**THE STATUS OF KANGAROO CARE PRACTICES OF HEALT PROFESSIONALS WHO ATTENDED KANGAROO CARE COURSE IN TURKEY**

**Nalan BALTACI\*\*, Emine Serap SARICAN\*, Demet TEREK\*\*,**

**Rabia EKTİ GENÇ\*, Mehmet YALAZ\*\***

**\***Ege University Faculty Of Health Science, Midwifery Depertment

\*\* Ege University,Faculty Of Medicine, Neonatology Department

[nalanbaltaci35@gmail.com](mailto:nalanbaltaci35@gmail.com)

**INTRODUCTION AND AIM:** Kangaroo mother care is care of preterm infants carried skin-to-skin with the mother. It is a powerful, easy-to-use method to promote the health and well-being of infants born preterm as well as full-term. Most published experience and research concerning KMC comes from health facilities, where care was initiated with the help of skilled health workers. The aim is this research that evaluate the status of kangaroo care practices of health professionals who attended kangaroo care course in Turkey.

**METHOD:** The study is a survey of educational intervention. Study was made two different city in 2016 in Turkey. Five expert person about kangaroo care gave a course with a daily programme. 48 health professionals attended to the course. The questionnaire was created by experts who gave the course. The questions were about the health professionals’ knowledge of kangaroo care and kangaroo care practıce status We used SPSS program for data analysises.

**RESULTS:** %97 of health professionals were female and % 3 of health professionals were male. The health professionals’ age range is 26,56 ±6,76 (min: 19, max:45) who attended kangaroo care course. %43,8 of health professionals were graduated from college/faculty. The health professionals’ average of working year was 81 month (min:7 month, max: 360 month). %97,9 of health professionals were working in NICU, %2,1 of health professionals were working in delivery room. %87,5 of health professionals heard kangaroo care before they trained the course. They said that they practice kangaroo care in hospitals which they work.%93,8 of health professionals support kangaroo care in their hospital. When we asked about kangaroo care practice, %60 of health professionals said that they could practice kangaroo care to both mature and premature babies. They said that the average of kangaroo care practice duration was between 5 and 30 minutes in their hospitals. They practiced kangaroo care when the mothers came to the hospital to see their babies (premature: %33,3, mature: %31,2). The most common cause of kangaroo care practices has been shown to increase the mother and baby bonding (Table 2). %95,8 of participant said that the kangaroo care have to be in routin practices. They said that the most common complication was hypothermia and falling the baby (Table 3).

**DISCUSSION:** In conclusion, the health professionals said that kangaroo care course have to grow up in Turkey and they said that every health professionals have to include a kangaroo care education. The health professionals said thatthe kangaroo care have to be in routin practices.

**KEY WORDS:** Turkey, Kangaroo care, kangaroo care practices

**Table 1.** **Socio-demographic characteristics of participants**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Frequency** | **Percent** |
| **Age** | 26,56 ±6,76 (min: 19, max:45) | |
| **Education**  High school  License  Master  Other | 23  21  3  1 | 47,9  43,8  6,2  2,1 |
| **Unit of work**  NICU  Delivery Room | 47  1 | 97,9  2,1 |

**Table 2. The most important benefits of kangaroo care**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Frequency** | **Percent** |
| **Maternal attachment** | 20 | 41,7 |
| **Exclusive Breastfeeding** | 2 | 4,2 |
| **All** | 25 | 52,1 |
| **Total** | 47\* | 98 |

\*One participant didn’t answer the question

**Table 3. Participants’ thoughts on the complications of kangaroo care**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Frequency** | **Percent** |
| **Infection** | 8 | 16,7 |
| **Hypothermia** | 14 | 29,2 |
| **Fall** | 13 | 27,1 |
| **Privacy** | 2 | 4,2 |
| **Total** | 37 | 77,2 |

\*13 participant didn’t answer the question



Şekil 1. Kangaroo care course- Trabzon (2016)

**REFERENCES:**

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