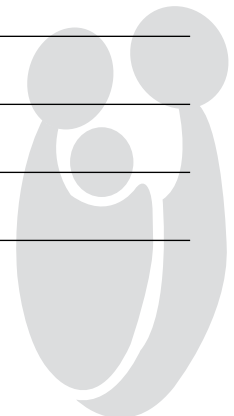


KANGAROO MOTHER CARE AND SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT IN JAPAN



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Kangaroo Care was initiated in Japan as skin-to-skin contact to facilitate mother-infant bonding and promote breastfeeding in neonatal intensive care units primarily for very low birth weight infants and their mothers (and their families). Later, the skin-to-skin contact care spread among normal healthy term newborns and their families. Since 5-6 years ago, there are several cases of term infants reported to have experienced life threatening events during skin-to-skin contact, and some of cases employed inappropriate skin-to-skin positions. This led to develop clinical practice guidelines of Kangaroo Mother Care and skin-to-skin contact in Japan. The current situation of Kangaroo Mother Care and skin-to-skin contact care in Japan will be reported in the conference.



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