**Workshop on Kangaroo Mother Care: lessons learned and looking forward. Trieste, Italy, 14-15 November 2016**

**Pr Djamil LEBANE, ALGERIE**

**% of low birth weight infants (LBWI) born each year in the country and in your institution**

These patients represent approximately 10% (100,000) of births in Algeria, but they occupy about 60% of beds in neonatology and are the source of more than half of neonatal deaths.

**% of LBWI with access to any sort of Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC)**

The percentage of LBWI with access to KMC is insignificant. KMC is applied at the University Hospital Mustapha (eight beds) in Oran (four beds). Setif had announced the opening of a unit, but in reality they placed the babies in incubators next to their moms!

**% of LBWI with access to any form of care: kangaroo position, kangaroo nutrition and kangaroo follow up for high risk preterm infants until one year corrected age.**

Only the unit at Mustapha Hospital applies KMC in its totality.

**Analysis of disparities in the access to KMC: rich/poor, ethnicity, urban/rural,...etc...**

For those who practice KMC, there is no difference according to social class, ethnicity etc.

**Description of the national and institutional strategies to disseminate KMC and facilitate its uptake.**

Algeria was not indifferent to this new approach to care, that was introduced in the national perinatal programme. Thus, Algeria is among the countries that have incorporated KMC for preterm babies in its national programmes. The Minister of Health and Hospital Reforms has instructed all relevant officials on the entire national territory (Instruction 005 MSP/HR/MIN 22 April 2006). However, the generalization of KMC is insignificant compared to the objectives of the national perinatal programme.

**Observations and comments on encountered barriers and obstacles and on the major constraints for the dissemination and uptake of KMC**

In Algeria, it’s not the managers who impede the dissemination of KMC, but rather health professionals (paediatricians) who do not feel concerned with the survival of preterm babies. The failure or lack of neonatology training is one of the major constraints for the dissemination and uptake of KMC in Algeria. The KMC unit at Mustapha Hospital practices KMC successfully since 2004.

**Key points for a successful dissemination of KMC in Algeria, costs, who has to take the lead?**

KMC has been widely spread through the media (TV, radio, newspapers ...), but it must be noted that this communication strategy did not result in better dissemination. The national perinatal strategy for 2016-2020 includes KMC. The leader is the National Coordinator (Prof Djamil Lebane). The media will be approached once again and we look forward to organize awareness days on this.