British Association of Perinatal Medicine

BANNFU
British Association for Neonatal Neurodevelopmental Follow-Up

AHPs in Follow up

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AHPs in the NNU and Follow up

•Provide positioning advice for development and respiratory function
•Encourage early positive touch and handling, including baby wearing and carrying
•Early assessment and identification of need, providing families with early intervention to minimise deficit
•Provide support following difficult conversations

•Early identification, assessment and management of oral feeding and swallowing difficulties
•Provide pre-oral feeding support, evaluation of breastfeeding and bottle feeding
•Enable parents to maximise speech, language and communication development
•Empower parents to read their babies cues in response to feeding and early communication to promote relationship development

•Involved from the early days of life with parenteral nutrition for the smallest and sickest preterms
•Strong focus on supporting maternal milk expression and later breastfeeding
•Play a key role in MDT to make clinically effective decisions for complex infants eg post bowel surgery
• Develop overall nutrition protocols for the NNU as well as provide individual strategies

•Enable parents to feel confident and competent in reading their infant's cues
•Educate parents on promoting age appropriate sensory experiences
•Assist families with practical coping strategies whilst on the unit and to be used on discharge eg. Swaddle bathing

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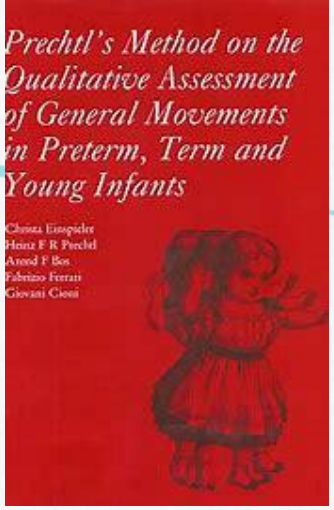

Assessment Tools

Preterm Assessment

- HINE
- Prechtl
- LAPI
- CHOP-INTEND

Term Assessments

- Prechtl
- HINE
- AIMS
- DENVER
- TIMP

Post Term Assessment

- Prechtl
- HINE
- BAYLEY 4
- SOGS
- PARCA-R
- GRIFFITHS

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Anticipatory Guidance

- What happens after the assessment
- Supportive and positive conversations
- Resources: EISMART, Pathways, BabySparks,eTIPs

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Parent Feedback

They provided us with hope and a sense of agency.

We are so grateful to the team for all their support, guidance and encouragement. It means the world

*I think my own mental health would have been very different had I not had the AHP support...**engagement with parents is key** as there is so much that depends on us for his development when we are at home*

The richness of materials we were presented with alongside the knowledge and reassurance the team were able to offer was invaluable

If we ever have any concerns we are able to get in touch which is really comforting

*They also helped me in my approach of **celebrating what H can do** rather then focusing on what he can't.*

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Conclusion

- Engaging families on the NICU builds trust and improves outcomes.
- Consistency in staff promotes reassurance and trust
- Running a successful follow up service is an essential part of any Neonatal Service
- Early intervention and anticipatory guidance are hugely impactful
- An appropriate space for the clinics has a huge impact
- Accessibility - Generic email address, vCreate
- The use of a standardised assessment tool at 2 years along with a face to face appointment is basic good practice

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- We need a service that fits the needs of the families
- Engagement of all service users is key to success
- Education of non neonatal services – HV, Peadiatrics, community teams.
- One size does not fit all.
- **It takes a team and the families are part the most important part**

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