

Step 4: Evidence- Based Care During the Golden Hour



Neczypor and Holley

Becoming Baby-Friendly in Oklahoma Webinar

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Becky Mannel, MPH, IBCLC, FILCA



**OKLAHOMA
BREASTFEEDING
RESOURCE CENTER**



Welcome to Sara Bellatti

OBRC Staff Assistant



- Comes from the OU Office of Medical Education
- MS from Oklahoma City University
- Enjoys her 2 Welsh Corgis



Objectives

- Review concept of the “golden hour”
- Review current Baby-Friendly USA Criteria for Step 4
- Review current evidence for golden hour practices
- Describe a sample golden hour protocol

Michael Odent – French OB in 1977, described newborns seeking the breast in the first hour of life



Key Golden Hour Elements

Skin-to-skin contact

Delayed cord clamping

Breastfeeding

Delay of non-urgent tasks

Baby-Friendly USA Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria – Step 4

○STEP 4: Help mothers initiate breastfeeding within one hour of birth.

Place infants in skin-to-skin contact with their mothers **immediately following birth for at least an hour** and encourage mothers to recognize when their infants are ready to breastfeed, offering help if needed.

Baby-Friendly USA Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria – Step 4

- All mothers should be given their infants to hold with **uninterrupted and continuous skin-to-skin contact immediately after birth** and until the completion of the first feeding,
 - unless there are documented medically justifiable reasons for delayed contact or interruption.
- **Routine procedures** (e.g. assessments, Apgar scores, etc.) should be done **with the infant skin-to-skin** with the mother.
- **Procedures requiring separation** of the mother and infant (bathing, for example) should be **delayed until after this initial period** of skin-to-skin contact and should be conducted, whenever feasible, at the mother's bedside.
- Additionally, skin-to-skin contact **should be encouraged throughout the hospital stay**.

Baby-Friendly USA Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria – Step 4

- **After cesarean birth**, mothers and their infants should be placed in continuous, uninterrupted skin-to-skin contact
 - as soon as the **mother is responsive and alert**,
 - with the same staff support identified above regarding feeding cues,
 - **unless separation is medically indicated.**
- In the event that a mother and/or infant are separated for documented medical reasons, **skin-to-skin contact will be initiated as soon as the mother and infant are reunited.**

Baby-Friendly USA Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria – Skin-to-Skin Contact

Skin-to-skin contact (STS) – Skin-to-skin contact or skin-to-skin care refers to contact between the newborn infant and its mother.

- In the case of incapacitation of the mother, another adult, such as the infant's father or grandparent, may hold the infant skin-to-skin.
- After birth, the **infant is completely dried and placed naked** against the mother's naked ventral surface.

Baby-Friendly USA Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria – Skin-to-Skin Contact

- The infant **may wear a diaper and/or a hat**, but no other clothing should be between the mother's and infant's bodies.
- The **infant and mother are then covered with a warm blanket**, keeping the infant's head uncovered.
- STS should be encouraged **beyond the first hours** and into the first days after birth and beyond.

What does the evidence say about golden hour practices?



Impact of the Golden Hour - INFANT

- DECREASED RISK OF:
 - Hypothermia
 - hypoglycemia
- Stabilizes respiratory rate and blood pressure
- Decreases newborn stress hormones
- Supports optimal brain development
- Increased oxytocin protects newborn from effects of sudden separation from the mother (similar to drug withdrawal)
- Increased breastfeeding exclusivity and duration



Skin-to-Skin (STS) Contact Impact

- Increased time in quiet alert state
- Decreased infant crying
- Improved interactions between mother and infant
- **Dose-dependent relationship between STS and breastfeeding**
 - STS 31-60 minutes or more = increased percentage breastfeeding at 3 months

Impact of the Golden Hour - MOTHER

- Increased oxytocin
 - Decreased postpartum bleeding
 - Decreased risk for postpartum hemorrhage
 - More rapid delivery of placenta and uterine involution
- Decreased maternal anxiety
- Increased confidence in parenting skills
- Increased breastfeeding exclusivity and duration
- Increased maternal satisfaction



Who is at risk of not having STS contact?

Less Likely to Have STS Contact

- Primiparity
- Higher-risk pregnancy
- Surgical birth

BOX 1

Variables Associated With Greater Likelihood of Skin-to-Skin Contact During the Golden Hour

1. Receiving midwifery care as opposed to physician care
2. Multiparity
3. Low-risk pregnancy status
4. Being married or partnered
5. Having completed secondary school
6. Experiencing a spontaneous vaginal birth
7. Accessing private rather than public health care
8. Giving birth to a newborn who does not require NICU admission

Source: Biro, Yelland, and Brown (2015).

**What is the impact of increased
breastfeeding duration??**

DID YOU KNOW??

Breastfeeding is a
women's health issue

2619
deaths

| DISEASE | | CASES PREVENTED |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Breast cancer |  | 5,023 |
| Type 2 diabetes |  | 12,320 |
| Hypertension |  | 35,982 |
| Heart attacks |  | 8,487 |

DID YOU KNOW??

... and a *children's health issue*

CASES PREVENTED

185



DISEASE

Leukemia

601,825



Ear infections

271



Crohn's disease &
Ulcerative colitis

2,558,629



GI infections

20,900



Severe lower
respiratory infections

45,298



Childhood obesity

1355



Necrotizing Enterocolitis



DID YOU KNOW??

For every 597 women who optimally breastfeed, **one maternal OR child death is prevented.**

- Maternal Child Nutrition 2017

Enabling **optimal breastfeeding**
would prevent **2619 maternal deaths**
& 721 child deaths *annually in the U.S.*

Describe a sample golden hour protocol

- Neczypor JL and Holley SL. *Providing Evidence-Based Care During the Golden Hour*. Nursing for Women's Health. 2018: Vol 21;6, p 462-472.

Key Golden Hour Elements

Delayed cord clamping

Skin-to-skin contact

Breastfeeding

Delay of non-urgent tasks

Delayed Cord Clamping

- WHO recommends clamping 1-3 minutes after birth
- American College of Nurse-Midwives (2014):
 - 5 minutes for term newborns
 - 2 minutes for term newborns placed at or below level of placenta
 - 30-60 seconds for preterm newborns



Delayed Cord Clamping

- Allows for placental transfusion of blood to newborn
- Increased birth weight
- Greater iron stores at 6 months of age
- Decreases need for neonatal blood transfusions
- Decreases risk of
 - necrotizing enterocolitis
 - Iron-deficiency anemia
 - Intraventricular hemorrhage

What about maternal HIV or Hepatitis B?

- Current WHO guidelines: proven benefits of cord clamping outweigh theoretical risk of HIV transmission
- Extra 1-3 minutes of placental blood flow have not been shown to increase risk of HIV transmission from mother to newborn
- Exception: newborns in need of immediate resuscitation
- AFTER delayed cord clamping with HIV or Hep B
 - Promptly bathe newborn with gentle soap and warm water
 - Return to mother for STS contact

Immediate Skin-to-Skin Contact

- Place dried, unclothed newborn directly on mother's chest/abdomen just after birth
- No routine bulb suctioning
- Use dry towel to wipe away secretions from mouth/nose



Neczypor and Holley

Delay Non-Urgent Tasks

- Perform initial assessment of newborn on mother's abdomen
- Postpone weighing and bathing for at least 1 hour
- **Uninterrupted** bonding time



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What's
wrong
with this
picture??

Initiate Breastfeeding

- Help mother recognize early feeding cues
- Offer support as needed
- Complete first feeding before considering removing infant from STS contact



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Exclusion Criteria (postpone, modify, waive)

○ MATERNAL

- Recent opioid administration leading to altered state of consciousness
- Extensive repair of perineal lacerations
- Extreme maternal exhaustion
- Postpartum hemorrhage
- Other maternal emergencies

Exclusion Criteria (postpone, modify, waive)

○ NEWBORN

- Extreme preterm birth (<34 weeks)
- Neonatal respiratory distress
- Cyanosis
- Elevated infection risk (maternal temp $\geq 101^\circ\text{F}$)
- Congenital anomalies that may lead to cardiopulmonary issues
- Perinatal depression signs (apnea, bradycardia, decreased muscle tone)
- Birth of a nonvigorous neonate through meconium-stained fluid

Exclusion Criteria (postpone, modify, waive)

- NEWBORN

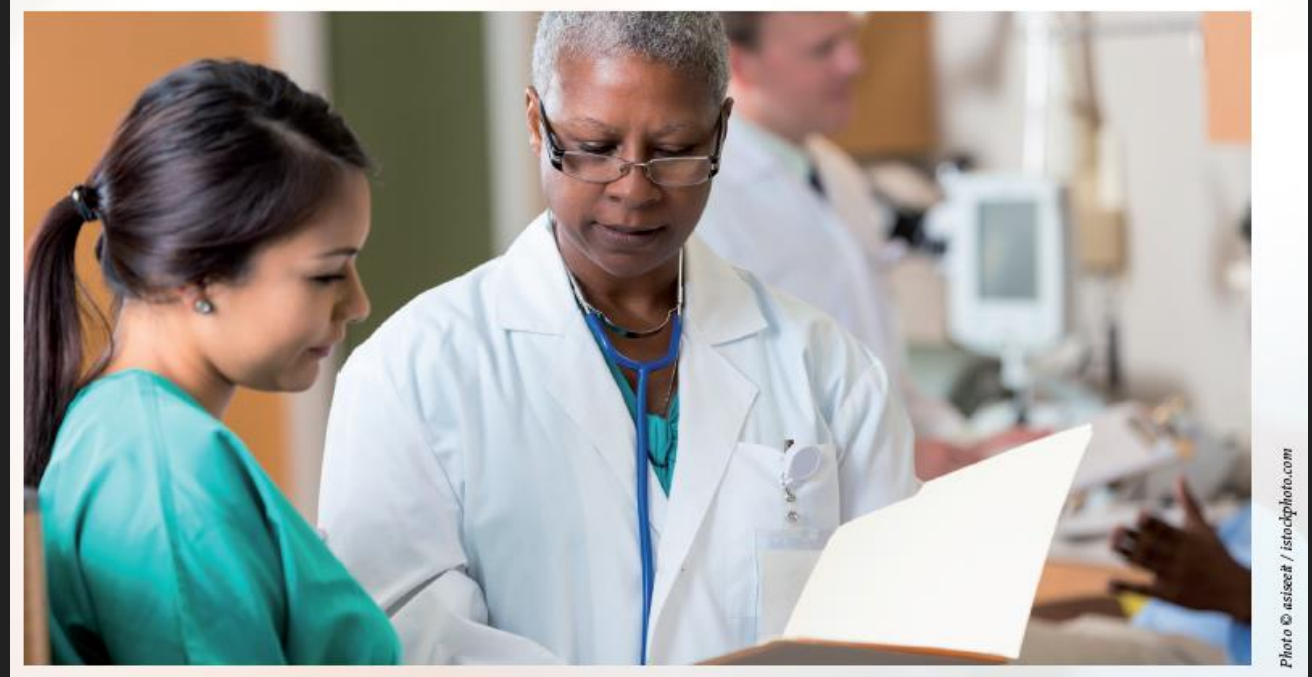
- **Stabilize the neonate before attempting to initiate the Golden Hour**

- **NOTE**: skin-to-skin contact for SGA neonates (<2,000g) significantly reduces mortality in low and middle income countries

?? Do we need a Golden Hour protocol for high-risk infants??

Implementing a Golden Hour Protocol

- Evaluate existing policies
- Multidisciplinary stakeholders
 - Anesthesiology support
- Address additional staffing needs
- Reduce interruptions in first hour
- Training for staff and physicians
- Conduct a pilot test (PDSA!)



Common Barriers - Internal

- Will this new protocol change my workflow, my routine?
- How do we admit the newborn without a weight?
- Long-standing practices such as immediate cord clamping or early bathing
- Perception that the newborn is safer under the warmer
- Staffing ratios that limit practice changes
- Lack of knowledge of staff and/or families on importance of Golden Hour



BabyCenter Blog

Common Barriers - External

- Mother's privacy concerns
- Desire of other family members to hold the newborn
- Frequent interruptions by hospital staff
 - New mothers view this as **exhausting, stressful and detrimental to bonding**



Financial and Quality Measures

- Implementation costs:
 - IT support
 - Creating new educational materials for staff and families
 - Staff training
- Value-based health care – Managed care bundles
 - Decreased NICU admissions
 - Decreased newborn complications (e.g. hyperbilirubinemia)
- Patient satisfaction
 - **Increased maternal satisfaction when mothers hold their newborns early and longer**



Questions?
Comments?



BBFOK Training Updates

- New links for MD education on OBRC website:

- <http://www.ouhsc.edu/breastfeeding/Training.aspx>

Physician Webinar Series



The [Maryland Hospital Breastfeeding Policy Committee](#) coordinated a six-lecture series of free webinars about breastfeeding-related topics that were broadcasted in September and October 2016. The webinars are available as recordings here. Each of these educational opportunities features a different topic and is provided by expert physicians in the field. Continuing medical education credit is available at no charge, and all medical practitioners are welcome. Note: training sessions will help fulfill the Baby Friendly USA and the Maryland Hospital Breastfeeding Policy Recommendations.

Presenters and webinar topics are listed below:

[Safe Implementation of the Ten Steps](#)

Lori Feldman-Winter, MD, MPH

[Helping your breastfeeding patients succeed: Prenatal Breastfeeding Support, Delay in Lactation, and The Infant Who Won't Latch](#)

Anne Eglash, MD, IBCLC, FABM