feature articles

66 Neonatal Neuroprotection: Bringing Best Practice to the Bedside in the NICU

Concern for the impact of the NICU experience on the developing infant brain led to a unit-based quality improvement project to promote best neonatal outcomes. A multidisciplinary committee evaluated current evidence and developed the Neonatal Neuroprotective Best Practice Guidelines to identify optimal interventions, as well as provide physiologic rationales to reinforce importance of the practices for the clinical team. The process of developing and implementing the guidelines is presented.

Terrie Lockridge, MSN, RNC-NIC

77 Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome

Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome is a newly defined syndrome, therefore this transient clinical condition is not well known and probably under-diagnosed. Pathophysiology and symptoms are similar to eclampsia. A review of the syndrome including an exemplar case is presented.

Courtney Stanley Sundin, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, Michelle Laurane Johnson, BSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, CPLC

63 Effect of a Quality Improvement Project to Reduce Noise in a Pediatric Unit

Excessive noise has the potential to have negative implications for hospitalized children. This quality improvement project successfully reduced noise in a pediatric unit using a multi-step team approach over a 15-month period.

Maher Soubra, MD, Yara Abou Harb, MPH, BSN, RN, Sara Hatoun, BSN, RN, Nadine Yazbeck MD, Mirna Khoury, BSN, RN, Elie Bou Mansour, Lina Kordahi Badi, PhD, RN

89 Pregnancy after Solid Organ Transplantation

Women who have been recipients of heart, lung, or renal transplants have a difficult decision-making process when considering pregnancy. In this study, women shared their thoughts on how they decided to become pregnant, as well as the positive experiences and significant challenges they faced in becoming mothers.

Jane M. Kurz, PhD, RN

97 Physician and Nurse Perceptions of Gentle Cesarean Birth

Increasingly, women are requesting a more family-friendly cesarean birth, sometimes referred to as a gentle cesarean. As cesarean birth requires care from an interdisciplinary team, knowledge of their perceptions of pros and cons, and willingness to participate is useful to the maternity care leadership team before embarking on a program to promote gentle cesarean birth. In this study, care providers who participate in cesarean birth were surveyed about gentle cesareans. Findings can be used by other maternity care teams considering this approach.

Rebecca J. Mercier, MD MPH, Julia C. Durante, MD

105 Facilitating Early Breast Milk Expression in Mothers of Very Low Birth Weight Infants

Early initiation of breastfeeding or breast milk expression is important soon after birth to enhance milk production. Often mothers who give birth preterm have a cesarean, which can delay milk expression. This survey of maternity nurses offers information about their perceived barriers to timely breast milk expression for mothers of very low birth weight babies.

Leslie Ann Parker, PhD, ARNP, Jacqueline Hoffman, DNP, ARNP, NNP-BC, Ashley Darcy-Mahoney, PhD, NNP-BC
ongoing columns

65 EDITORIAL
Standardized Clinical Protocols to Promote Maternal Safety
There is an abundance of evidence-based resources to promote patient safety in maternity care which are available at no cost. Various patient safety resources are discussed including those from Council on Patient Safety in Women’s Health Care, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative.
Kathleen Rice Simpson, PhD, RN, CNS-BC, FAAN

111 HOT TOPICS IN MATERNITY NURSING
Placentofagy: What Should Nurses Recommend?
There is a small but growing trend of women asking for their placenta after giving birth so they can have it prepared for ingestion during the postpartum period. Our maternity nursing expert, Molly Killion, explains what you need to know about placentofagy so you can offer evidence-based guidance to women who may have this request.
Molly Killion, MS, RN, CNS

112 HOT TOPICS IN PEDIATRIC NURSING
Tattoos and Piercings: Increasingly Accepted but Still Risky
Our pediatric nursing expert, Dr. Beal, discusses the recent clinical report from the American Academy of Pediatrics on Adolescent and Young Adult Tattooing, Piercing, and Scarification. As these practices are becoming more common, it is important for pediatric nurses to have up-to-date knowledge so they can assist in guiding adolescents and parents.
Judy A. Beal, DNSc, RN, FNAP, FAAN

113 BREASTFEEDING
Travel Considerations for Breastfeeding
Our breastfeeding expert, Dr. Spatz, offers suggestions for advising new mothers who are breastfeeding about how to plan for travel.
Diane L. Spatz, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN

114 GLOBAL HEALTH AND NURSING
Midwives for Haiti
Our global health nursing expert, Dr. Callister, discusses an exemplary program in Haiti started by American nurse-midwives and physicians to educate birth attendants to assist women with safe care during pregnancy, birth, and postpartum.
Lynn Clark Callister, PhD, RN, FAAN

116 TOWARD EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE
Experts suggest how 6 research articles can be used in nursing practice.
Coordinated by Annie Rohan, PhD, RN, NNP-BC, CPNP-PC, FAAN
Heidi V. Krowchuk, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Eileen T. Lake, PhD, RN, FAAN

120 PERINATAL PATIENT SAFETY
Update on Evaluation, Prevention, and Management of Postpartum Hemorrhage
The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has updated their guidelines on postpartum hemorrhage. Renew the October 2017 practice bulletin and work with the multidisciplinary team on your unit to adopt the recommendations to promote patient safety.
Kathleen Rice Simpson, PhD, RN, CNS-BC, FAAN

MISSION STATEMENT
MCN: The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing, is written for nurses who are involved in various aspects of maternal and child nursing. MCN provides clinical and research articles to support nurses in practice that are based on the most recent and rigorous evidence. This peer-reviewed journal offers integrated clinical practice information and thought-provoking solutions for all aspects of maternal child care in the inpatient, outpatient, and home care settings.