

P 54. AN ONGOING AUDIT OF KANGAROO MOTHER CARE AT KALAFONG HOSPITAL Elise van Rooyen¹, RC Pattinson²

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Background: Kalafong Hospital, Pretoria, South Africa has a 20-bed kangaroo mother care (KMC) unit where continuous and intermittent KMC is practiced. All infants discharged from the unit are followed up at a weekly clinic held in the hospital.

Aim: To collect data for an ongoing audit since August 1999. **Method:** All patients admitted to the KMC unit from August 1999 to July 2007 are included. A audit capturing form was completed for each admission. Data analysed include the number of babies admitted, admission and discharge weight categories, average length of stay, breastfeeding practices, infection and mortality rate, follow-up clinic attendance and gestational age.

Results

KMC-unit	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Infants admitted	319	361	369	428	408	409	457	378	3129
Deaths	0	3	5	4	4	1	8	3	28
Adverse events	25	24	17	22	29	34	38	21	210
Readmissions from home	5	18	12	19	5	14	13	23	109
Admission Gestational age	Average 35 weeks (Range: 28-44)		Average Follow-up clinic attendance					81%	
Average length of stay	13 days		Breastfeeding					74%	
Admission weight < 1500	46%		Pasteurised breastmilk					16%	
Discharge weight <1 750g	50%		Formula milk					10%	

Conclusion: The KMC unit is a cost-effective and safe step-down facility for the infants from the neonatal intensive and high care units.

Key words: Kangaroo mother care, preterm, breastfeeding, admissions, gestational age