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Abstract Information

Title: The influence of organizational context on implementing an online, multifaceted intervention for improving infant pain practices in the NICU: Pilot study findings

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Abstract

(250 word maximum)

Purpose: Several organizational contextual factors (e.g., organizational culture, resources, leadership) typical of complex, high-stress neonatal intensive care units (NICU) have been associated with the effective implementation of new knowledge on pain practices. We explored the perspectives of healthcare professionals (HCPs), unit managers, and senior leaders about how organizational context may influence the implementation of the Infant Pain Practice Change (ImPaC) Resource, a web-based tool to improve infant pain practices.

Methods: A mixed method, convergent parallel study design was used. Data from qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys at one pilot site were collected and analyzed separately, then combined for data interpretation. Two HCPs who used the Resource, 1 NICU manager, 2 senior leaders at a Canadian pediatric hospital participated in individual interviews. Eight HCPs who used the Resource completed the Alberta Context Tool (ACT), a validated survey to assess 10 organizational contextual factors in their unit.

Results: Qualitative findings suggested that the development of an on-site interdisciplinary pain committee, an organizational culture open to change, resource availability, leadership support, and prioritization of pain management were associated with effective implementation. Results from the ACT including informal interactions within an interdisciplinary team (M=6.94, SD=1.29), leadership support (M=4.06, SD=0.12), resource availability (M=5.81, SD=1.85), and receiving routine feedback on performance (M=3.94, SD=0.51), were most highly associated with implementation effectiveness.

Conclusions: Key factors considered by stakeholders as associated with effective implementation included leadership support, resource access, and communication within interdisciplinary teams. This knowledge can be useful in selecting effective strategies to improve implementation process and outcomes.