Improving Identification and Management of Infants with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

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Identification of families at risk and care coordination between services

- Maternal screening questions will be documented 100% in prenatal record or admission record.
- Implementation of process to initiate scoring, determine care location, medical and nursing providers based on algorithm.
- Prenatal referral for Neonatal/NICU consultation of 100% of families whose infants are known to be exposed to narcotics.
- Create a safe and effective discharge process for the transfer of care for the affected infant and family.



Develop and implement a standardized process for the identification, evaluation, treatment and discharge management of an infant with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS).

Staff Development

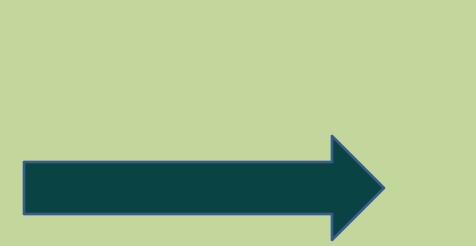
- Training and education of
- Identification of Risk Populations
- Understanding addiction
- NAS scoring competency of 100% of staff (new staff within 6 months) at a level of 90% interrater reliability
- Non-pharmacologic interventions



Pharmacologic Management Pharmacologic management will be standardized in terms of type of drug, weaning strategies and follow up in the community



 Develop family education tools for families of narcotic exposed infants.



Change Strategies

- ➤ Prenatal identification of mothers taking narcotics (licit and illicit)
 ➤ Antenatal identification of mothers taking narcotics (licit and
- illicit)
- ➤ Notification from community providers to hospital providers that a family is at risk
- ➤ Prenatal neonatal/NICU consult for education and care planning
- ➤ Refinement of process for medical and nursing care responsibility, including education of providers and clear implementation of process
- ► Identification and strategizing care of infants with NAS
 - ➤ Identification of specific risk populations and the process for medical and nursing care responsibilities.
 - Identification of strategies to keep families together when appropriate
- ➤ Develop education program for staff about understanding addiction
 - >Understand licit and illicit addiction
 - Strategies for working with families coping with addiction
 - Strategies for teaching families of substances exposed infants about NAS and other issues involved in the care of both the baby and family
- Educate all staff about Finnegan scoring tool
 - ➤ Watch DVD scoring
 - Complete inter-rater reliability validation
- ➤ Refine Finnegan scale tool for our unit, providing an area of tracking for non-pharmacologic treatment strategies
- ▶ Develop a repertoire of evidenced based non-pharmacologic
 Pharmacologic management will be standardized treatment strategies and educate staff in these
 - ➤ Utilize primary nursing model to deliver nursing care whenever possible
 - Development of a structured and standardized process for pharmacologic interventions
 - ➤ Specific drug
 - > Alternate drug
 - Weaning strategy
 - > Follow up plan
 - > Development of supporting documentation and order set
 - Develop family education tools for parents of substance-exposed infants.
 - >NAS scoring
 - ➤ Non-pharmacologic strategies
 - Medication use and safety precautions
 - > Develop resource network for referrals of appropriate families

