

Dear NIDCAP Community,



*The little reed, bending to the force of the wind,
soon stood upright again when the storm had passed over.*

Aesop

Signs of recovery and resilience abound. While some areas around the world are still in crisis - others are steadying. Hospitals are again welcoming family participation. Travel is beginning to resume. In-person NIDCAP training is being scheduled. We may be forever changed by the coronavirus pandemic. Yet, some of these changes may be positive ones and may help us more easily and readily *change the future for newborns and infants in intensive care and their families*. Time will tell what the lasting effects will be though we (the NFI) are weathering this storm with strength, creativity and dedication.

Inspirations and accomplishments from our group also abound! The NFI Board of Directors held its Mid-Year Meeting two weeks ago. Just since October (which marks the beginning of the NFI year), an impressive amount of progress from our committees and subcommittees was reported. Here are a number of our highlights.

From the NFI: NIDCAP Nursery Program as a Lighthouse Project recognized by the EFCNI

From the Program Committee: Training capacity increased (New- NIDCAP Master Trainer in Training, NIDCAP Trainer, NIDCAP Training Center and three NIDCAP Trainers in Training) • NIDCAP and APIB training process updated • NIDCAP and APIB guidelines for online training in development • NIDCAP Nursery Manual being updated and also translated into Japanese • NIDCAP Nursery Certification Application received • First ever virtual Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting held and plans for second one underway • Survey on hospital care practices for infants and families during the pandemic published • Three editions NIDCAP-relevant research summaries shared • Regular meetings for the Program Committee's

leaders formed • Mentoring sessions for Spanish speaking NIDCAP Trainers held • Five endorsements (including programs, courses, conferences) approved

From the Governance Committee: Financial Oversight occurred • Two new membership categories (Retired Professionals and Allied) added • Membership brochure drafted • Membership information for new website's database uploaded • *NFI Annual Budgetary Development and Communication Process* document prepared

From the Advancement Committee: Third annual World NIDCAP Day (and month) honored • Annual poster of NIDCAP care around the world shared • New www.nidcap.org website launched • Online NFI Learning Center created • Inaugural webinar offered • Initial episodes of first podcast series released • Series of short films for NIDCAP-related family support shared • Two new fundraising policies approved • Abstract Edition of the *Developmental Observer* published • New committee member added • Family Advisory Council new co-chair and members added and NFI activities supported • NFI campaigns raised funds • Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting sponsorship support received

From the Finance Committee: Income and expenditures for first half of year overseen and shared with the Board • End of year projections presented to the Board • NFI FY2021-22 Preliminary Budget, prepared with input from all board committees, presented to the Board • New committee member added

Join us as we continue to see what is possible as our year continues to unfold. Depending on your availability and interest... there is a project and/or a committee that would welcome your participation. Please reach out and we will match you with our next steps. We are also interested in hearing about your NIDCAP-related work in your part of the world so that we may learn, celebrate and share your efforts with others!

NFI Updates & News

NIDCAP TRAINING CENTERS WORLDWIDE



NIDCAP Updates



Renew Your Membership for the NFI FY 2020-2021!

Categories: **Professional · Retired Professional · Professional-in-Training · Family · Allied**

Please contact **Sandra Kosta**

(nfimembership@nidcap.org) with questions.



32nd Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting

October 20-22, 2021

A virtual video conference

Call for Abstracts and Journal Club Submissions

Our upcoming Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting will include Abstract and Journal Club Sessions. Submissions are open to all NFI Members.

Abstract Submission Deadline: Friday, July 16th

Please see the attached documents for details. Contact *Dalia Silberstein, RN, PhD* with questions (nidcapandscience@nidcap.org)

Journal Club Submission Deadline: Thursday, July 15

Please contact *Juzer Tyebkhan, MB* with questions and interest (juzer.tyebkhan@ahs.ca).



NEW Family Resource Videos – June 1st

The NEXT THREE short films on NIDCAP have been released on our website's [Learning Center](#)!

What is the NIDCAP approach? (Jim Helm)

What is Developmental Care? (Jim Helm)

How can I help my baby's brain

development? (gretchen Lawhon)

More videos will be added to our resources over the coming months. This project was created with funding support from Dräger and under the direction of *Jim Helm and Jennifer Degl.*



Upcoming Conference

Dorothy Vittner, PhD, RN is speaking at the [NICU Parent Network Live! presents... Member Action Meeting Examining the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on NICU Families](#) on June 5th. Her presentation is entitled *Supporting Non-Separation to Enhance Infant Development*. All are welcome to register for the two-day (June 4 – 5) meeting.

*** Very exciting publication on Skin to Skin Holding***

Björn Westrup, MD, PhD, Co-Director of the Karolinska NIDCAP Training Center, and the other members of the WHO Immediate KMC Study Group have been participating in a Bill and Melinda Gates-funded research study on the critical importance of Kangaroo Mother Care initiated from birth on survival for preterm and low birthweight newborns. Powerfully, a 25% lower mortality was found for families from low- and middle income countries.

Immediate “Kangaroo Mother Care” and Survival of Infants with Low Birth Weight. WHO Immediate KMC Study Group. [May 27, 2021 N Engl J Med 2021; 384:2028-2038.](#)
(<https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa2026486>)

From the [Press Release](#): *The best way to nurture the newly born low birthweight baby, including in high-income countries, is through ongoing skin-to-skin contact with the mother, in a mother-newborn couplet care unit that provides care and medical treatment for both.* said **Dr Bjorn Westrup, of the Karolinska Institute, Sweden, and a technical expert for the study.**

Please also see this inspiring [short video](#), edited by *Stina Klemming, MD*, Director of the Karolinska NIDCAP Training Center.

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Immediate “Kangaroo Mother Care” and Survival of Infants with Low Birth Weight

WHO Immediate KMC Study Group*

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND “Kangaroo mother care,” a type of newborn care involving skin-to-skin contact with the mother or other caregiver, reduces mortality in infants with low birth weight (<2.0 kg) when initiated after stabilization, but the majority of deaths occur before stabilization. The safety and efficacy of kangaroo mother care initiated soon after birth among infants with low birth weight are uncertain.

DESIGN We conducted a randomized, controlled trial in five hospitals in Ghana, India, Malawi, Nigeria, and Tanzania involving infants with a birth weight between 1.0 and 2.250 kg who were assigned to receive immediate kangaroo mother care (intervention) or conventional care in an incubator or a radiant warmer until their condition stabilized and kangaroo mother care thereafter (control). The primary outcomes were death in the neonatal period (the first 28 days of life) and, in the first 72 hours of life, the fat-free mass (grams) and the rate of the occurrence of two or more complications (respiratory distress, hypotension, or hypoglycemia).

RESULTS A total of 3711 infants and their mothers were randomly assigned to the intervention group (1919 infants with their mothers) or the control group (1802 infants with their mothers). The median daily duration of skin-to-skin contact in the neonatal intensive care unit was 343 hours (interquartile range, 143 to 787) in the intervention group and 176 hours (interquartile range, 83 to 336) in the control group. Neonatal death occurred in the first 28 days in 191 infants in the intervention group (10.0%) and in 360 infants in the control group (20.0%). Relative risk of death, 0.7% (95% confidence interval [CI], 0.64 to 0.88; P=0.001); neonatal death in the first 72 hours of life occurred in 146 infants in the intervention group (46.0%) and in 192 infants in the control group (18.8%) (relative risk of death, 0.73; 95% CI, 0.58 to 0.94; P<0.001). The trial was stopped early on the recommendation of the data and safety monitoring board owing to the finding of reduced mortality among infants receiving immediate kangaroo mother care.

CONCLUSIONS Among infants with a birth weight between 1.0 and 2.250 kg, those who received immediate kangaroo mother care had lower mortality at 28 days than those who received conventional care with kangaroo mother care initiated after stabilization; the between-group difference favoring immediate kangaroo mother care at 72 hours was not significant. (Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry number, ACTRN12618000000000; ClinicalTrials.gov registry number, CTX1800000000000000.)

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2026486

NFI Board of Directors



NFI FY 2020-21 Board Members & Executive Council

Video Conference Call Minutes

When available, the full NFI Board of Director Minutes will be posted within our website's Membership Section. The following are **HIGHLIGHTS** from the Mid-Year Board Meeting discussions.

May 19-20, 2021

- *The Mid Year Meeting took place over two days. The first day focused on Board Development with Mary Hiland, PhD sharing her perspectives on the structures effective non-profit Board of Directors share. The second day was devoted to Board business.*
- *M. Hiland's presentation was thought provoking and prompted thoughtful discussion. This topic will continue to be explored in the future.*
- *The Mid-Year Reports from the Program, Advancement and Governance Committees, the President's Report and the Finance Committee's Report were approved.*
- *There has been a gratifying growth in the development of NIDCAP Trainers as well as anticipated certifications of NIDCAP Training Centers.*
- *The Program and Advancement Committees shared accomplishments in opening up the initial phase of the NFI's Learning Center on the website, which has promise for both outreach and revenue.*

Your feedback, questions, comments, NFI updates, and membership news written to me personally and/or to the whole board, are welcome.

Sending very best wishes to everyone,

Deborah

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