

**00107 Encouraging Exclusive Breastfeeding for Babies on Hypoglycemia Pathway**

*Audrey Foo, Jeslyn Neo*

KK Women's & Children's Hospital

**Aims:** The aim of this research is to stress upon the effectiveness of breastfeeding (BF) during the first feed compared that to formula feeding.

**Methodology:** Babies who are normal vaginal delivery, well, admitting to postnatal ward and are either born to mothers with diabetes mellitus, gestational diabetes, and impaired glucose tolerance test or large for gestational age infants: >4000g or >90th centile for gestational age or term infant >37 week with birth weight <2600gm or preterm infants (<37weeks) or infants born to mother with BMI >33/m<sup>2</sup> were recruited into the study. The collection period is from 23/8/16-12/9/16 (Pre-implementation) and 22/7/17-11/8/17 (Postimplementation).

A focus group (respondents = 71) was carried out in all postnatal wards and delivery suite to identify the challenges nurses faced when nursing babies on hypoglycemia pathway.

**Result:** 42% mothers were not given the opportunity to STS and initiate BF after delivery (n=31). Finding shows that nurses have knowledge deficient on that STS would increase the infant blood sugar level and preventing hypoglycemia. Additionally, nurses believe that formulas feeding for at-risk babies are more beneficial in preventing hypoglycemia. Roadshow were conducted to clear all misconception and the pathway was redesign. A significant reduction in mother not given the opportunity to STS and initiate BF after delivery was P-value 0.0096. Furthermore, there is a 20% increase in infants and mother transferred to the postnatal ward simultaneously without any adverse outcome post implementation.

**Conclusion:** Mothers with Infants who are at risk for hypoglycemia were not given the opportunity to initiate STS and BF due to the misconception of healthcare providers. With the collaborative effort from different departments, scientific research and findings from the research, at-risk babies were the biggest beneficiaries as they received the best from mothers – liquid gold through STS.