Defining Elements of Family Integrated / Family Centered Newborn Care

James A. Litch, MD, DTMH
Global Technical Working Group
13 June 2018 Washington DC
Historical Context

• Bonding between a mother and her newborn was first described in the 1970s by DW Winnicott:

  Introduced the concept of "holding environment"

  "The foundations of health are laid down by the ordinary mother in her ordinary loving care of her own baby", central to which was the mother's attentive holding of her child;

  "Mother's technique of holding, of bathing, of feeding, everything she did for the baby, added up to the child's first idea of the mother"

• Others followed in the 1970s and 1980s with the idea that mother-infant attachment and bonding in the early newborn period was of critical importance – especially for preterm infants.

• And inversely, periods of separation could undermine bonding and have long-term consequences on the mother-baby relationship
Fundamental concepts of parent participation care of their sick newborn

- Involve parents at all times in the care of their newborns in hospital
- Promote a bonding and healthy relationship that responds to the needs of both the newborn and the parents
- Training to parents to provide basic care in the hospital inpatient environment to feed, clean cloth and monitor their newborn
- Builds competencies of parents for a continuum of care form hospital to home
Current Models

Family Integrated Care

Family Centered Care / Family Led Care

Skin to Skin Contact

Continuous Baby Parent Unity
Parent Role and Degree of Engagement During Inpatient Newborn Care

- Maintain contact/avoid separation
- Skin to skin contact
- Basic care by parents
- Parents part of care team
Elements of Family Engagement During Newborn Inpatient Care

- **Baby Parent Contact**
  - Basic Care (feeding, cleaning, monitoring, documentation)
  - Skin to Skin Contact
  - Developmentally Supportive Care
  - Communication /Agency
  - Appropriate Environment
  - Parent and staff sensitization, education, and training

Continuum of care hospital to home
Safe and Effective Oxygen Use for Inpatient Care of Newborns

Safe and Effective Infection Prevention for Inpatient Newborn Care

Safe and Effective Thermal Protection for Inpatient Care of Newborns

Safe and Effective Human Milk Feeding for Inpatient Care of Newborns

Prevention and Screening of Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP)

Family Engagement During Inpatient Newborn Care

Available at http://www.everypreemie.org/donoharmbriefs/
Thank you