Abstract

Accurate temperature assessment is essential in neonatal patients and allows for prompt recognition of illness. Temperature can be measured by rectum, which is subject to injury, axillary, which is time-consuming, and temporal artery, which is safe and fast. The purpose of this evidence-based practice quality improvement project was to create an educational toolkit for nurses teaching temporal artery thermometers for routine temperature measurement on neonates, to establish the content validity of the toolkit, and to make recommendations for implementation of the toolkit. The format applied was the Kellogg Logic Model that proceeded from the assumption, to planned work, and results. The theoretical framework was Roger's Diffusion of Innovations, which identifies champions as the initial change agents, helps engage the staff, and facilitates the change. The project consisted of a two-phase process. Phase 1 was the development of the toolkit contents by integrating the evidence and applying the framework in the context of working nurses. Phase 2 was the validation of the toolkit by expert nurses and educators with Item-CVI ranging from 0.80 to 1.00 and the scale-CVI at0.98. The Toolkit for Implementation of Temporal Artery Thermometers for Neonates with three short video presentations was validated. The toolkit is shared on multiple webpages and is available to the public. Adopting the temporal artery thermometer for routine temperature measurement could be a new standard for temperature monitoring that is accurate and fast. Improved family satisfaction would result from a quicker temperature process and a less invasive method resulting in a more comfortable experience for their infant.