

DEVELOPMENTAL CARE NEWS

Summer 2023

Keeping up



Jones, L., et al. 2017. **Nociceptive Cortical Activity Is Dissociated from Nociceptive Behavior in Newborn Human Infants under Stress.** *Current Biology*, 27(24), 3846-3851. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2017.10.063> High levels of background stress in infants are associated with greater noxious evoked activity in the brain during painful procedures but the effects cannot be deduced from behavioral measures alone which means that the influence of stress may escape the attention of caregivers and increase the risk of adverse changes in neurodevelopment.

Mason, L, Marufu, TC, Warren, I, et al. 2023 **Interventions for supporting parents of infants requiring neonatal inter-hospital transport: A systematic review.** *Nurs Crit Care*. 2023; 1- 14. doi:[10.1111/nicc.12922](https://doi.org/10.1111/nicc.12922). This review highlights the dearth of knowledge about support for parents during neonatal transport. This is surprising considering how stressful this is reported to be and flags up the need to consider strategies such as kangaroo care during transport and communication links with receiving units.

Axelin, A, et al. for the SCENE research group. 2022. **Symptoms of depression in parents after discharge from NICU associated with family-centred care.** *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 78, 1676–1687. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.15128> This international study reports on components of family centred care that have a positive impact on parents' symptoms of depression.

Lisanti, AJ et al. 2023, **Developmental Care for Hospitalized Infants With Complex Congenital Heart Disease:** *J Am Heart Assoc*. 12:e028489. DOI: 10.1161/JAHA.122.028489. This science advisory document from the American Heart Association describes the burden of developmental disorders, disabilities, and delays for infants with complex congenital heart disease; defines the potential health and neurodevelopmental benefits of developmental care and identifies critical gaps in research aimed at evaluating developmental care interventions to improve neurodevelopmental outcomes.

Muirhead R, Bates A, 2023. **Does the Implementation of Multidisciplinary Developmental Care Rounds Increase the Utilization of Developmental Caregiving Interventions in the Neonatal Unit?** *JPNN*, 37 (2): 153-

163. An educational innovation that helps to improve practice.

Chabba R, Tyebkhan, JM, 2023, **Educating, training, recruiting, and retaining the best: Is NIDCAP ready for Generation Z?** *Developmental Observer*. 16(2): 7-10. DOI: 10.14434/DO.V16I2.35786 Thoughts about how to adapt education to fit generational learning styles could be useful for any infant and family centred training framework.

Davey Evans, psychologist, has worked with the team at Solihull to produce two short courses for parents on getting to know their baby.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FMrSsPFWNk>.

He has also authored / co-authored several recent articles reflecting on different aspects of neonatal care.

Evans D, 2022, **Navigating between technological and relational practice in neonatal care.** *Infant* 18(5): 186-189, explores the dilemma of combining technological medicine with family integrated and relationship centred care and identifies some coping strategies.

Evans D, Butterworth R, 2023. **The anatomy of compassion: courage, connection and safeness in perinatal practice,** *Infant* 19(3):88-92 explores a key topic from the new NHS England Three Year Delivery Plan for Maternity and Neonatal Services.

Snippets from recent conferences

Healing landscapes (Gravens conference, Florida)
The Therapeutic Landscapes Network is a multidisciplinary community of designers, service providers, scholars, and gardeners whose primary emphasis is on evidence-based design in healthcare settings. Find out more at <https://healinglandscapes.org/>

Can Storytelling be Used as a Synchronizer Between the Parent and the Baby? (NANT conference, Arizona)
Tzipi Horowitz-Kraus, head of the Technion Educational Neuroimaging Group in Israel uses advanced neuroimaging tools to understand how neural circuits related to language, attention and visual processing are synchronized while exposed to stories. Find out more at <https://edu.technion.ac.il/en/member/tzipi-horowitz-kraus/>

BE A FINE STAR!



Gemma Lindsay and Lindsey Harding-Payne are Practice Development Nurses at Colchester, a Level II unit in the Eastern Region. After collecting feedback about what staff would like to see changed after attending a FINE Foundation Toolkit they launched an innovative project called “Be a FINE-Star” targeting improvement in two procedures, the figure of eight wrap for comfort during lumbar punctures, and performing cranial ultrasounds during kangaroo care. Photos were taken and a chart was posted. Every member of the team involved in making these actions happen could add their name to a star and stick it on the chart. The staff member with the most stars gets a metal star for their lanyard. It was such a popular way to make positive changes in practice that after 3



months a new set of challenges were introduced with parents taking their baby’s temperature and using EBM as pain relief. This has been even more successful with all staff and parents engaging. The next round will take on side-lying nappy changes and parents weighing babies.



CONGRATULATIONS ROMANIA!



Romania is one of the poorest countries in Europe and adopting Infant and Family Centred Care is a big challenge but one that ARNIS, the parent organisation set up by Corina Croitoru, has taken on with incredible vigour, imagination and determination. To promote kangaroo care this year ARNIS invited a small group of neonatal units to see how many families and how many hours of kangaroo care they could achieve in one month. 46 families in 5 units took part, many of them experiencing skin-to-skin for the first time. The unit in Sibiu, with the highest number of kangaroo care hours will be rewarded with an educational exchange visit in Passau, Germany but the real reward was the enjoyment of seeing parents and babies connected this way. Find out



more at <https://arnis.org/arnis-in-english/>



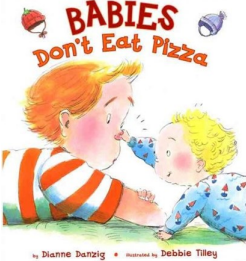
Miracle Moon provides free online resources to support parents after their NICU experience. The founders, Frankie (a Clinical Psychologist), and Georgie (a graphic designer), both had NICU experiences and are passionate about helping other parents to understand, validate and learn about their thoughts and feelings after NICU. They have combined their shared knowledge, skills, and experience to curate Miracle Moon with blog posts, a podcast, products, workshops, group and individual therapy.

<https://www.miraclemoon.co.uk/>



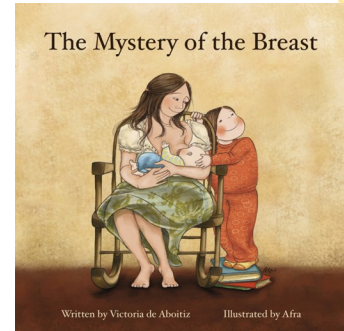
The Wellcome Foundation has a new exhibition in their Euston Road centre in London and its all about milk. While browsing in their bookshop looking for books about breast feeding that might be helpful for siblings I bumped into a lactation consultant who recommended “The Mystery of the Breast” .

A Big Kids' Book About Baby Brothers and Baby Sisters



There is a wide range of books available for different age groups.

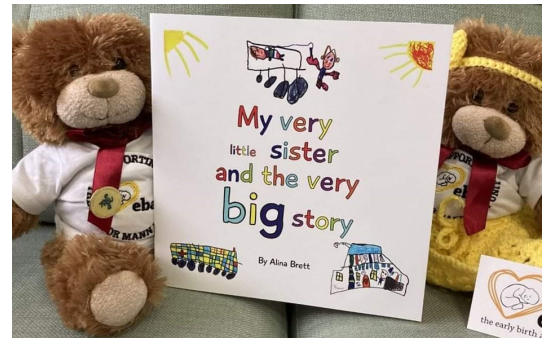
Find more at www.nypl.org/blog/2020/09/04/picture-books-featuring-breastfeeding



My very little sister and the very big story.

The experiences and needs of siblings when a baby is in the NICU is under-researched and under-reported. In this little book, vividly illustrated with her own drawings, Alina Brett tells us what it was like for her during her little sister’s long and complicated journey through neonatal care. Although written for other children there are lessons for all of us in her story.

<https://www.brettbooks.co.uk/home>



The Developmental Observer

The official newsletter for NIDCAP Federation International includes many interesting news items and thoughtful articles submitted by parents and professionals. Past and current editions available at <https://nidcap.org/developmental-observer/>

Sensory Beginnings Neonatal Journal and Celebration Cards

This attractive journal and set of cards are designed to help parents learn more about their babies’ development and how sensory experiences can support their babies and themselves during their stay on the neonatal unit. Information is presented in an appealing and easy- to-read format and there is space to record and reflect on day to day progress and special moments. They are charmingly illustrated with a delicate fairy theme in pretty watercolours.

<https://sensorybeginnings.com/shop/>



FINE COURSES 2023

go to www.finetraininguk.com to book

FINE 1: Foundation Toolkit for Family Centred Developmental care

Available dates for 2023

£350.00 per person+ VAT

Reduced to £300.00 + VAT when you book 10 or more places

Dates for 2024 coming soon.

Enquiries to info@finetraininguk.com

October 17th
November 2nd
November 7th
November 14th
December 1st
December 6th
December 14th

FINE 2: Practical Skills for Family Centred Developmental Care

Fees: £1500.00 per person plus VAT

Next start dates for 2023

September 6th

November 9th

Apply at www.finetraininguk.com

BOOKS

“Caring for your Baby in the Neonatal Unit”

We have a new delivery of “Caring for your Baby in the Neonatal Unit: A Parents Handbook” now available exclusively from www.finetraininguk.com. Individual copies £12.50 including p and p. Buy 10 copies for £90.00 with free p and p in the UK. Contact us for special offers on bigger orders.

“First Steps for Parents in the Neonatal Unit” is available in batches of 50 @ £75.00

