



## NEONATAL RESUSCITATION: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

## Nursing

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Of 136 million babies born annually, around 10 million require assistance to breathe. Each year 814,000 deaths result from intrapartum related events in term babies (previously “birth asphyxia”) and 103 million from complications of prematurity. Systematic training in resuscitation of the newborn is a cornerstone of modern neonatology.

**Aim of the study:** To evaluate effectiveness of neonatal resuscitation training

**Methods:** We conducted systematic reviews of the studies reporting relevant effectiveness of teaching neonatal resuscitation.

**Results:** We identified 80 studies of neonatal resuscitation program. Studies were excluded due to incomplete information. So finally 10 studies accepted who full filled the inclusion criteria.

**Conclusion:** Incorporating neonatal resuscitation in continuing education and professional training program at larger scale is recommended. It will help in control over neonatal mortality rate.

## KEYWORDS

Neonatal resuscitation, Simulation.

## I.INTRODUCTION

Neonatal mortality is a global indicator of the health status of a country (1).The neonatal mortality rate refers to the number of neonates that die before reaching 28 days of life and is calculated per 1,000 live births in a given year (2). Globally, 4 million babies die within the first 28 days of life and of these 4 million, 98% occur in developing countries. Global surveillance of neonatal mortality has helped to track the conditions in which high rates occur.

In countries like United States, neonatal resuscitation is taught and implemented as a way to prevent and reverse the effects of asphyxiation. According to World Bank, only 38% of births are attended by skilled health care staff. Skilled health staff is defined as “personnel trained to give the necessary supervision, care and advice to women during pregnancy, labor and the postpartum period, to conduct deliveries on their own and to care newborns”. (3)

Initiation of breathing is critical in the physiologic transition from intra-uterine to extra-uterine life. Between 5-10% of all newborns require assistance to establish breathing at birth (4-9), and simple warming, drying, stimulation and resuscitation may reduce neonatal mortality and morbidity. Each year an estimated 814,000 neonatal deaths (10) are related to intrapartum hypoxic events in term infants, previously termed “birth asphyxia”, and over one intrapartum millions stillbirths occur.Especially in under-resourced settings it may be challenging to distinguish a stillborn from a severely depressed newborn. In addition over one million newborns die from complications of preterm birth, such as respiratory distress syndrome (11), and these babies also require assistance to breathe at birth.

Neonatal resuscitation is defined as the set of interventions at the time of birth to support the establishment of breathing and circulation (6). Of 136 million births annually, an estimated 10 million will require some level of intervention (1).Some non-breathing babies with primary apnea will respond to simple stimulation alone, such as drying and rubbing. Basic resuscitation with a bag and mask is required for an estimated 6 million of these babies each year, and is sufficient to resuscitate most neonates with secondary apnea, as their bradycardia primarily results from hypoxemia and respiratory failure(6).More advanced measures, including endotracheal intubation, chest compressions and medications are required in < 1% of births(3), and most of these babies require ongoing intensive care which is not available in most low income country settings.

While systematic training in resuscitation of the newborn is a cornerstone of modern neonatology, there have been few rigorous evaluations of its effectiveness. Neonatal resuscitation is receiving attention especially as a missed opportunity for saving lives for births already in facilities and for improving morbidity outcomes. Several recent reviews of neonatal resuscitation in low-middle income settings have concluded that neonatal resuscitation has the potential planners as to how many lives could be saved by immediate assessment and stimulation, which may be feasible with less skilled workers and no equipment, and additional effect of basic neonatal resuscitation, including airway positioning and clearing and bag –mask resuscitation (10).

## II.OBJECTIVES

1.To assess the effect of training program of neonatal resuscitation on the knowledge and performance of the sample

## III.METHODS

We undertook a systematic review of literature from 2009 until 2016.The following databases were searched without language restrictions but limited to “human”: Pubmed,Google, biomedcentral.The search term included “ Newborn/neonatal resuscitation”, “teaching/training”,“Simulation”.Snowball searching added literature referenced in key papers.

## Inclusion/exclusion criteria for abstraction

Data from studies meeting the inclusion criteria were extracted using a standard form and re-checked. We abstracted information on study identifiers, context, design limitations, and intervention. We considered the following study designs: observational before and after, Quasi – experimental. Studies reporting a control group were excluded.

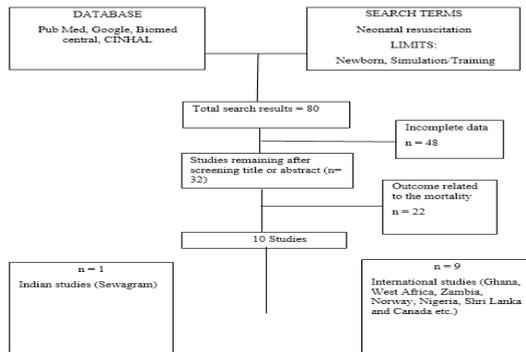
## Interventions

We estimate:

1. Routine care( warming, drying and rubbing the back/sole of the feet)
2. Basic neonatal resuscitation defined as airway clearing (suctioning), head positioning, positive pressure ventilation, and chest compression.

The aim of this review was to estimate the effect of neonatal resuscitation

**Searches and screening**



**Fig. 1 Search, Screening and selection of studies reporting effect of neonatal resuscitation training program**

**IV. RESULTS**

In the literature review, we identified 80 titles (Figure 1), and after initial screening of titles and abstracts, we retrieved 32 papers, we located 10 studies that reported the effectiveness of neonatal resuscitation program/simulation on the knowledge and performance of the samples.

**Intervention descriptions in identified studies**

The content and context of the resuscitation training for all facility are shown in Table 1. Evidenced based neonatal resuscitation training significantly improved cognitive knowledge of health professionals. In one study helping babies breathe is a simulation based one day training helped to improve performance in easy resuscitation. In another study simulation training increased performance, confidence of health team members. Above studies revealed that, after

**Table 1: Knowledge and performance evaluation of neonatal resuscitation training program**

Author	Setting/ Country	Design	Intervention	List of items	Pre-training SD	Post training SD	6-month mean SD	p
Carlo, et al 2009	18 Urban low-risk delivery centers, Zambia	Quasi experimental	Knowledge as well as skills: Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Knowledge: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression Performance: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression	58(22) 56(21) 60(17) 65(17)	84(13) 87(13) 87(12) 91(10)	62(16) 65(24) 58(18) 68(18)	Significant at < 0.05 level  Significant at < 0.05 level
Mohd S., Ahmed H. Oct 2016	Pediatric nursing skill laboratory, Benha University	Pretest post test	Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Performance: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression	r 4.06	r 4.02	-	Significant at < 0.05 level
Bookman L. et al 2010	Labor ward at ridge hospital, Ghana	Pretest post test	Knowledge as well as skills: Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Knowledge: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression Performance: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression	% 56 56	% 71 81	% 79 85	P 0.68 0.18 Significant at < 0.05 level Significant at < 0.05 level
Laryea C, et al 2009	Korle Bu Teaching hospital, West Africa	Pretest post test	Initial steps, ventilation, chest compression, Intubation and Medication	Performance: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression e. Intubation f. Medication	% 43	% 81	% 89	Significant at < 0.001 level
Ersdal H. et al 2013	Haydom Lutheran Hospital, Northern Tanzania	Pretest post test	Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Performance: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression	% 15	% 77	-	0.219
Uwakah U., Smees N. 2015	Three clinical site in rural Nigeria	Pretest post test	Knowledge as well as skills: Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Knowledge: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression Performance: a. Overview b. Initial steps c. Ventilation d. Chest compression	M 12.43 21.87	M 14.74 34.67	--	<0.0001
Rajakapase B. et al 2013	Rural hospital, Sri Lanka	Pretest post test	Knowledge as well as skills: Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Knowledge Performance	M 52 4.6	M 68 5.2	M 76 3.3	p <0.0001 <0.213

Surcouf J. et al	Children's Hospital of New Orleans, Louisiana	Pretest post test	Knowledge as well as skills: Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Knowledge Performance	SD 2.29 3.39	SD 2.66 3.69	- -	p <0.030 <0.080
Wang H, Ye H, Niermeyer S	China	Pretest post test	Performance: drying, stimulation, mouth to mouth ventilation	Performance	% 0	% 72	-	-
Taksande A, Vilhekar KY.	MGIMS, Sevagram, Wardha	Pretest post test	Knowledge as well as skills: Initial steps, ventilation and chest compression	Knowledge Performance	M 11.58 15.84	M 24.25 26	-	0.000 0.000

implementation of a neonatal resuscitation training program, health team members showed improvement in knowledge about neonatal resuscitation, as well as improvement in neonatal resuscitation skill ability. The studies highlights the importance of culturally and regionally relevant training in improving the knowledge and performance of health team members.

## V. CONCLUSION

The use of simulation as an educational tool provides a risk-free environment for both neonates and health team members to address pertinent issues related to resuscitation training. Training program for health team members who are in close contact with neonates, once in 2 months with reevaluation and feedback after each update is very much needed.

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