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DEVELOPMENTOFA NATIONAL SERVICE PACKAGE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF KANGAROO MOTHER CARE IN IRAN

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Background:

Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) as a proper method for caring of premature newborns has been shown to be extremely beneficial for improving Infant growth and development and parents' empowerment. This study was conducted in order to designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of KMC program with the practical aim of reforming the low birth weight and premature infants' health care system.

Methods:

In the first phase of this interventional study (from May 2007 to Dec 2011), after several focus group discussions and comparative study, we designed KMC national service package for hospitals that was based on intermittent skin to skin contact in NICU or/and NSCU. In the second phase, the service package was implemented in several level 3 university hospitals. At the end KMC program notified as a nationwide program and implemented in all of the universities in Iran. Monitoring and evaluation of the program was done after implementation of the program. PASW statistics18 was used for data analyze.

Results:

Based on the pilot study, neonatal well being at the time of discharge were increased after intervention (p<0.05). 89 percent of mothers pointed out that KMC increased their self confidence and 84 percent of them were satisfied from KMC services. 84 percent of the participants' staff in FGD believed that KMC program has been improved the services of the premature newborns and 86 percent of them pointed out that developed emotional relationship of mother and baby caused their satisfaction. In reference of monitoring and evaluation in 2012, KMC program has been implemented in 53% of the

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C onclusion:
Implementation of the nationwide KMC program is a successful reform for low birth weight and
premature infants' health care system.

hospitals and there were favourable evidences of KMC practice in NICUs.

Key words:
Kangaroo Mother Care, premature newborn, health reform