

P 50. KANGAROO MOTHER CARE INITIATIVE IN INDIA YEAR 2005, WHERE ARE WE?

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Background: Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) is defined as early prolonged and continuous skin to skin contact between mother & her Low Birth Weight Infants(LBWI), both in hospital after early discharge at home until a baby tolerates., **Objectives:** To train Health care personnel in KMC through sensitization and onsite skill based training workshops and to know the impact of training on the knowledge of the health care personnel & to assess the impact of training on Health care personnel.

Material & Methods: Setting : Level III NICU and 'Shishu Ghar'-training center and follow up clinic Eleven workshops on KMC were organized from June 2004 to Sept 2005; Four hundred participants were senior teachers from Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Preventive and Social Medicine and nursing personnel working in Neonatal care unit of government, semi-government and private medical colleges of southern and western India. A pre designed pre-tested questionnaire was given to the participants before and after the training course in KMC. The knowledge was assessed under the following headings: 1. Components for KMC, 2. Benefits of KMC, 3. KMC Adaptation 4. Thermoregulation in new born 5.Growth in preterm baby 6.Preterm milk ,7. Monitoring of baby in KMC, 8.Discharge criteria and 9. Follow up of KMC babies. The data was statistically analyzed.

Results: None of the participants were following KMC at their institutions.

17.3% participants were aware of Components of KMC, 29% were aware of benefits, 29% were aware of definition and problems associated with hypothermia, 16% had adequate knowledge about preterm milk, 18% knew the normal growth pattern in preterm babies and 13.5% were aware of the discharge criteria and 12% were aware of follow up schedule and immunization of preterm babies. At the end of the training knowledge in all domains of KMC improved (p value < 0.001). **Conclusions:** The knowledge on KMC was inadequate amongst the health care personnel working with neonates in the Western India. There is a need to impart knowledge of KMC to all health care personnel who take care of LBW babies to improve the quality care and neonatal survival.

Key words: Kangaroo mother care, workshop, and skill based awareness, sensitization and onsite training program