseminate our findings

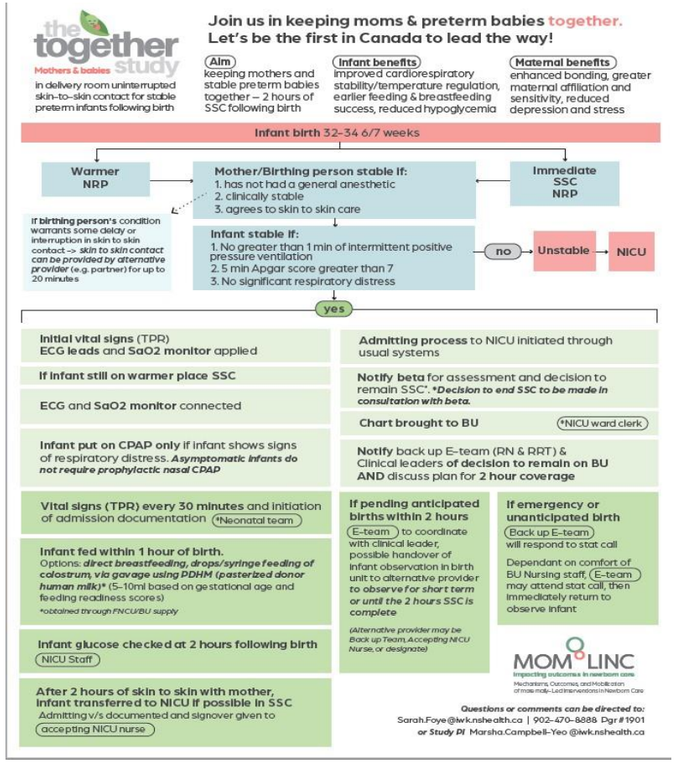
Continue audit & feedback to foster change

Monitor impact on workload & staffing challenges

Continue to leverage collaborations between families, clinicians, and researchers

Interventions



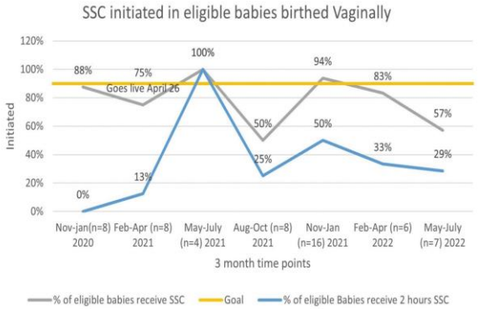


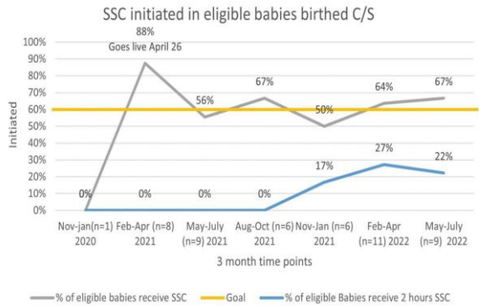
Results

Over the study period (Oct 11, 2021- July 20, 2022), a total of 107/166 late preterm infants were eligible

Of 77 (72%) who initiated SSC, 28 (36%) received full 2 hours and 38 (49%) >30 min of SSC. There were no increased concerns regarding normothermia or blood glucose

100% of infants with > 30 minutes of SSC received mothers' own milk within 48 hours and at discharge compared to 79% of infants with 0 or < 30 minutes of SCC





Impact for Practice Change

Our team adopted a philosophy of keeping mothers & babies together & established a sustainable paradigm shift in traditional neonatal care, consistent with best practices

We plan to measure impact on parents

We participated in RCT of implementing SSC for 2 hours in early preterm infants (28-32 weeks) **TOGETHER MINI**

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