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## Improving health care of premature infants with non-invasive nursing interventions

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Beside nurses are expected to translate the best research into practice to provide the highest quality and level of care. Premature births are a global issue with the highest rates occurring in countries with limited resources and high poverty. Although there have been slight improvements in these rates, medical care has focused on improving survivability. A number of these infants face deficits in vision, hearing, cognition, and musculoskeletal development. These deficits, especially in low birth weight (<2500 grams) and very low birth weight (<1500) infants, may have long term effects exhibited in disorders like attention deficit disorder and learning disabilities. Neuroprotective care is a developing science and is an essential component of providing care that promotes, stability and regulation, brain development, and attachment. Research has shown promise in these areas and the results of two studies will be explored as well as future indications for non-invasive hemodynamic monitoring with premature infants. Practice aimed at providing support for optimal short and long-term outcomes will conversely decrease the morbidities continuing to occur within this vulnerable population.

### Biography

Kendra Russell serves as Associate Professor and Director of the Macon Graduate Center at Georgia College. She completed her BSN and MSN in Nursing Administration at Georgia College and Doctorate in Nursing at Georgia State University, Atlanta, Ga. Her clinical background is in neonatal intensive care and pediatrics. Her research focus is in maternal/infant outcomes and she has published and presented her research at local, state, national, and international conferences. She has 8 years of administrative experience serving as a RN-BSN Program Coordinator, Department Chair – undergraduate nursing, and Assistant Director of nursing.

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