

# Nurses' Knowledge about SUPC and Safe Newborn Positioning

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## Background

Sudden unexpected postnatal collapse (SUPC) is a traumatic event of a healthy term newborn and has received increased attention over the last couple of years

- Frequency of SUPC
  - 2.6 - 133/100,000 live births
- Commonly used SUPC definitions
- Lack of uniform definition of SUPC
- SUPC risk factors
- SUPC occurrence positions
- SUPC risk factors
- SUPC prevention recommendations

## Purpose

- The purpose of the descriptive evaluative study was to determine nurses' knowledge about SUPC and Safe Newborn Positioning

## Research Questions

- The research questions were focused on what the level of nurses' knowledge was on the SUPC and Safe Newborn Positioning

## Methods

### Study

- Descriptive evaluative study

### Sample

- Convenience sample of 36 clinical RNs in the U.S. from Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) Perinatal Listserv
- A total of 50 RNs participated in the study; 36 completed SSPATs analyzed

### Instrument

- SUPC & Safe Positioning Assessment Tool (SSPAT)
  - Content validity appraised
  - Multiple choice, fill-ins & true/false questions
- A total of 36 questions: 16 demographics; 10 SUPC questions; 10 Safe Newborn Positioning questions

## Results

- Only 60.6% of SUPC and 72.2% of Safe Newborn Positioning questions were answered correctly ( $t(35) = 3.7$ ,  $p < 0.001$ )
- Nurses knew more about Safe Newborn Positioning than SUPC
- Masters prepared and Inpatient Obstetrics (OB) Certified nurses scored 60.0% correct answers on SUPC and 72.4% correct answers on Safe Newborn Positioning
- SUPC correct answers ranged from 3-9 and Safe Newborn Positioning scores ranged from 4-10

## Discussion & Implication

- Higher number of correct answers on Safe Newborn Positioning (72.2%) than on SUPC (60.6%).
- Less than optimal knowledge about SUPC and Safe Newborn Positioning.
  - 24 (66.7%) of nurses scored at or below 60% for SUPC
  - 11 (30.6%) of nurses scored at or below 60% for Safe Newborn Positioning
- Formal and informal education about SUPC and Safe Newborn Positioning should be planned for all practicing obstetric nurses and new orientees throughout the U.S.

Average Scores with Minimum and Maximum Scores



Percentage Correct

