

P 51. INNOVATION – K.E.M. KANGAROO BAG FOR KANGAROO MOTHER

CARE Rekha H. Udani , Ruchi N. Nanavati, A V Mauskar, Suman Rao, T Kulkarni

Department of Neonatology , Seth GS Medical College & KEM Hospital , Mumbai, India

Background: Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) ensures temperature maintenance , promotes successful breast feeding, reduces nosocomial sepsis, increases mother infant bonding and maternal satisfaction. Mother serves as a natural and the best incubator. KMC is simple and ideal for developing countries with limited health resources and does not require sophisticated instruments. The innovation: the kangaroo bag design in our Institute is made of soft flannel cloth and is tailored to hold the baby doubly secured in between the mother's breasts. Method: A randomized control trial was conducted to study the effect of KMC Vs Conventional method of care (CMC) in 100 LBWI < 1800 g between June 2001 to December 2001.

Result: The incidence of hypothermia, serious illnesses and new episodes of sepsis were significantly ($p < 0.05$) lower in KMC group (6%, 2% and 8 % respectively). All mothers in KMC group were confident of caring for their baby in KMC and felt that the bag was absolutely safe with no risk of baby falling or slipping.

Conclusion: KMC is a basic right of the newborn and should be considered an integral part of the management of the LBW infants. K.E.M kangaroo bag is a safe, cost effective and comfortable way of aiding mothers to provide Kangaroo Mother Care.

Keywords: KMC bag , safety, illnesses