

International Conference on
PEDIATRICS & NEONATAL HEALTHCARE

March 14-15, 2019 | London, UK

Neonatal Sepsis in the Emergency department

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Sepsis and infection in neonates have been one of the largest contributors to infant mortality. The information from the 2016 neonatal sepsis guidelines recommends antibiotic administration within sixty minutes. The issue of neonatal sepsis compliance was found through chart audits in the emergency department. These audits are done to satisfy compliance with the county board for EDAP, emergency department approved for pediatrics, standards. It was found that each month for the last year (2017) the neonatal sepsis compliance has consistently been zero percent. The nursing staff was given increased re-education on the topic of neonatal sepsis in all staff meetings and daily shift huddle. A new standard of work was formed to create a step-by-step guideline for care of the neonatal sepsis

patient. Each staff member was signed off after a one-on-one education to the standard of work. After education the data showed an increase in compliance in antibiotic administration within 60 minutes of arrival to the emergency department. There was a decrease in the average time from arrival to triage as well as an increase in compliance with triage within ten minutes for all patients under 60 days old.

Speaker Biography

Katelyn Hicks is currently obtaining her DNP in the focus of Family Nurse Practitioner at Loma Linda University, USA. Her doctorate is expected to be completed June, 2019. She is currently working as a registered nurse in an emergency department in Southern California.

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