Module 1825

Objectives

- Summarize the evidence, citing effects and mechanisms, which support skin-to-skin contact as a means to provide physiologic, psychospiritual and environmental stability and comfort in infants especially the preterm dealing with additional medical stressors.

- Through pilot study findings, recognize that non-invasive tasks involved in care of the preterm infant can induce stress-related responses and identify the potential benefits of skin-to-skin contact in reducing such responses.

Content Outline

1. The Role of Skin-to-Skin Contact (SSC) on Extrauterine Adaptation of the Preterm Infant
   1.1 Signs of fetal comfort & Kolcaba’s Comfort Theory
   1.2 Effects & mechanisms of SSC
      1.2.1 Physiologic realm of stability, warmth, sleep
      1.2.2 Psychospiritual realm of pain & stress reduction
      1.2.3 Environmental realm of access to breast milk
   1.3 Clinical practice implications based on evidence presented

2. Study of Skin-to-Skin Contact’s Impact on Preterm Infants’ Stress Reactions to Diaper Change
   2.1 Selection of sample subjects and procedure
   2.2 Role of the Skin Conductance Algesimeter (SCA) for measurements
   2.3 Results and conclusions of study

Reading Material Resources

Module WB1825: Role of Skin-to-Skin Contact for Preterm Infants is based on the resources listed below. A copy of the resources are included with the module.
