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**Effectiveness of a Preterm Home Care Program (PHCP) on parent
infant interaction among mothers of preterms and the
developmental outcomes of the preterms in Kasturba Hospital,
Manipal Karnataka.**

E. Binu Margaret

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Name: E Binu Margaret

Registration No: 120500003

Title: “Effectiveness of a Preterm Home Care Program (PHCP) on parent infant interaction among mothers of preterms and the developmental outcomes of the preterms in Kasturba Hospital, Manipal, Karnataka”

ABSTRACT

Preterm birth is accorded as an important public health concern across the globe. Globally, one in ten children are born prematurely each day. Parenting a preterm infant is a devastating experience, which may disrupt the dynamic relationship with the infant that facilitates the growth and development. To harmonize and facilitate quality care, a randomized controlled trial was conducted among 120 preterm infants and their mothers in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Kasturba Hospital Manipal. The present study aimed to determine the efficacy of an intervention program designed on comprehensive preterm home care compared to the standard care. Preterm Home Care Program (PHCP) was developed integrating hospital and home care, validated and implemented and its impact on growth, development and parent infant interaction was assessed. The program empowers mothers to prepare themselves to care for the preterm infants in the hospital and at home. PHCP showed significant improvement in growth, development and parent infant interaction until one year of age compared to the control group. The present study provides sufficient evidence that PHCP was effective in providing quality care to the preterms at home.