



Kangaroo Mother Care

In Nigeria, around 45,000 neonatal deaths are due to low birth weight (LBW)/preterm babies (birth weight < 2,500kg) who do not have appropriate care. 'Kangaroo mother care' (KMC) is an effective and affordable method of providing quality life-saving care to LBW/preterm babies especially in low resourced countries. KMC reduces the risks of major causes of death in LBW/ preterm babies especially from hypothermia, infections and cardio-respiratory problems.

PRRINN-MNCH supported the introduction of KMC from 2009 – initially in the first clusters. Data from the first clusters is presented below.

Indicators	Katsina	Yobe	Zamfara	Total
% of targeted facilities where KMC is operational	62% (8/13)	46% (6/13)	15% (2/13)	41%
Number of health care providers trained in KMC	54	70	51	175
Number of LBW babies admitted to KMC	68	50	27	145
Number of LBW babies admitted to KMC who were discharged	66	48	27	141
% of LBW babies admitted to KMC who survived to discharge	97%	96%	100%	97%
Number of KMC babies lost to follow-up (missed two subsequent visits)	2	40	0	42

From the clinic data above, there are very favourable survival rates (97%) of LBW babies managed in KMC centres in 3 states where full data was available.

In addition, the national KMC training packages were reviewed, revised and adapted for use in Nigeria.