QI 1285 Neonatal Occupational Therapy to Improve Positioning Practices

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NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust

NHS George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust

Project Aim: To evaluate the effectiveness of Neonatal therapeutic input and collaborative working in George Eliot Hospital (GEH).

Summary:

The *'Theory of Moral Injury'* (led by Čartolovni et al) was established during the pandemic following observations around inflicting human suffering during life saving treatment. This research is increasingly being applied to Neonatal care, acknowledging the pain caused to save tiny babies lives, the quality of life that child may be left with and effect of the families long term. A new role was created in the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU), where there was previously no therapeutic input for neonatal patients. George Eliot Hospital (GEH), recognised and funded the role, with the scope of the full service open to improvement. This project on positioning practices will be used to determine service needs, as well as increase collaborative working with other regional units via a Trust Service Line Agreement (SLA).

QI Tools Used:

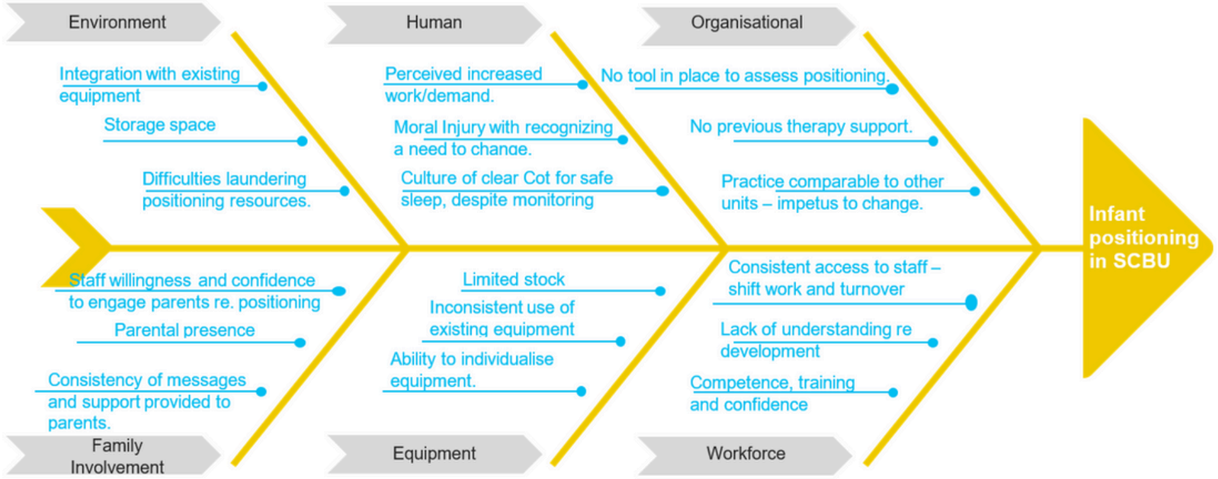
- PDSA (Plan, Do, Study, Act) Cycle
- Stakeholder Analysis
- Fishbone Diagram
- PESTLE (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal) Framework

Outcomes Achieved:

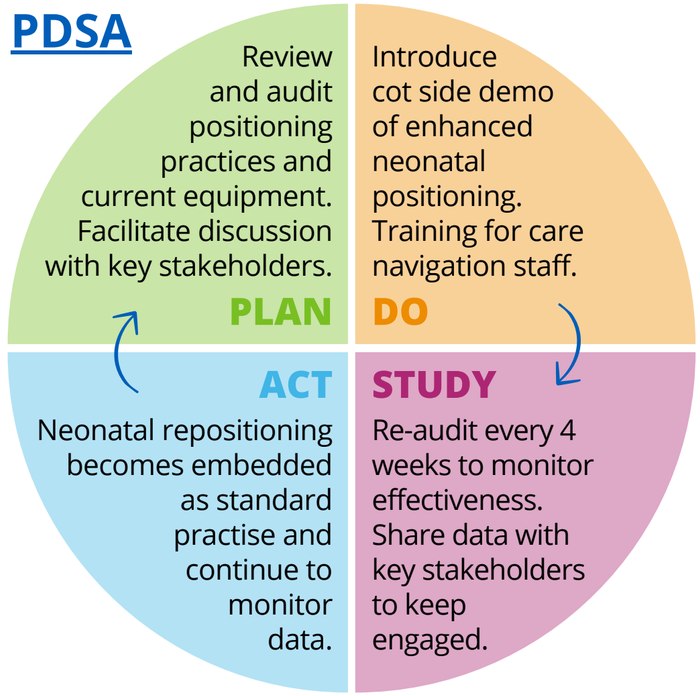
Positioning audits completed monthly using the Hunter Tool (recognised network wide) demonstrated a reduction in neonatal patients needing major repositioning vs minor adjustments only;

Months 1-8	**Months 9+**
100% of patients needed major repositioning	**0%** of patients needed major repositioning

This trend was maintained; no subsequent months have shown 100% of babies needing major repositioning.



PDSA



Next Steps:

CWPT have recently been successful in securing a bid to host the new Local Maternity and Neonatal System (LMNS) wide Neonatal Therapy service which now offers input and support to 3 units in Coventry & Warwickshire, where there was previously no service.

The Improvement Team

People at our heart