

Bridging the NICU to Home: A Team-Based Approach to Infant Discharge and Follow-Up Care

Part 1: Implementing a NICU Discharge Planning Program: Evidence-Based Guidelines

Dr. Vincent Smith opens with a concise review of consensus guidelines for NICU discharge preparation, outlining how anticipatory guidance, family and home needs assessment, and coordinated transfer of care fit together into a comprehensive discharge program. Dr. Smith then leads an interactive and lively case-based discussion with a pediatrician (Dr. Jill Kasper), NICU nurse and discharge coordinator (Heidi Gates), and feeding specialist (Cuyler Romeo), to work through 2 cases: a routine, late preterm infant and a medically complex infant recovering from gastroschisis surgery. Learners see how each discipline evaluates readiness, teaches families, and builds the safety net that successfully supports infants and families transitioning from the NICU to the medical home.

Date

Time

Location

Organized by

For more info contact

Target Audience

This activity is developed to support primary care physicians, general practitioners, pediatricians, and other healthcare providers who treat infants and children.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Describe key components of interdisciplinary, evidence-based discharge plans for NICU infants, including the identification of roles for neonatologists, pediatricians, nurses, social workers, home health providers, and family caregivers.
- Identify potential risks and care gaps that may occur during the transition from NICU to home, even among former preterm infants who appear stable at discharge.
- Apply evidence-based NICU discharge planning guidelines to collaboratively develop a comprehensive, family-centered transition plan for a medically complex infant.

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