

MONITORING AS A FORM OF DISSEMINATION OF THE CANGURU METHOD IN BRAZIL

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The Kangaroo Method is one of the policies that has been stimulated by the Brazilian government to reduce infant mortality and improve the quality of medical care in obstetrics and childbirth. However, despite the high investments made by the Ministry of Health, KCU beds in Brazil are not fully utilized. Objective: To analyze the transfer dynamics of newborns eligible for KCU in Brazilian maternity hospitals. Method: A quantitative and exploratory study was carried out at the national level. Results: Data on the process of using KCU beds from 29 maternity hospitals among 33 national and regional referral hospitals were analyzed. Data were collected for two months in 2017 and one month in 2018. An important variation was found in the aspects of the work process and in the pattern of the use of KCU beds. The occupation rate in the KCU was 71% and 75% in the two periods, varying from 11% to 100% in the different units. The proportion in number of days with eligible newborns in an inadequate unit (neonatal unit) and empty beds in the UCC was 48% and 53%, for different causes. Final words: Promoting expanded discussions and changes based on successful experiences can help in the improvement process. Regional child health administrators play an important role in the effective use of KCU beds. Despite the advances, it is important to recognize the challenges and needs of new strategies to ensure the effective use of KCU beds.