

feature articles

188 Risk Factors for Newborn Falls or Drops During the Birth Hospitalization: Analysis of 88 Reports



In this study, a review and analysis of the circumstances of 88 newborn falls or drops from 15 maternity hospitals during the birth hospitalization was conducted. Results offer insight into potentially causative factors and allow development of prevention strategies. Nurses are instrumental in providing a safe environment during postpartum hospitalization and educating patients and their families about ways to minimize risks of newborn falls and drops.

Rose Mary Ainsworth, MSN, RN, Maria Caceres, BSN, RNC-MNN, Bonnie Mullen, MSN, RN, IBCLC, Richard E. Gilder, MS, RN-C, and Ellise D. Adams, PhD, RN

198 Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative and Breastfeeding Across Social Determinants of Health: A Scoping Review



This scoping review examined the influence of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative on breastfeeding rates (initiation, exclusivity, duration) across five Centers for Disease Control and Prevention categories: age, race and ethnicity, education, income, and geographic location, and interpreted findings using the Kaiser Family Foundation framework. Evidence suggests Baby Friendly Hospital status may positively influence breastfeeding rates for mothers of varying income levels and racial and ethnic backgrounds, although its ability to reduce disparities linked to social determinants of health remains unclear.

Ingrid R. Wilhelm, PhD, RN, IBCLC, Emily J. Jones, PhD, RNC-OB, FAAN, FAHA, FPCNA, Mark J. Fisher, PhD, RN, CNE, Julie A. Gordon, DrPH, CPHQ, and Anitra C. Frederick, PhD, RN, CNE

207 Perinatal Missed Nursing Care: An Integrative Review



This integrative review identified the prevalence and patterns of perinatal missed nursing care, potential factors contributing to perinatal missed care, and the impact of perinatal missed nursing care on patient outcomes during the birth hospitalization. Seventeen studies from eight countries were included. The prevalence of perinatal missed nursing care was 21.9 to 78.9%. Inadequate nurse staffing, competing demands, and lack of material resources were commonly reported antecedents to missed nursing care. Missed nursing care during labor and birth was significantly associated with lower

hospital-level rates of initiation and exclusivity of breast milk feeding.

Jie Zhong, PhD, MSN, BSN, RN, Veronica Pasha, MPH, BSN, Brynne Campbell Rice, MS, MA, MSLIS,, Kathleen Rice Simpson, PhD, RNC-OB, CNS-BC, FAAN, Joanne Spetz, PhD, Gay Landstrom, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAONL, FACHE, FAAN, and Audrey Lyndon, PhD, RNC, FAAN

223 Childbirth after Gender-Based Violence: A Scoping Review



This scoping review included 32 articles on childbirth after gender-based violence. Six major themes were identified: maintaining control; triggers, flashbacks, and dissociations; impact of support; physical vulnerability; desire to disclose; and childbirth as healing. Nurses can use trauma-informed care principles during the childbirth process to care for patients who disclose a history of gender-based violence.

Madison L. Broadbent, BScN, MScN, Sherry Morrell, RN (EC), BScN, PHCNP, MN, MCISc (Wound Healing), PhD, Jamie Crawley, RN, PhD, Natalie Giannotti, RN, PhD, and Adam Mulcaster, BA, MLIS

231 Compassion Fatigue Among Labor and Delivery Nurses in the United States

In this study, 229 labor and delivery nurses who were members of the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses completed an online survey about compassion fatigue. Healthy behaviors had a significant impact on compassion fatigue, compassion satisfaction, and secondary traumatic stress. A positive unit culture can promote a healthy work environment. Leaders should encourage labor and delivery nurses to participate in healthy lifestyle behaviors to counteract negative workplace experiences.

Linda Cassar, DNP, RNC-OB, CNE, Eleanor L. Stevenson, PhD, RN, FAAN and, N. Maritza Dowling, MS, PhD

237 African American Fathers' Support of Breastfeeding

In this study, African American fathers' experiences and perceptions of their role in supporting their breastfeeding partners were explored. Participants largely held positive attitudes towards breastfeeding, emphasizing infant health and bonding, but recognized the need for improved preparation for their role. A cultural male mindset was exposed that advocates for male-specific education, more attention to couple intimacy, and privacy in public breastfeeding. Culturally competent interventions to strengthen paternal support and improve breastfeeding are needed.

Eurydice M. Lang, PhD, MSN, RN, CLC, CNE, Gloria Giarratano, PhD, APRN, CNS, RNC-OB, FAAN, Marie Adorno, PhD, APRN, CNS, RNC-MNN, CNE, and Mary Dioise Ramos, PhD, RN, CNE, FAAN

ongoing columns

185 GUEST EDITORIAL

Historicizing Care, Caring About History

Among the many tools available to health care professionals, history may be the most underused. Historians of medicine and the health care industry have provided insight into the social conditions that can enhance and limit knowledge and practice, especially how the professions have intervened on discourses about race, difference, and care. Unfortunately, a large swath of this history has captured the ways that racial bias in the health care system has created lasting harm. An overview and suggestions for practice changes are provided.

Courtney N. Slater, PhD, CPNP-PC, RN, CLC, and Marcia Chatelain, PhD

243 WRITING AND RESEARCH TIPS FROM EXPERTS

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Wide-Ranging ONline Data for Epidemiologic Research (WONDER) Database

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Wide-ranging ONline Data for Epidemiologic Research (WONDER) Database is an amazing free source of information for researchers. The natality database includes full birth certificate data for the last 10 years, including provisional data up to 6 weeks ago and selected variables from birth certificates from 1995 to 2015. Our writing and research expert in this issue of MCN is Dr. Adriane Burgess. Dr. Burgess summarizes some of the data available from CDC Wonder and how to access it.

Adriane Burgess, PhD, RNC-OB, CCE, C-ONQS, CPHQ, C-EFM, FAWHONN

244 HOT TOPICS IN MATERNITY NURSING

Nurses' Role in Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a broad term that refers to the movement of people against their will for labor or sexual acts. Our maternity nursing expert, Dr. Bernstein, offers background data on this crime and suggestions for nurses to identify human trafficking victims and help them get to safety.

Samantha L. Bernstein, PhD, RNC-OB, IBCLC, FAWHONN

245 HOT TOPICS IN PEDIATRIC NURSING

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and Metachromatic Leukodystrophy Added to the Newborn Screening Program

In December 2025, the United States Department of Health and Human Services approved the addition of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and Metachromatic Leukodystrophy to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel which in turn informs the list of conditions for

universal newborn screening. Our pediatric nursing expert, Dr. Beal, presents an overview of these conditions and the implications for their addition to the newborn screening program in the United States.

Judy A. Beal, DNSc, RN, FNAP, FAAN

246 Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding Among US Indian-Origin Mothers

There are very little data about breastfeeding among Indian-Origin mothers in the United States beyond rates of initial breastfeeding in the hospital. Our guest columnist, Ms Markonda, covers what is known, as well as gaps in the literature.

Lakshmi Prasanna Markonda, MSN, RN

247 GLOBAL HEALTH AND NURSING

Iron Deficiency in Pregnancy

Iron deficiency is the leading nutritional disorder during pregnancy worldwide, affecting over one-third of pregnant women, with disproportionate burden in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Our global health and nursing expert, Dr. Pintye, highlights the global burden of this disease and explains some of the new treatments and preventative strategies.

Jillian Pintye, RN, MPH, PhD, FAAN

248 TOWARD EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

Experts suggest how 6 research articles can be used in nursing practice.

Coordinated by Annie Rohan, PhD, RN, FAANP, FAAN
Comments by: Jennifer L. Atkisson, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, C-OB, CNL, Stefanie L. Boyles, BSN, BA, RN and Michelle E. Clausen, PhD, MSN, CNM

251 PERINATAL PATIENT SAFETY

Research Brief: Trends in Cesarean Birth in the United States 1965 to 2025

Cesarean birth is a contributing factor to maternal morbidity and mortality compared to vaginal birth. The cesarean birth rate in the United States contrasts unfavorably with peer high-income countries. In this study, the cesarean birth rates from 1965 to 2025 in 5 year increments in the United States are identified and trended. Since 1965 when the rate was 4.5%, cesareans have increased over 600% to 32.4% of births in 2025. Approximately one-third of births in the United States are via cesarean and have been for the last 20 years.

Kathleen Rice Simpson, PhD, RNC-OB, CNS-BC, FAAN

MISSION STATEMENT

MCN: The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing's mission is to promote safe, high-quality nursing care based on the most current evidence, standards, and guidelines for nurses practicing in maternity, neonatal, midwifery, and pediatric specialties through dissemination of evidence-based, clinically relevant articles including research, practice, policy, quality improvement, and scholarly reviews. This peer-reviewed journal covers aspects of maternal, neonatal, and pediatric nursing care in the inpatient, outpatient, and community health settings.

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