

Research projects Ragnhild Maastrup

Extremely preterm infants' reactions to skin-to-skin contact.

Aim: To determine whether clinically stable extremely preterm infants could maintain their temperature during skin-to-skin contact and to screen for other negative effects.

Method: Pre-test, test, post-test intervention study

Published: 2010.

Breastfeeding support in neonatal intensive care

Aim: To describe breastfeeding support at neonatal intensive care units in Denmark.

Method: Survey with 100% participation of Danish NICUs.

Published 2012

Factors influencing breastfeeding of preterm infants.

Aim: To investigate the association between early breast milk expression, early initiation of skin-to-skin contact, rooming-in, nipple shield use, test weighing, and pacifier use, and the establishment of exclusive breastfeeding at discharge, as well as at a predefined interval after discharge. A further aim was to describe rates of breastfeeding duration at predefined times in various preterm GA groups, to analyze the PMA at breastfeeding milestones in various preterm GA groups, and to analyze factors associated with PMA at establishment of exclusive breastfeeding.

Method: A national longitudinal survey on breastfeeding of preterm infants with participation of 1488 preterm infants from all Danish NICUs .

Multicentre study led by Ragnhild Maastrup

Published: 2014

Effect of evidence based breastfeeding support to families with preterm infants – from evidence to practice.

Aim: To investigate the effect of staff education in evidence based breastfeeding support, implementation of breastfeeding rounds, and use of decision-making materials – on percentage of preterm infants exclusively breastfed at discharge and on length of hospitalization.

Method: A quasi-experimental intervention study. Pre-study with prospective surveys to mothers of 500 preterm infants, intervention, post-study with prospective surveys to mothers of 500 preterm infants from half of the Danish NICUs. Project period 2016 – 2019.

Multicentre study led by Ragnhild Maastrup

Measuring compliance with the Neo-BFHI. International Self-Assessment survey of policies and practices to protect, promote and support breastfeeding in neonatal wards.

Aim: To assess compliance with the Neo-BFHI recommendations of breastfeeding-related practices in neonatal wards in more than 30 countries from all continents.

Method: A Neo-BFHI Self-Appraisal Tool modeled after the one published by the WHO/UNICEF BFHI package was adapted and renamed the Neo-BFHI Self-Assessment questionnaire and sent online to the medical or nurse manager of each neonatal ward.

Multicentre study led by Ragnhild Maastrup, Denmark, and Laura N Haiek, Quebec Canada.

Published: 2018