International Network in Kangaroo Mother Care Position

**Title: Motor development at 6 months of corrected age of newborn infants younger than 32 weeks of gestational age and the beginning of the Kangaroo Mom baby-care position.**

**Authors:** Maria Cândida Ferrarez Bouzada, Nathália Faria de Freitas, Cynthia Ribeiro do Nascimento Nunes; Thalyta Magalhães Rodrigues; Márcia Gomes Penido Machado.

ferrarez@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION: The birth of a preterm newborn (PTNB) and its long-term hospitalization is considered a traumatic event. The PTNB in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) receives excessive handling, which can cause behavioral stress causing delay in the neuropsychomotor development. The kangaroo mother care position (KP) was incorporated to the NICU around the world in order to minimize damage related to the development of the central nervous system of the PTNB. OBJECTIVE: To analyze the association between the beginning of the KP after the birth and the motor development at 6 months of corrected gestational age in preterm infants ≤32 weeks of gestational age. METHODOLOGY: Prospective study involving117 newborns ≤ 32 weeks of gestational age, born between July 2016 and January 2018 and assessed in the post-discharge follow-up to 6 months of corrected age. It was used the Bayley Scale III. The variables were analyzed by linear regression testing in the SPSS program. Tests with significance level of 5%. RESULT: absence of positive pressure ventilation had an increase of 6.62 points on the composite motor scale (p=0.024; IC= 0.89 – 12.34), each gram more at birth increases 0.009 on the composite motor scale (p= 0.033; IC= 0.001 - 0.018), each gestational week to start the KP decreases 2 points in the motor scale (p= 0.016; IC= -3,70 – -0.39) and the multidisciplinary follow-up decreased by 5.39 points (p= 0.039; IC= -10,51 – -0.27) CONCLUSION: The early start of the kangaroo mother care position is a promoting measure for the motor development of PTNB at 6 months of corrected gestational age.