

## The Late Preterm Infant

### Objectives

- Define the “Late Preterm” period including a description of the risk factors and related pathophysiology associated with this group of infants
- Outline approaches to care addressing the risk factors related to the late preterm population
- Emphasize the critical points in discharge planning that focus on the risk factors known to increase hospital readmissions in the late preterm population

### Content Outline

1. Definition of Late Preterm Infant
2. Risk Factors & Associated Pathophysiology for the Late Preterm Infant
  - 2.1 Feeding Difficulties
  - 2.2 Temperature Instability
  - 2.3 Hypoglycemia
  - 2.4 Jaundice & Hyperbilirubinemia
  - 2.5 Respiratory Distress
  - 2.6 Increased Readmission Rate
3. Approaches to Risk-Related Care Planning
  - 3.1 General Considerations
  - 3.2 Feeding Difficulties
  - 3.3 Temperature Instability
  - 3.4 Hypoglycemia
  - 3.5 Jaundice
  - 3.6 Respiratory Distress
4. Discharge Planning
  - 4.1 Medical Home Follow-Up
  - 4.2 Feeding Competency
  - 4.3 Thermoregulation
  - 4.4 Vital Signs
  - 4.5 Parent Education

### Reading Material Resources

This self assessment module is based on the resources listed below.

The reading materials are in the form of a PDF file and can be accessed from the online testing center once the module is purchased.

NCC PowerPoint Educational Resource, The Late Preterm Infant, Byrd, Frances H., NCC, Chicago, IL 2009.