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JOINT EVENT

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A web-based teaching module for the prevention of sudden unexpected postnatal collapse (SUPC) of the newborn

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Sudden unexpected postnatal collapse (SUPC) is characterized by apnea, limpness, pallor, bradycardia, cyanosis, and cardiorespiratory failure in apparently healthy term newborns soon after birth, often during initial skin-to-skin contact, in the prone position, or with the first breastfeeding attempt. The etiology for this devastating clinical entity is not well understood, but maternal fatigue and/or distraction appear to play key roles. The objective of this poster presentation is to discuss a quality improvement project that was designed to educate clinicians and parents, in order to prevent SUPC cases. A task force implemented an educational program; using the words "pink and positioned" to teach staffs how to educate parents about proper distraction-free positioning of their infant. Education consisted of poster presentations and lectures on maternity units. A video depicting a (simulated) SUPC case and two other videos showing an obstetrician and post-partum nurse counseling a new mother about SUPC-prevention were created, circulated internally, and later added to a mandatory web-based training module and also publications. Practice changes included more frequent post-natal assessment of the newborn and documentation of 'Pink and Positioned' into our electronic medical record. Responses from 254 nurses and patient care technicians (PCTs) to a pre-and post- test questionnaire, suggest that after taking the module, they were more knowledgeable and reported feeling more comfortable teaching parents about SUPC prevention. We anticipate that, as a result of this comprehensive education, SUPC cases will be prevented.

Biography

Nancy Adrianna Garofalo is a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at the NorthShore University HealthSystem and a Senior Clinician Researcher at the Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago. She received a BSN from Loyola University, an MS in Nursing Administration from Aurora University, an MSN in the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner specialty from Rush University, and later a PhD from Rush University, Chicago IL. She spear-headed the development of a web-based teaching module for SUPC prevention and has published three papers on the topic of SUPC prevention. In collaboration with several neonatologists, she will measure outcomes post-implementation of this training module.

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