

***Title: "The Kangaroo Mother Program in Costa Rica: 2 years follow-up"***

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***Objective: To evaluate the results of the Kangaroo Mother Program in Costa Rica since its beginning in 1993.***

***Setting: Instituto Materno Infantil Dr. Adolfo Carit, San José de Costa Rica.***

***Type of study: Retrospective and descriptive study.***

***Study Group:***

***180 health babies were enrolled in this study.***

***Weight was lesser than 37 weeks of gestation age who were recruited from 1993 through 1996 and completed a 2- year follow- up period.***

***Four percent of the patients in the analysis weighed less than 1.000grams while 29% between 1.000 and 1.500 grams. The average age admission was 17 days (range 0-45 days). Average gestational age was 33 weeks (range 29-37 weeks).***

***Overall daily weight gain was 25 grams (range 10-60grams). The achievement of 2.000 grams was reached in 15 days (range 1-45 days). 88% of the patients normal results for the Guessell's Psychomotor Development Test. 165 ( 91,6%) of the patients underwent examination of the retina. Only 3% showed residual retinopathy. Only 5 (4%) of the 148 patients who had Brain Sonograms showed impairments at the of the 2 year follow-up period.***