

Neonatal NAS Initiative Webinar

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July 9, 2019 2:00-3:00pm

The Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative:

Standardization of NAS Protocols

Susan Ford, MSN, CPNP July 9, 2019



Through collaborative use of improvement science methods, reduce preterm births & improve perinatal and preterm newborn outcomes in Ohio as quickly as possible.

Objectives

- Identify potentially better practices, including pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatment for infants with NAS
- Describe the statewide Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative methodology to improve treatment of infants with NAS
- Discuss the practice of standardized care and the impact on decreasing duration of opioid treatment and length of stay for NAS



Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates, by state: United States, 2016





NOTES: Deaths are classified using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision. Drugpoisoning (overdose) deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14.

Total Opioid Overdose Deaths



- Ohio's opioid overdose death rate increased 325 percent in five years (2009 to 2014).
- Unintentional opioid overdoses caused 2,590 Ohio deaths in 2015 and accounted for 85% of all drug overdose deaths in the state.
- This is equivalent to six Ohioans dying every day or one Ohioan dying every four hours from an opiate overdose.



Source: statistics are from the Kaiser Family Foundation State Health Facts Website, including Opioid Overdose Death Rates and Opioid Overdose Deaths by Type of Opioid, and from the 2015 Ohio Department of Health Unintentional Overdose Death Report.

Incidence of Maternal Opiate Use and NAS Since 2004

- From 2004 to 2014, the rate of U.S. infants diagnosed with opioid withdrawal symptoms, known as neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), increased 433%, from 1.5 to 8.0 per 1,000 hospital births.
- However, the increase was even more stark in state Medicaid programs -- rising from 2.8 to 14.4 per 1,000 hospital births. Medicaid, a public health insurance program, covered more than 80% of NAS births nationwide in 2014.





Winkelman, Tyler NA, et al. "Incidence and Costs of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Among Infants With Medicaid: 2004–2014." *Pediatrics* 141.4 (2018): e20173520.

Drug Use or Dependence at Time of Delivery



Increases in Incidence of NAS



- From 2006 to 2017, there were approximately 15,441 hospital discharges due to NAS among Ohio residents in Ohio hospitals; 1,935 were in 2017.
- The hospital discharge rate for NAS in 2017 (140 per 10,000 live hospital births) was approximately 6.3 times the rate in 2006 (20 per 10,000).

NAS Treatment and Cost

- Cost of Inpatient Hospitalizations
 - In 2015, Medicaid was the payer for appr 89.7% of NAS inpatient hospitalizations.





- Cost of Treating NAS
 - In 2015, treating newborns with NAS was associated with over \$133 million in charges and over 30,000 days in Ohio's hospitals.



NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME:

Standardizing care in Ohio for the NAS infant



Why standardize?





Why standardize?



The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

COMMITTEE OPINION

Number 629, April 2015

(Replaces Committee Opinion 526, May 2012) (Reaffirmed 2019)

Committee on Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Committee on Professional Liability

This document reflects emerging concepts on patient safety and is subject to change. The information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed.

PDF Format

Clinical Guidelines and Standardization of Practice to Improve Outcomes

ABSTRACT: Protocols and checklists have been shown to reduce patient harm through improved standardization and communication. Implementation of protocols and guidelines often is delayed because of lack of health care provider awareness or difficult clinical algorithms in medical institutions. However, the use of checklists and protocols clearly has been demonstrated to improve outcomes and their use is strongly encouraged. Checklists and protocols should be incorporated into systems as a way to help practitioners provide the best evidence-based care to their patients.

Recommendations

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (the College) makes the following recommendations regarding clinical guidelines and standardization of practice to improve outcomes:

 Protocols and checklists should be recognized as a guide to the management of a clinical situation or process of care that will apply to most patients. For any patient whose care cannot be managed by standardized protocols because of



Why standardize?

ARTICLE

A Multicenter Cohort Study of Treatments and Hospital Outcomes in Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

CONCLUSIONS: Use of a stringent protocol to treat NAS, regardless of the initial opioid chosen, reduces the duration of opioid exposure and length of hospital stay. Because the major driver of cost is length of hospitalization, the implications for a reduction in cost of care for NAS management could be substantial. *Pediatrics* 2014;134:e527–e534

Children's Hospital, Dayton, Unio, "The Research Institute, and [†]Department of Neonatology, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio; [#]Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio; and ^hDepartment of Neonatology, ProMedica Toledo Children's Hospital, Toledo, Ohio TOP INTANUS WITH NAS

2DOTR2OT



Ohio Children's Hospital Association NAS Consortium

- September 2012 September 2014
- Six children's hospitals and their affiliates (20 total hospitals)
- Funded by Office of Governor John Kasich
- Goals:
 - Understand epidemiology of mothers and infants with NAS by following longitudinal cohort
 - Determine the "potentially better practice" for NAS treatment
 - Identify variation and areas for future research





Descriptors: 553 neonates (2012 - 2013)

- Young, white and single
- 80% mothers public insurance
- 85% had pregnancy complications
- 26% Hepatitis C positive
- 82% used tobacco products





Infant Treatment Characteristics

Symptoms Started (mean)	46.1 hours
Opioid Treatment Days (mean)	20.5 days
DOL at discharge (mean)	22.4 days
Number of Drugs Used (mean)	1.5
Drugs used Morphine only Methadone only	50.8% 41%



Impact of Ohio OCHA Weaning Protocol

- In July 2013 a standard "Potentially Better" weaning protocol was adopted by all six groups.
- We documented management of 462 infants prior to statewide adoption of the weaning protocol, and 392 infants after adoption.
 - We removed infants who completed therapy as an outpatient, as this center did not adopt the protocol.











Impact of Standardization at a participating OCHA Site



Spreading OCHA learnings through Ohio

- 54 sites:
 - 26 Level III
 NICU's
 - 26 Level II Special Care Nurseries
 - 2 Normal
 Newborn
 Nurseries
- Funded by Ohio Department of Medicaid to start January 2014





Key Driver Diagram Project Name: OPQC Neonatal NAS

INTERVENTIONS **KEY DRIVERS GLOBAL AIM** All MD and RN staff to view "Nurture the Prenatal Identification of Mom To reduce the number of Mother- Nurture the Child" Vermont Implement Optimal Med Rx Program Oxford Network's DVD moms and babies with Monthly education on addiction care. narcotic exposure, and Improve recognition and nonreduce the need for Fulltime RN staff at Level 2 and 3 to treatment of NAS. judgmental support for Narcotic complete D'Apolito NAS scoring training addicted women and infants video and achieve 90% reliability. Attain high reliability in NAS Swaddling, low stimulation. scoring by nursing staff **SMART AIM** Encourage kangaroo care Feed on demand- MBM if appropriate or **Optimize Non-Pharmacologic** By increasing lactose free, 22 cal formula **Rx Bundle** identification of and compassionate Initiate Rx If NAS score > 8 twice. withdrawal treatment for **STANDARDIZE NAS** Stabilization/ Escalation Phase full-term infants born with **Treatment Protocol** Wean when stable for 48 hrs by 10% daily. **Neonatal Abstinence** Syndrome (NAS), we will Connect with outpatient Establish agreement with outpatient reduce length of stay by program and/or Mental Health support and treatment program 20% across participating Utilize Early Intervention Services prior to discharge sites by June 30, 2015. Collaborate with DHS/ CPS to ensure Partner with Families to infant safety. **Establish Safety Plan for Infant** Engage families in Safety Planning. Partner with other stakeholders to influence policy Provide primary prevention materials to and primary prevention. sites.

Key Strategies to Accomplish our AIM

- Develop and implement *standardized processes* for the identification, evaluation, treatment and discharge management of an infant with neonatal abstinence syndrome.
 - Standardization of Finnegan Scoring—improve consistency in use of Modified Finnegan Tool with D'Apolito video
 - Standardization of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic care
- Create a culture of compassion, understanding, and healing for the mother infant dyad affected by the problem of neonatal abstinence syndrome.
 - Addiction as a chronic illness
 - Nurture the Mother-Nurture the Child video
 - Attitudes Survey



Attain high reliability in NAS scoring

- All sites use same tool
- Train RN staff to 90% reliability in scoring using D'Apolito Training System
- In Pilot work, we were able to see drop in max score when training completed
- OPQC has sent out DVD/workbook's to each site

Pat	ient Stic	:ker:						
POC D D D Inter-Rater Reliability Scoring Sheet								
Date	Time	1 st RN score	SuperUser Score	# of discrepancies	Areas o discrepan	f cies	Reliability Score	RN Names
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	21			1			95	
	19			2			90	
		18		3			85	
	17			4			80	
		15		5			75	
	10			7			65	
		13		8			60	
	12		9			55		
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Assessment: why use a tool?

- 2005 study: 81% centers surveyed use assessment tool, 52% have guidelines
- Allows for "common language", decrease variability, improve parent communication/involvement
- Based on opiate withdrawal
 - One tool for all substance withdrawal?
- Confounding factors
 - Term vs preterm vs beyond neonatal period
 - Staff training and competency maintenance



Subjectivity

About the Finnegan

- Originally developed in 1975; "Modified" in 1986
- 200 term, opiate exposed newborns
- Assessed from the beginning of one feeding until the beginning of the next feeding, Q 3-4 hrs
 Challenging with breastfed neonates
- Recommended: start scoring at 2 hours of age; if score= 8, continue to score Q2 hrs until less than 7



OPQC treatment protocol: begin treatment for 2 consecutive scores of >8 or one score ≥12 (recommended treatment protocol in 2014)

Maintaining Inter-Rater Reliability

2013 Site Staff Survey on Finnegan Scoring:

- 67% of RN staff responded
- 15.2 % felt somewhat or not comfortable
 - concerns: scoring of sleep for older babies, excoriation
- 37% wanted more education/training
- 26% of staff were not conducting inter-rater reliability scoring properly



Maintaining Inter-Rater Reliability

- 2013 all RNs watched: "Assessing signs and symptoms of Neonatal Abstinence using the Finnegan Scoring Tool" video from NeoAdvances
- Unit-based NAS Super Users re-educated all staff
- Lunch n' Learns with 2013 VON iNICQ NAS Webinars
- Dual score minimally once every 12 hours with an NAS Super User or an NNP



• 2013 reliability scores= 98%

NeoAdvances Training Program



Ohio

Video presentation on OPQC website

• https://vimeo.com/107043060







Standardize Pharmacological Treatment Bundle



Ohio Potentially Better Protocol			
Initiate	Treatment should be initiated if infant has:		
	• 2 consecutive scores > 8 or		
	 1 score > 12 		
	Drug: Morphine/ Methadone		
	0.05 mg/kg PO		
Escalate	If ≥ 12, increase dose		
Stabilize	No increase for 48 hrs		
Wean	10% of max dose daily Discharge		
	48 hours off Morphine		
	72 hours off Methadone		

Standardize Non-Pharmacological Treatment Bundle



Ohio

Perinatal Qualit Collaborative

Non-Pharmacological Treatment

- Decreased stimulation
- Rooming in for mom and baby
- Swaddling
- Skin to skin or Kangaroo care
- Breastfeeding is safe and effective!
 - Promotes bonding
 - Very little MAT medications in breastmilk
 - Can potentially reduce length of hospital stay for NAS infants
- Low lactose formula when infant not breastfeeding





Improve recognition and non-judgmental support for Narcotic addicted women and infants

Attitude Measures Survey

Health Professionals' Attitudes Towards Licit and Illicit Drug Users

A Training Resource

National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction Flinders University, Adelaide Australia

This resource is focused on people's attitudes towards alcohol and other drug use and is designed to encourage health professionals to explore and evaluate their attitudes towards drug users particularly perceptions about a client's or patient's deservingness of medical care.



OPQC Interventions Focused on Attitude Change

- Unit wide training for all NICU staff about living with OUD—"Nurture the Mother-Nurture the Child" video
- Sharing stories of pregnant women with SUD—session with panel of mother of infants with NAS
- Education about addiction as a chronic disease lectures by addiction specialist
- Community resources outreach—NICU teams identified community resources available to support mother-infant dyad and examined barriers to accessing resources



Survey Question	Desired Direction of Change	Adjusted Mean Time point 1	Adjusted Mean Time point 2	Adjusted Mean Time point 3
To what extent do you feel angry towards people using drugs?	Down	2.41	2.27*	2.29*
To what extent is an individual personally responsible for their problematic drug use?	Down	4.21	4.02*	3.98*
To what extent do you feel disappointed towards people using drugs?	Down	3.11	2.92*	2.95*
To what extent are adverse life circumstances likely to be responsible for a person's problematic drug use?	Up	3.65	3.71	3.72
To what extent do you feel sympathetic towards people using drugs?	Up	2.95	3.13 [*]	3.14*
To what extent do people who use drugs deserve the same level of medical care as people who don't use drugs?	Up	4.49	4.56	4.57 [*]
To what extent do you feel concerned towards people using drugs?	Up	4.15	4.13	4.19

*Denotes a significant difference from the mean of timepoint 1 after adjusting for site and multiple comparisons

Ohio Perinatal Qualit Collaborative

Phase I Results

After 9 months of improvement work, length of treatment decreased by 9% from 13.4 to 12 days

...and LOS decreased by 9% from 18.3 to 17 days in September 2014





OPQC NAS Phase 1 Publication



Ohio

Perinatal Dua

Collaborative

may benefit from the adoption of these practices. quality improvement initiative with the goal to (1) standardize identification, nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic treatment in level-2 and 3 MCUs in Ohio. (2) reduce the use of and length of treatment with opioids, and (3) reduce hospital length of stay in pharmacologically treated newborns with NAS.

> REBULTS: Fifty-two of 54 (96%) Ohio NICUs participated in the collaborative. Compliance with the nonpharmacologic bundle improved from 37% to 59%, and the pharmacologic bundle improved from 59% to 65%. Forty-eight percent of the 3266 opioid-exposed infants received pharmacologic treatment of symptoms of NAS, and this rate did not change significantly across the time period. Regardless of the opioid used to pharmacologically treat infants with NAS, the length of treatment decreased from 18.4 to 12.0 days, and length of stay decreased from 18.3 to 17 days.

> CONCLUBIONS: Standardized approaches to the identification and nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic care were associated with a reduced length of opioid exposure and hospital stay in a large statewide collaborative. Other states and institutions treating opioid-exposed infants may benefit from the adoption of these practices.

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Variation and Uncertainty in **Non-Pharmacologic Care**



Percent

Ohio

Perinatal Due Collaborativ

Orchestrated Testing (OT)

- OT involves planned testing across multiple sites (within or across institutions)
- Can use factorial design to...
 - Be more systematic about simultaneous testing of different change ideas
 - Look at the independent and combined effects of different changes
- Standardization of practices and reliable implementation is necessary
- Can result in faster and more efficient learning



OPQC OT Phase II October 2015-June 2016

- Wide scale test of change examining the role of formula in non-pharmacologic care across 54 NICU/SCN sites
- Two change ideas (factors):
 - Type of formula
 - Calorie content of formula
- Two "levels" of each factor
 - Standard Lactose vs. Low-Lactose
 - Standard Calorie vs. Higher Calorie

Factorial
 Design



OPQC Factorial Design (2²)

Group	Low Lactose Standard	22 kcal/oz Standard
1	Yes	Yes
2	No	Yes
3	Yes	No
4	No	No

Sites self-selected into 1 of 4 formula groups based on their practice culture





- LOS (pharmacologically treated infants)
- Treatment failure—percent infants requiring dose escalation, failed wean, and/or secondary medication
- Weight Loss >10%



Formula Choice based on Orchestrated Testing Results



Overall, the Orchestrated Testing data suggest that **use of 22 kcal/oz could be a beneficial practice** for NAS non-pharmacologic support

- Consistent benefit of 22 kcal/oz feeds on weight loss, treatment failure, and length of stay
 - 22 kcal/oz formula is associated with less treatment failure and shorter length of stay, though only explains a very small amount of the variation
- Benefit of LLF is not consistent across outcome measures-possible synergistic effect with 22 kcal/oz on weight loss and length of stay, but not on treatment failure



OPQC NAS Recommendations Non-Pharmacologic Treatment



- All infants are treated with decreased stimulation, swaddling, continuous holding, and frequent feedings.
- Encourage breastfeeding if mother is in treatment program.
- If breast milk not used, give 22 kcal/oz formula. Lowlactose formula may be used at the discretion of the unit.



Updates to Recommended Standardized NAS Protocol

•

2	Ohio Children's' Hospit Enteral Morphine iconatal Abstinence Syndr	ds Neonatal Research Consortium or Methadone Protocol for ome (NAS) from Maternal Exposure
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nodifier system f	ters should develop a plan h scoring system using the D br on boarding new nursing	or periodic refresher training for all survey on NAS "Apolito Reliability Training system, and a training staff.
. Non-Phari	nacologic Treatments:	



- "Potentially Better Practices Protocol" came from the pilot work of the OCHA NAS Project based on cohort of 553 infants in 20 participating sites
 - Updating recommendations based on OPQC NAS Project cohort of 6819 infants in 54 participating sites
 - Including feeding recommendations based on Orchestrated Testing results
 - Updates to the Methadone protocol are based upon testing of the pharmacokinetic-driven protocol that resulted in both a shorter length of treatment and hospitalization
 - Changes to initiation of treatment:
 - >8 x3 or >12 x2
 - Morphine escalation doses to be score dependent.

OPQC NAS Recommendations Pharmacologic Treatment



Overview of Stages of treatment:

Non-pharmacologic bundle:	Swaddle, skin to skin, decreased stimulation breast feed or 22kcal formula	
Pharmacologic bundle:		
Initiate	 Select Methadone or Morphine PO Finnegan scores >8 q3hrs THREE times or scores <u>></u> 12 TWO times in a row 	
Escalate	 If Finnegan scores remain elevated, increase dosage based on infant's score 	
Stabilize	 Maintain dose for 24 hrs (Methadone) Maintain dose for 48 hrs (Morphine) 	
• Wean	 Wean every 24 hrs based on Finnegan scores Wean by step daily (Methadone) Wean by 10% stabilizing dose daily (Morphine) 	
Discharge	Discharge 48 hrs off of Methadone or Morphine	

Phase II Improvement

We saw increases in the use of 22 kcal/oz and low lactose feeding





Phase II Improvement (cont'd)

Further reductions in LOS were seen with implementation of findings from OT



Reductions in LOS 18.3→17 days (Phase I) 17→16.3 days (Phase II)

> Total reduction of 2 days!

Partner with Families to Establish Plan of Safe Care for Infant

 Collaborate with DHS/ CPS to ensure infant safety.
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port system for the parent(s) or primary caregiver of the infant (Nerres, eddress, phone, what the ended
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Thank you! Any questions?





It takes a village...



The NAS Project was funded by the Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program (MEDTAPP) and administered by the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center. The views expressed in this meeting are solely those of the authors and do not represent the views of state or federal Medicaid programs.

Reminders



- Remember that your VON Day Audit period has begun
 - 11% of hospitals have submitted data
 - Email <u>Kaitlyn.Kopp@dph.ga.gov</u> or <u>BGray@VTOXFORD.org</u> for assistance
- LMS Access
 - Most hospitals have received access
- Please submit your SMART Aims by the next webinar
- The next webinar is August 13th from 2-3pm
 - Topic: NAS and the effects of In-utero exposure (Deepa Ranganathan)