

Title of Abstract:

Delivery Room Temp at 74 degree F can achieve the Normothermia in ELBW infants: A Single Unit Prospective Multidisciplinary Team Efforts and Quality Improvement Project.

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Abstract Description:

Objective: Our objective is to maintain normothermia in at least 90% of ELBW infants delivered in our Level III NICU. We report the results from this ongoing QI effort over last three years from 2014 to 2016.

Design/Method: We designed a bundle approach that included following: Education of Perinatal-Neonatal staff, maintaining the designated DR/OR temperature of 74 F for ELBW deliveries, use of exothermic mattress, pre-heated radiant warmer, use of saran wrap, head cap, transporter, monitor Axillary temp every 5 minutes.

Results: We studied 109 consecutive ELBW cases. Nine infants were < 500 Gm and 33 infants were

< 24 weeks GA. C-Section rate was 73 % and 46 % were intubated in DR/OR, 44% were intubated in

NICU, 10 % did not need intubation, and 3 babies needed use of epinephrine. Normothermia (36.5-37.5 C) was achieved in 90 % (98/109) of the infants. There was 4.9 % incidence of hypothermia (< 36.5 C) and 5.5% incidence of hyperthermia (>37.5 C). VONS and CPQCC defined

Normothermia as 36.0-37.5 C. According to this definition, normothermia rate in our study was 94%

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and hypothermia rate was 0%.

Conclusion: We were able to achieve target normothermia rates with DR/OR temp set at 74 F. We

suggest DR/OR temperature of 74 F as recommended by ASHRAE without compromising infants'

temperature during transitional period. We suggest DR/OR temperature of 74 F as recommended by ASHRAE to maintain the comfort level for DR/OR staff without compromising ELBW infants' temperature during transitional period.

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None