## Assessment of the Kangaroo Mother Care program implementation at Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of the Philippine General Hospital after 1 year of inception

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Background: In 2014, the Philippine General Hospital implemented the Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) Program.

Objective: To assess the implementation of the KMC program after 1 year of its inception.

Methodology: Thirty-three mothers, 8 Pediatric residents and 25 nurses were interviewed. KMC forms were assessed for completeness of entry.

Results: 57% and 75% (619/826) of all LBW infants were enrolled in the program in 2014 and 2015 respectively. All admitted mothers and 57% of discharged mothers visiting the NICU claimed they received their KMC knowledge from the nurses. All the mothers strongly agreed that KMC is beneficial to both their and their infants’ health. All felt more confident in taking care of their infants due to KMC and felt happy after each KMC encounter. All believed that their husbands will be happy to do KMC. However, only 50% agreed while 35%, 10% and 5% strongly disagreed, disagreed and has no opinion, respectively, on continuing KMC at home.

All NICU doctors and nurses believed that KMC is beneficial to both mothers and infants, decreases hospital cost and lessens workload. Among the KMC activities, the most liked activity of the nurses was placing the baby in the KMC position while for the doctors, explaining KMC to the mothers. The least liked activity for both was filling up the KMC forms. These explained why <50% of the doctors’and 64% of the nurses’ KMC forms were adequately filled out.

At the OPD, 85% of the mothers continued KMC at home while 7.14% stopped once discharged and 7.14% stopped once the infant reached 2.5 kg. During their infants’ hospitalization, only 57% of the mothers recall receiving KMC information. Of these, 57% received their information from nurses while the rest; from doctors. Still, all the mothers agree that KMC help their infants’ thermoregulation leading to earlier discharge.

Conclusion: Implementation of KMC at PGH is successful. All mothers and health providersbelive in the benefits of KMC. Majority of mothers continue to do KMC at home. However, there is need for improvement in patient education and documentation of the KMC program.