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Kangaroo mother care of ELBW, twins and triplets newborn infants

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Kangaroo mother care (KMC), is defined as skin-to-skin contact between a mother and her newborn. KMC and maternal care provision have become an important aspect of care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) associated with improved short-and long-term neonatal outcome. KMC has been associated with improvements in preterm infant outcome including decreased infant pain sensation and stress during mechanical ventilation and, improved lactation and breast-feeding success as well as improved preterm infant development and growth in the neonatal intensive care unit. KMC use also enhances maternal well-being and satisfaction and decreases risk for postpartum depression. For mothers with a preterm infant, participation, and education in provision of KMC may be facilitated by NICUs that practice family-centered care (FCC) as a care standard in the NICU. KMC of newborn infants with extremely low birth weight not only by mothers but also by fathers ought to be the routine procedure. A lot of barriers exist that make it difficult or even impossible but KMC is also possible for extremely low birth weight ELBW infants born from multiple pregnancies. The benefits of this procedure for twins and triplets have been presented. Scheme of parents education and KMC implementation has been proposed.

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Epilepsy and sleep disturbance in developmental disorders

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Objectives: In pharmacotherapy for developmental disorders, not only anti-psychotic drugs, a combination of anti-epileptic drugs have an effect for sleep disturbance. Evidence of sleep disturbance in developmental disorders associated with abnormal EEG has not been established. We evaluated the EEG abnormalities and usefulness of anti-epileptic drugs for sleep disturbance in developmental disorders.

Methods: A total of 202 children (146 males, 46 females, mean 12.7 years) were included in this study. EEG had been recorded every 6 months under sleep conditions. We examined the therapeutic effect of behavioral and psychiatric improvement and sleep disturbance.

Results: EEG abnormalities were present in 76.7%, sleep disturbance was complicated in 33.3% of whole; 41.4% in autism spectrum disorders and 16.4% in attention deficit hyperactivity disorders respectively. Epilepsy was present in 53.3%. Almost patients showed EEG abnormalities on frontal areas. Although, there is no statistical difference in the effectiveness of anti-psychotic drugs or anti-epileptic drugs, all patients showed improvement.

Conclusions: Anti-epileptic drug is effective for sleep disturbance in developmental disorders who showed EEG abnormalities. In cases of EEG abnormalities, anti-epileptic drugs may be an alternative treatment for sleep disturbance in developmental disorders.

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