Variations in Parental Participation in Nursing Care Sessions in the NICU by Infant and Family Variables

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Why it's Important:

An infant's readiness for discharge and overall health development are strongly linked to parental behaviors.

Why are these initiatives needed?

However, many obstacles prevent consistent parental presence in the NICU, such as: distance from hospital, work, sibling care, etc.

"Social Determinants of Health"

Aims:

To determine the social determinants of health that affect family engagement.

We hypothesize that there will be a correlation between Medicaid status of the mother and number of days caregivers participated in cares.



Design:

Sample included babies from a level 3 NICU who were part of a QI study

Infants were screened who were 2 weeks and older

Visitation data was pulled and entered into RedCap

Data analyses were run

Demographic Data:

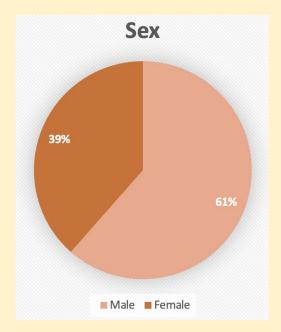


Figure 1: Sex n=26

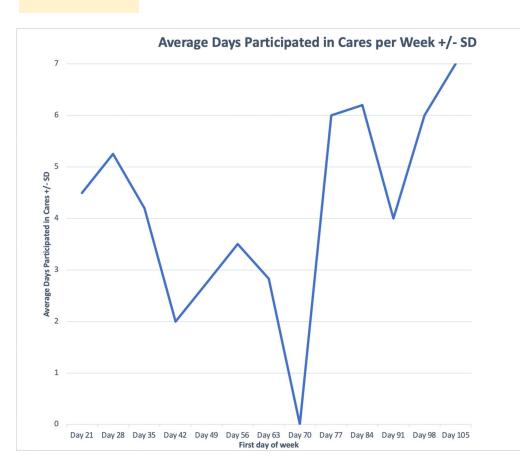
Table 1: Gestational Age n=26

Average GA (weeks)	Standard Deviation
27.58	+/- 3.3

Table 2: Birth Weight n=26

Average BW (g)	Standard Deviation
1151.85	+/- 697.46

Results:



Average Days Participated in Care	Standard Deviation
4.12	+/- 2.10

Figure 2 (Left): Average Days Participated in Cares over 13 week Period

Clear variability throughout the weeks of infants' NICU stay.

Table 3 (**Top**): **Average Days** +/- **SD** On average, parents were able to visit infant 4 days out of the week.

Back to our hypothesis...

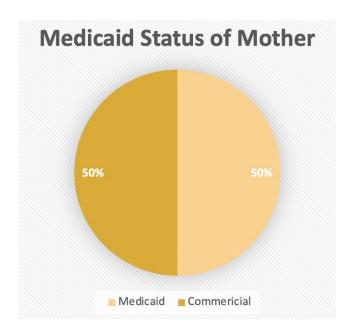


Figure 3: Medicaid Status n=26

Table 4: Medicaid Status Relationship to Number of Visits n=26

Mann-Whitney Test	
Commercial Mean	4.65 +/- 2.12
Medicaid Mean	3.58 +/- 2.02
Z score	-1.262

Conclusion/Implications

Medicaid status alone was not enough to determine where the problem stems from!

So **how** do we address the problem?

- Parent education levels
- Zip code
- Race/ethnicity
- People in home
- SES/job
- # of caregivers



Limitations:

We are still collecting data and hoping to increase our sample size in the coming months.

Demographic data is self-reported.



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