

VON Grand Rounds – Following Through After the NICU – November 13th 2024

2024 VON Grand Rounds Date: 11/13/2024

Planners: Roger Soll MD, Denise Zayack RN, MPH, Danielle Ehret MD, Jonathan S Litt, MD MPH ScD
Speaker(s): Roger Soll MD, Danielle Ehret MD, Jonathan S Litt, MD MPH ScD, Diana Montoya-Williams MD MSHS, Sunah Hwang, MD, PhD, MPH/MSPH

Purpose Statement/Goal of this Activity: The 2024 VON Grand Rounds webinar series will provide evidence reviews, a summary of the current practice guidelines, a synthesis of the application of evidence in real work practice settings and will be supported by discussion and question and answer opportunities with expert faculty.

The following have relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies (all have been mitigated):
All other speakers/planners/CME reviewers do not have any relevant financial relationships.

This activity did not receive any support for ineligible companies (grants or in-kind).


All recommendations involving clinical medicine made during this talk were based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indication and contraindications in the care of patients.

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by The Robert Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont and Vermont Oxford Network. The University of Vermont is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.


The University of Vermont designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit[®]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This program has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 1.0 Nursing Contact Hours.

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 1 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credit for learning and change.




1



**Following Through After the NICU:
The Role of Early Intervention in Optimizing
Outcomes After Preterm Birth**

November 13th 2024



2

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK Moderators



Roger F. Soll, MD
H. Wallace Professor of Neonatology,
University of Vermont
Coordinating Editor, Cochrane Neonatal
Director, VON Institute for Evidence Based
Practice, Vermont Oxford Network



Danielle Ehret, MD, MPH
Asfaw Yemiru Green and Gold Professor,
University of Vermont
Chief Medical Officer, Director, Global Health,
Vermont Oxford Network

3

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK Speaker



Jonathan S Litt, MD MPH ScD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics |
Stanford University School of Medicine
Tashia and John Morgridge Endowed
Faculty Scholar in Pediatric Translational
Medicine |
Stanford Maternal & Child Health
Research Institute

4

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK Guest discussants



Sunah Hwang MD PhD MPH/MSPH
Associate Professor, Pediatrics-Neonatology
Children's Hospital Colorado
University of Colorado Hospital




Erika Edwards PhD
Research Professor
University of Vermont
Chief Scientific Officer,
Vermont Oxford Network

5

Sponsors



**The Vermont Oxford Network
Institute for Evidence Based Practice**



6

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK

**Following Through After the NICU:
The Role of Early Intervention in Optimizing Outcomes
After Preterm Birth**

Disclosures

Danielle Ehret MD, MPH is the Director of Global Health and Chief Medical Officer at Vermont Oxford Network (VON) and receives salary support to UVM for non-clinical time dedicated to her leadership roles.

Jonathan S Litt, MD MPH ScD has no relevant financial relationships or conflicts of interest to disclose.

Erika Edwards, PhD is the Chief Scientific Officer at VON.

Sunah Hwang, MD PhD MPH/MSPH has no relevant financial relationships or conflicts of interest to disclose.

Roger F. Soll, MD is the H. Wallace Professor of Neonatology at the Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, Vice President of the Vermont Oxford Network, Director of the VON Institute for Evidence Based Practice, and Coordinating Editor of Cochrane Neonatal. He is a consultant with the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR).

No other relevant financial issues to disclose

7

How to Participate in Today's Webinar

- Chat questions and comments to "Everyone" during the presentations and discussion.
- Respond to Zoom poll questions posed during the session. Select your answer(s) and click "Submit".
- Please do not respond to polls via Chat.

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK

8

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

Our Responsibility to Follow Through for NICU Infants and Their Families.

Horbar JD, Edwards EM, Ogbolu Y.

Pediatrics. 2020 Dec;146(6):e20200360. doi: 10.1542/peds.2020-0360. Epub 2020 Jun 16. PMID: 32546582.

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK

9

Poll Questions

1. Does your center have a formal follow-up program?
a. Yes – 81%
b. No – 19%
2. Do you provide care in that follow-up program?
a. Yes – 36%
b. No – 64%
3. Does your center contribute data to the VON ELBW Follow-up Database?
a. Yes – 48%
b. No – 52%

Select your answer(s) and click "Submit"

VON Vermont Oxford NETWORK

10

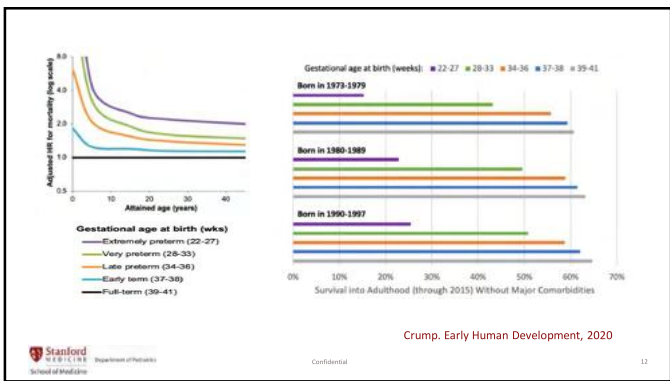
Following Through After the NICU: The Role of Early Intervention in Optimizing Outcomes After Preterm Birth

Jonathan S Litt, MD MPH ScD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics | Stanford University School of Medicine
Tashia and John Morgridge Endowed Faculty Scholar in Pediatric Translational Medicine | Stanford Maternal & Child Health Research Institute
Senior Advisor for Follow-up Programming | Vermont Oxford Network

**VON Grand Rounds
November 13, 2024**

Stanford MEDICINE Department of Pediatrics
School of Medicine

11






12

Neurodevelopmental Domains	Effect Size (SD Units) and 95% CI
Language ^{17,40}	Expressive language: -0.71 (-0.86, -0.55)
	Receptive language: -0.83 (-0.97, -0.69)
	Simple language function: -0.45 (-0.59, -0.30)
Complex language function: -0.62 (-0.82, -0.43)	
Motor ⁴²	Balance, manual dexterity, ball skills: -0.65 (-0.70, -0.60)
	Fine motor skills: -0.57 (-0.99, -0.73)
	Gross motor skills: -0.53 (-0.60, -0.46)
Visual motor integration ⁴³	-0.69 (-0.80, -0.58)
Attention ^{44,45}	Selective attention: -0.58 (-0.74, -0.43)
	Sustained attention: -0.67 (-1.03, -0.31)
Executive function ^{44,45}	Verbal Fluency: -0.57 (-0.82, -0.32)
	Working memory: -0.36 (-0.47, -0.20)
	Cognitive flexibility: -0.49 (-0.66, -0.33)
	Inhibition: -0.50 (-0.89, -0.10)
	Planning: -0.69 (-0.88, -0.50)
Academic achievement ⁴⁴	Reading: -0.48 (-0.60, -0.34)
	Spelling: -0.76 (-1.13, -0.40)
	Mathematics: -0.60 (-0.74, -0.46)

Stanford University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential Liu, et al. Clinics in Perinatology, 2017 13

13

- Parents of preterm infants have more tension, anger, and fatigue
DeFranco, et al. BMC Public Health, 2008
- Mothers have more intrusive feelings and hyperarousal, fathers more anger
Imino, et al. European Journal of Psychology, 2016

Poverty
DeFranco, et al. BMC Public Health, 2008




Food insecurity
Paul, et al. J of Perinatol, 2024

Homelessness
Yamamoto, et al. JAMA Network Open, 2021

~11% of all live births paid for by Medicaid were <37 weeks, 9.8% <2,500 grams
CMS. Medicaid and CHIP Beneficiary Profile: Maternal and Infant Health, 2020

Stanford University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 14

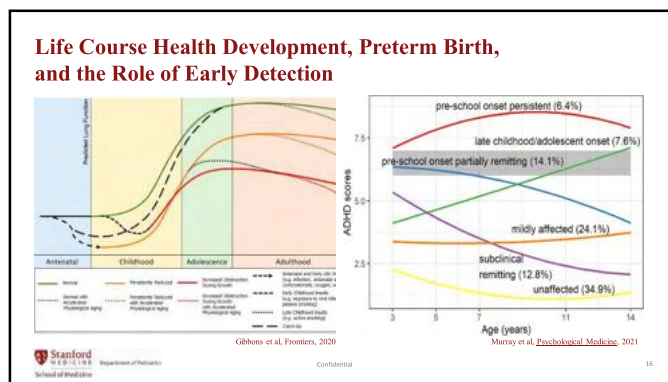
14

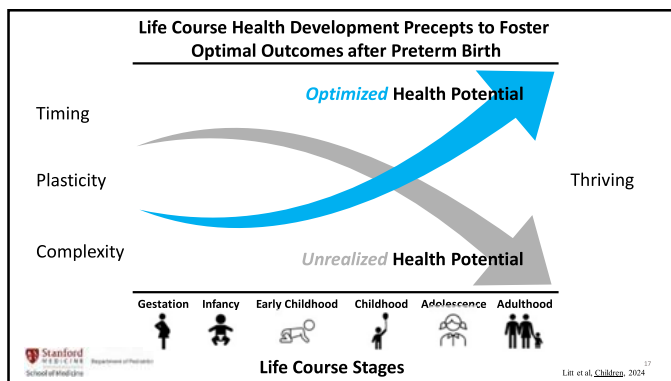
- Preterm birth associated with increased multimorbidity risk at 10-18 years
 - > HR 2.29 (95% CI 2.19-2.39) for 2 health outcomes
 - > HR 4.22 (95% CI 3.66-4.87) for 4 health outcomesHeikkila, et al. Lancet Public Health, 2023
- Cognitive, behavioral, school problems in adolescence
Pascot, et al. Seminars, 2021
- Rates of motor problems vary from 8-37% among adolescents without CP
Florens, et al. Seminars, 2020
- Poor functioning and participation into adulthood
Mull, et al. Seminars, 2020
- Lower annual income
Ahmed, et al. JAMA Network Open, 2024
- Lower upward mobility and higher downward mobility

Stanford University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 15

15



16



17

Specialized Follow-up Programs are Variable

Service type	Response count	Response frequency (%)
Growth measurements	124	99.2
Neurodevelopmental assessment	118	94.4
General neurological evaluation	116	92.8
Management of nutrition (high caloric formula/NG tube) (n=1)	88	70.4
OT/PT/occupational assessment	84	67.2
Finding assessment	72	57.6
Social worker support	70	56.0
Behavioral assessment	68	54.4
Management of home oxygen and monitors	66	52.8
Other services*	30	24.0

Stanford University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential Kuppala, et al. J Perinatol, 2012 18

18

Nationally, only ~50% of eligible infants participate in clinical high-risk follow-up programs.

19

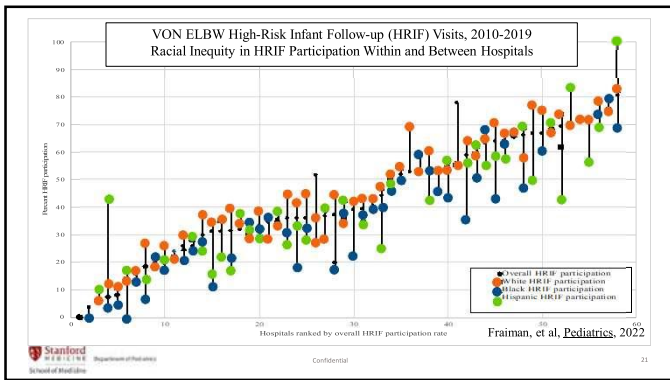
Current approach systematically leaves behind:

Groups of infants
Moderately, late-preterm Engle, et al, *Pediatrics*, 2007
Term infants with NICU admission McCormick & Litt, *Pediatrics*, 2016
Surgical conditions Gischler, et al, *J Ped Surgery*, 2009
Uncommon genetic diagnoses Wojcik, et al, *Pediatrics*, 2019

Many families
Racially minoritized – Black compared to white
Language – Primary non-English compared to English speaking

Many communities
“Very Low” opportunity compared to “Very High” neighborhoods Fraiman, et al, *J Perinatology*, 2021

20



21

Current approach to follow-up

Variety of settings

- Academic hospital-based clinics
- Research-based (e.g. NICHD Neonatal Network)
- Complex care clinics
- Subspecialty clinics (e.g. neurology)
- Primary Care clinic

Varied services

- Medical
- Developmental
- Psychosocial
- Care coordination

➔

- Complex
- Fragmented
- Variable

Multiple stakeholders

- Families
- Primary Care Providers
- Subspecialists
- Early Intervention Programs

22

Early Childhood Vaccination Status of Preterm Infants

Delayed or missing routine vaccinations

Preterm infants are less likely to have a family-centered medical home than term-born peers

Lack of a medical home, missing subspecialty services

Optimizing High-risk Infant Follow-up in Nonresearch-based Paradigms: The New England Follow-up Network

Frequent rehospitalizations, missed neurosensory screening

Understanding Barriers to Early Intervention Services for Preterm Infants: Lessons From Two States

Barriers to Early Intervention service receipt

Unrecognized and unmet physical health problems in a national cohort of very low birthweight young adults and controls


Unrecognized and unmet adult physical health problems

23

Potentially Better Practices for Follow Through

- Promote a Culture of Equity
- Identify Social Risks of Families and Provide Interventions to Prevent and Mitigate Those Risks
- Take Action to Assist Families After Discharge (Transition to Home)
- Maintain Support for Families through Infancy
- Develop Robust Quality Improvement Efforts to Ensure Equitable, High-Quality Hospital and Follow-through Care to All Newborns by Eliminating Modifiable Disparities
- Advocate for Social Justice at the Local, State, and National Levels

24



Evidence Review

- I. Promote a Culture of Equity
- II. Identify Social Risks of Families and Provide Interventions to Prevent and Mitigate Those Risks
- III. Take Action to Assist Families After Discharge (Transition to Home)
- IV. Maintain Support for Families through Infancy
- V. Develop Robust Quality Improvement Efforts to Ensure Equitable, High-Quality Hospital and Follow-through Care to All Newborns by Eliminating Modifiable Disparities
- VI. Advocate for Social Justice at the Local, State, and National Levels

Stanford Medicine Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 25

25

Social Determinants Screening

Stanford Medicine Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 26

26

Poll Questions

Screening for Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

1. Does your center use a standardized SDoH screening tool?
 - a. Yes – 50%
 - b. No – 50%
2. If so, have you noticed a positive impact for patients and families?
 - a. Yes – 46%
 - b. No – 54%

Select your answer(s) and click "Submit"

Stanford Medicine Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 27

27

Screening in the NICU

- 34% (28%–40% by region) with standardized screening Cordova Ramos et al, *Hospital Pediatrics*, 2023
- Vermont Oxford Network membership survey

	N	Na	%
Screen all families using a standardized tool	700	403	57.6
Of those that did screening:			
Housing screening	392	388	99.0
Food insecurity screening	393	377	95.9
Transportation needs screening	393	392	99.7
Utility needs screening	392	352	89.8
Interpersonal safety screening	391	381	97.4
Results are recorded in medical record	395	384	97.2
Include a social worker on the team	723	709	98.1
Include a paralegal or attorney on the team	689	110	16.0

Stanford Medicine Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential Edwards et al, *Pediatrics*, 2024 28

28

Screening after NICU Discharge

- Screening For Social Determinants Of Health In A NICU Follow Up Clinic
 - 1,270 families (64%) screened, median questionnaire completion percentage shifted from 43% to 83%
 - 36% of families screened positive, 21% of those requested assistance
 - 57% of families received a list of relevant resources and 30% received tangible help (gas card, access to food pantry, or payment of utility bills)Lee et al, *PAS Abstract*, 2024
- New England Follow-up Network (NEFUN)
 - 9 centers, 303 ELBW infants discharged home, 195 (74%) were evaluated at an average CA of 4 months, 20 days
 - 130 screenings were completed, of these 110 (85%) were screenings for food insecurityUnpublished data, 2023

Stanford Medicine Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 29

29

Transition Home

Stanford Medicine Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 30

30

Poll Questions

Transition Home

- Does your center have a transition home program?
 - Yes – 24%
 - No – 76%
- If so, does your transition home program provide: (check all that apply)
 - Medical care – 79%
 - Psychosocial support – 51%
 - Material resource support – 74%

Select your answer(s) and click "Submit"

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics Confidential 31

31

Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) Visits

- Often routine post-discharge care
- In-home visit by nurse
 - Assess infant well-being
 - Check weight, jaundice
 - Answer parent questions
- Coordinate with community-based PCP

Infant and family characteristics	VNA helpful OR (95% CI)
Parity (PO/PI vs > P2)	1.82 (1.35, 2.46)**
Apgar score, 1 min	0.97 (0.90, 1.04)
BW < 1200g	1.08 (0.72, 1.64)
GA < 35 weeks	1.45 (1.15, 1.83)**
VN grade*	1.44 (0.87, 2.36)
Respiratory distress syndrome	0.94 (0.73, 1.22)
Parent prepared (parent self-rating)	0.89 (0.72, 1.10)
Parent prepared (nurse rating), technical score	0.83 (0.54, 1.28)
Parent prepared (nurse rating), emotional score	0.82 (0.53, 1.25)

Abbreviations: BW, bodyweight; CI, confidence interval; GA, gestational age; VN, intraventricular hemorrhage OR, odds ratio; VNA, Visiting Nurse Association. *P < 0.05. **VN grade: 0 = none; 1 = I/II; 2 = III/IV.

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics Confidential 32

32

Transition Home Plus Program

Transition Home Plus Program Reduces Medicaid Spending and Health Care Use for High-Risk Infants Admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 5 or More Days

Yiyen Liu, PhD¹, Elizabeth McGowan, MD¹, Richard Tucker, BA¹, Leifhen Glasgow, DNP¹, Marianne Ruckman, MPH¹, and Betty Vito, MD¹

Intervention	Provider	Postdischarge	Provider
Identify eligible infants, inform family of program, and obtain consent for THP and CarenetCare [®]	Social worker or family resource specialist	Call within 48 hours	Social worker or family resource specialist
Communicate enrollment to PCP	Social worker or family resource specialist	Findings of all visits communicated with PCP	MD, NNP, social worker, family resource specialist
Weekly rounds with families	THP team	24/7 on call	MD or NNP
Regular meetings with family, identify challenges, partner to address needs, review education binder	Social worker or family resource specialist	Home visit for infant/family assessment	NNP
Identify family challenges (ie, food insecurity, housing); home visit to assess needs if concerned	Social worker or family resource specialist	Calls to and from family and PCP as needed	MD, NNP, social worker, family resource specialist
Family discharge readiness assessment and facilitate referrals as needed	Social worker or family resource specialist	Edinburgh at 30 days; facilitate referrals as needed	Social worker or family resource specialist
Review all meds, formula mixing, safe sleep, positioning, etc, before discharge	Social worker or family resource specialist	1- and 3-month clinic assessment	MD, NNP, social worker, family resource specialist
Inform PCP of all infants eligible for Synagra	Letter from MD/THP team	Respond to all CarenetCare [®] real time alerts of ED visit or hospitalization	Social worker or family resource specialist with MD and NNP

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics Confidential 33

33

Transition Home Plus Program

Transition Home Plus Program Reduces Medicaid Spending and Health Care Use for High-Risk Infants Admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 5 or More Days

Yiyen Liu, PhD¹, Elizabeth McGowan, MD¹, Richard Tucker, BA¹, Leifhen Glasgow, DNP¹, Marianne Ruckman, MPH¹, and Betty Vito, MD¹

Quarter	Medicaid spending (\$)		ED visits		Readmissions rate	
	Coefficient*	SE	Coefficient*	SE	Coefficient	SE
1	–944	10 543	–307	64	NA	NA
2	–6324 [†]	2922	–267	83	NA	NA
3	–3237	2275	–414 [†]	82	NA	NA
4	–4141	2561	–404 [†]	95	NA	NA
5	–6782 [†]	3071	–307	83	NA	NA
6	–8415 [†]	3230	–325 [†]	96	NA	NA
7	–8219 [†]	3467	–191 [†]	105	NA	NA
8	–18 269 [†]	6727	–239 [†]	77	NA	NA
Average impact per quarter [‡]	–4691 [†]	2311	–334 [†]	33	–70 [†]	29

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics Confidential 34

34

Following Baby Back Home

Goal: maximize the health and development of LBWPT (<2500 g and <37 weeks' gestation) infants.

Eligibility: LBWPT infants with chronic medical conditions at the time of discharge as identified by a neonatologist.

Population: Referrals to FBBH are solicited from all NICUs in Arkansas.

Program: 2 home visits per month for the first 2 months, 1 home visit per month until age 1, and alternating home and phone and/or virtual visits every month until age 3.

Services: in-home treatments, track adherence to medical appointments and immunizations, and facilitate medical appointments as needed

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics Confidential McKelvey et al. Pediatrics. 2021 35

35

Following Baby Back Home

TABLE 5 FBBH Matched Treatment and Control Groups Health Care Use, Immunization, and Mortality Differences in the First Year of Life

Health Care Use Outcome	Treatment	Control	AIE (95% CI) [†]	aOR/aRR (95% CI) [‡]	P
Hospitalizations, mean (SE)	0.59 (0.09)	0.25 (0.04)	0.30 (0.20–0.41)	2.68 (1.82–3.95)	<.001
ED visits, mean (SE)	1.65 (0.12)	0.96 (0.08)	0.67 (0.51–0.81)	1.81 (1.46–2.25)	<.001
Nonurgent ED visits, mean (SE)	0.92 (0.07)	0.49 (0.05)	0.42 (0.24–0.55)	1.92 (1.51–2.45)	<.001
Wellness visits, mean (SE)	1.546 (0.53)	0.78 (0.05)	4.07 (3.28–4.88)	1.59 (1.37–1.85)	<.001
Outpatient non-wellness visits, mean (SE)	1.86 (0.49)	1.01 (0.25)	0.76 (0.54–1.14)	1.81 (1.25–2.65)	.005
Prescription medications, filled, mean (SE)	1064 (0.53)	860 (0.42)	1.98 (1.27–2.65)	1.24 (1.0–1.43)	.002
Health care use binary outcome					
At least one hospitalization, n (%)	110 (26.3)	56 (13.4)	0.12 (0.08–0.17)	2.51 (1.62–3.30)	<.001
At least one ED visits, n (%)	248 (58.8)	167 (40.2)	0.19 (0.14–0.24)	2.19 (1.66–2.88)	<.001
At least one nonurgent ED visits, n (%)	193 (46.2)	117 (37.7)	0.19 (0.12–0.25)	2.21 (1.66–2.94)	<.001
Immunizations					
Immunization visits, mean (SE)	3.74 (0.09)	2.53 (0.11)	1.18 (0.94–1.34)	1.49 (1.25–1.65)	<.001
Prescription medications, proportion (SE)	0.61 (0.02)	0.59 (0.02)	0.22 (0.18–0.26)	2.37 (1.80–3.14)	<.001
Mortality					
Death <1 y, n (%)	1 (0.21)	7 (1.64)	8.86 (7.10–10.88)	4.44 (1.22–20.67)	<.001

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics Confidential McKelvey et al. Pediatrics. 2021 36

36

Virtual Home Visiting

- Pilot intervention in HRIF program at Boston Children’s Hospital
- Offer virtual home visit 2-4 weeks after NICU discharge – MD, NP, SW

Table. Sample Characteristics and Visit Outcomes	Eligible	Completed Virtual Home Visit
	N (%)	N (%)
Total	109 (100)	76 (70)
Patient Portal Access Assistance		8 (11)
Medical Referral		9 (12)
Early Intervention Referral		9 (12)
Parent Support/Mental Health Referral		26 (34)
Financial/Material Resource Referral		14 (18)
Completed First In-person Clinic Appointment		67 (88)

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine
Litt et al. *J Perinatol*, in press
Confidential

37

Systematic Review

A Development

Study	Time point	Sample size	Statistics for each study	Standard difference in means, 95% CI	Weight (Random)
Baron et al. (1986)	12 months	19	0.982 (0.340-1.624)		6.82
Beckwith (1996)	13 months	39	-0.001 (0.229-0.229)		12.47
Carroll et al. (1982)	12 months	52	0.203 (0.201-0.205)		15.51
Falks et al. (1981, 1982)	8 months	27	0.980 (0.264-1.696)		10.99
Furuta et al. (1985, 1986)	8 months	16	0.024 (0.423-0.374)		7.89
Ministry of Health, Canada (1987, 1988)	12 months	34	0.027 (0.224-0.170)		12.63
Reichler et al. (1987, 1988)	12 months	21	0.366 (0.115-0.617)		10.43
Ross (1984)	12 months	40	1.190 (0.274-1.680)		12.27
Zahr (2002)	12 months	18	0.190 (0.040-0.340)		6.82

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.18; I² = 24.8; df = 8 (P = .002); P = 67.8%
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.27, P < .001

B Child-Parent Interaction

Study	Time point	Sample size	Statistics for each study	Standard difference in means, 95% CI	Weight (Random)
Chen et al. (1992)	12 months	80	0.813 (0.262-1.364)		30.91
Froehlich et al. (1996)	12 months	20	0.890 (0.339-1.441)		13.59
Ministry of Health, Canada (1987, 1988)	12 months	12	0.428 (0.283-0.573)		7.79
Ross (1984)	12 months	40	0.887 (0.287-1.487)		25.02
Falks et al. (1981, 1982)	8 months	27	0.973 (0.269-1.677)		10.54
Baron et al. (1986)	12 months	19	0.982 (0.340-1.624)		11.21

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; I² = 0.0; df = 6 (P = .773); P = 8.2%
Test for overall effect: Z = 6.26, P < .001

Goyal et al. *Pediatrics*, 2013
Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine
Confidential

38

Maintain Support for Families through Infancy

Early Intervention

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine
Confidential

39

Early Intervention

IDEA Part C – Early Education for Children with Disabilities

- Funds model-demonstration projects, research institutes, outreach activities, data systems, technical assistance
- Comprehensive, community-based program of integrated developmental services which uses a family centered approach to facilitate the developmental progress of children whose developmental patterns are atypical or are at serious risk to become atypical through the influence of certain biological or environmental factors
- Eligibility: specified conditions, “at risk”-defined by states
- Therapeutic program: interventions tailored to child’s needs-difficult to evaluate
 - PT, OT, SLT
 - Developmental Specialist
 - Hippo, aqua

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine
Confidential

40

Early Intervention

- 93% VLBW infants enrolled in EI in Massachusetts, though considerably fewer among non-Hispanic black, poor, and less educated families
Barfield, et al., 2008
- 54% eligible children in South Carolina enrolled, with neurologic risk, black race, and Medicaid associated with higher enrollment rates
Wang, et al., 2009
- Living in neighborhoods with high proportion poverty and Spanish speakers associated with delays in provider assignment
Kim, et al., 2009

Probability of EI participation according to FPL and state EI eligibility category for a cohort of children (N = 900) at risk for adverse neurodevelopment.

McManus, et al. *Pediatrics*, 2009
Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine
Confidential

41

Early Intervention

- No large-scale effectiveness study for preterm infants
- Participation is associated with improved functional skills in childhood

Table 4. Early Intervention Service Dimensions and Skills at School Age

	Academic Skills Rating		Physical Skills Rating	
	Unadjusted Model, OR (95% CI)	Weighted IPTW Model, OR (95% CI)	Unadjusted Model, OR (95% CI)	Weighted IPTW Model, OR (95% CI)
Timing, months	0.99 (0.96-1.02)	0.85 (0.43-0.98)	0.99 (0.95-1.02)	0.61 (0.40-0.93)
Duration, months	0.99 (0.96-1.02)	1.47 (0.98-2.22)	0.98 (0.96-1.02)	1.41 (0.95-0.98)
Intensity, months	0.62 (0.49-0.78)	1.05 (0.98-1.12)	0.70 (0.55-0.90)	1.00 (0.70-1.32)
Breadth, number of service types	0.87 (0.80-0.94)	1.74 (0.95-3.23)	0.93 (0.86-1.01)	1.86 (1.03-3.36)

Litt, et al. J Pediatrics, 2017


- Parents satisfied with services and feel that program participation improved their lives
- Improved parent self-efficacy

Litt, et al. PAS Abstract, 2014
Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine
Confidential

42

Preterm Birth and Early Developmental Intervention

- Cognitive Outcomes
 - Infancy: SMD 0.27 SD, 95% CI 0.15 to 0.40
 - Preschool age: SMD 0.39 SD, 95% CI 0.29 to 0.50
 - School age: SMD 0.16 SD, 95% CI -0.06 to 0.38
- Motor Outcomes
 - Infancy: SMD 0.12 SD, 95% CI 0.04 to 0.19
 - Preschool age: SMD 0.08 SD, 95% CI -0.16 to 0.32
 - School age: SMD -0.06 SD, 95% CI -0.31 to 0.18



Orton et al, *Cochrane Reviews*, 2024

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 43

43

Maintain Support for Families through Infancy

Parental Mental Health

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 44

44

Poll Questions

Support Through Infancy

1. Parents of infants in my unit receive the mental health support they need.

a. True – 37%

b. False – 63%

Select your answer(s) and click "Submit"

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 45

45

Parent-Child Interaction

Victorian Infant Brain Studies (ViBeS) Plus

- Parent education intervention from NICU discharge from the NICU to 1 year
- Topics included: infant self-regulation and strategies to promote physical development.
- In an RCT, primary caregivers in the intervention group reported less anxiety and depression when compared with the control group.

Mother Infant Transaction Program (MITP)

- Multicomponent intervention focused on educating and empowering parents to recognize their child's behavior, temperament, cues, and developmental stage.
- Nurses to the parents of infants in the NICU beginning one week prior to discharge and continuing through the first three months at home.
- RCT with the intervention group showing higher observed maternal sensitivity/responsiveness at 12 months corrected age, with greater effects seen in first-time mothers.

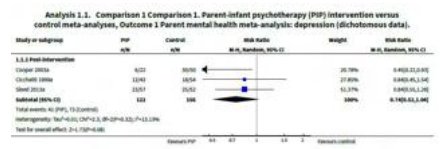
Givrad et al, *Early Human Development*, 2021

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 46

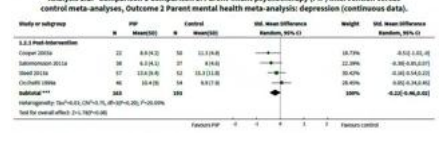
46

Parent-infant Psychotherapy

Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1. Parent-infant psychotherapy (PIP) intervention versus control meta-analysis, Outcome 1 Parent mental health meta-analysis: depression (dichotomous data).



Analysis 1.2. Comparison 1. Parent-infant psychotherapy (PIP) intervention versus control meta-analysis, Outcome 2 Parent mental health meta-analysis: depression (continuous data).



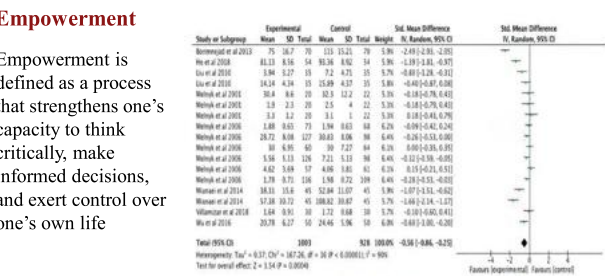
Barlow et al, *Cochrane Library*, 2015

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 47

47

Empowerment

Empowerment is defined as a process that strengthens one's capacity to think critically, make informed decisions, and exert control over one's own life

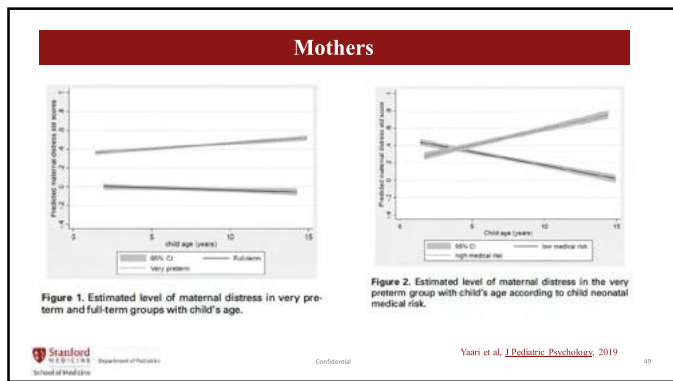


Zhang et al, *Patient Education and Counseling*, 2021

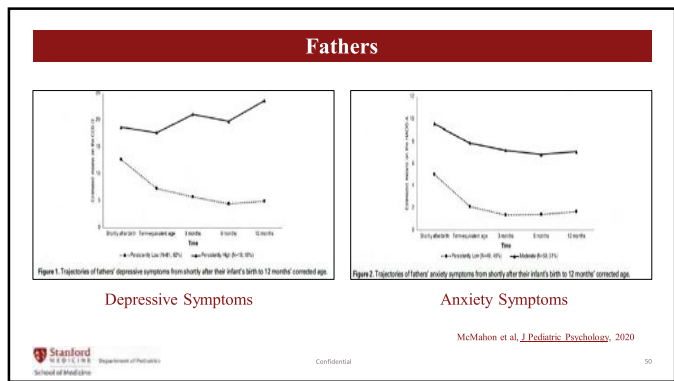
Fig. 2. Overall effect of empowerment programs on parental mental health.

Stanford University Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine Confidential 48

48



49



50

Summary & Future Directions

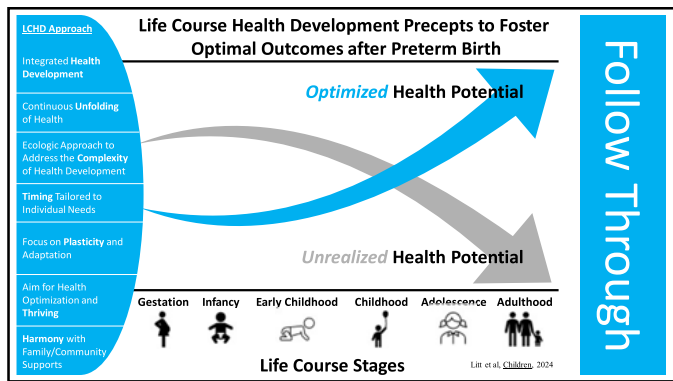
Stanford University School of Medicine | Department of Pediatrics | Confidential | 51

51

- No data on efficacy or effectiveness of HRIF as currently delivered for clinical care
- Early developmental interventions, transition home, and home visiting have beneficial near-term effects
- Early screening and identification of developmental challenges are time-sensitive and critical for improving outcomes
- Parents are vulnerable to mental health challenges due to NICU experiences, impact is long-lasting
- SDoH have outsized impact on child and family outcomes, now learning about screening/supports in HRIF

Stanford University School of Medicine | Department of Pediatrics | Confidential | 52

52



53

Potentially Better Practices for Follow Through

- I. Promote a Culture of Equity
- II. Identify Social Risks of Families and Provide Interventions to Prevent and Mitigate Those Risks
- III. Take Action to Assist Families After Discharge (Transition to Home)
- IV. Maintain Support for Families through Infancy
- V. Develop Robust Quality Improvement Efforts to Ensure Equitable, High-Quality Hospital and Follow-through Care to All Newborns by Eliminating Modifiable Disparities
- VI. Advocate for Social Justice at the Local, State, and National Levels

Stanford University School of Medicine | Department of Pediatrics | Confidential | 54

54

Coming Soon....
Potentially Better Practices for Follow-through Toolkit

<u>Contributing Experts</u>	<u>Project Team</u>
Alejandra Barrero-Castillero	Danielle Ehret
Yarden Fraiman	Erika Edwards
Susan Hwang	Jonathan Litt
Kayla Karvonen	Denise Zayack
Diana Montoya-Williams	
Margaret Parker	
DeWayne Pursley	
Elizabeth Rogers	
Gaby Cordova Ramos	



Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 55

55

Thank You!

Jonathan S Litt, MD MPH ScD
Department of Pediatrics
Stanford University School of Medicine
jlitt@stanford.edu



Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 56

56

Vermont Oxford NETWORK Guest discussants

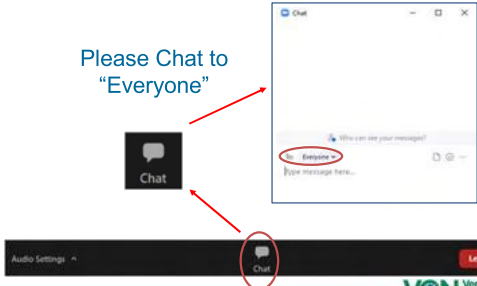
	
Sunah Hwang MD PhD MPH/MSPH Associate Professor, Pediatrics-Neonatology Children's Hospital Colorado University of Colorado Hospital	Erika Edwards PhD Research Professor University of Vermont Chief Scientific Officer, Vermont Oxford Network

Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 57

57

Questions? Comments? Ideas to Share?

Please Chat to "Everyone"



Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 58

58

Extremely Low Birth Weight Follow-Up Database

Benefits of ELBW Follow-Up Benchmarking and Measurement

- Improve counseling of parents
- Plan and advocate for resources to help families transition beyond the NICU
- Understand health care disparities
- Identify areas for additional research and quality improvement
- Optional reporting groups of similar centers for targeted benchmarking

Features:

- Data collection on ELBW infants at 3-6 months and 18-24 months corrected age
- Annual reporting with key Follow-Up performance metrics
- Regularly scheduled webinars
- Follow Through quality improvement toolkit


<https://public.vtoxford.org/elbw-follow-up>

Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 59

59

Continuing Education Credit

Access Certificate



Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Confidential 60

60



Future sessions

VON Grand Rounds 2025

- 1. February 2025: Evidence to Practice: Therapeutic Cooling
- 2. May 2025: Evidence to Practice: Eat - Sleep - Console
- 3. August 2025: Evidence to Practice: Oxygen in the NICU
- 4. November 2025: Evidence to Practice: The NICU Environment



61



All Care is Brain Care



62



All Care is Brain Care in 2025-2026

- Bundling Care to Reduce IVH
- Neuroprotective Lung Strategies
- Reducing Pain and Pokes
- Optimizing Neurodevelopment for Infants with BPD
- Promoting Parental Wellbeing and Health Equity

QI Collaborative Info: <https://public.vtoxford.org/quality-education/brain-care>



63