A diverse discharge planning program intervention to enhance the home care capabilities of parents of preterm infants

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Background and Problem

The birth of premature infants imposes significant stress on parents. After the acute care phase, premature infants may still encounter challenges such as feeding difficulties and oxygen dependency before discharge. It's crucial for parents to be actively involved in preparing for the transition home. In our unit, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), premature infants constituted 42% of the primary care group in 2022. Following discharge, we frequently receive inquiries during the initial days, analyzing reasons such as.....

inconsistent educational content among nursing staff parents' limited time for learning home care resulting in inadequate knowledge and skill inaccuracy reliance on a single learning channel, namely educational handbooks

<u>Intervention</u> Diversified discharge plan includes:



Education: nursing staff provides consistent caregiving guidance through education and training

Demonstration teaching: flexible visiting hours allow parents more time to practice caregiving skills



Digital resources: adding instructional videos to mobile phones and creating an interactive digital platform for Q&A

Simulated home care: allowing extremely low birth weight premature infants' parents to practice feeding and equipment operation in the NICU for 24 hours before discharge





Results 100.00% 90% 94.80% 90.60% 85% 80.00% 60.00% 40.00% 20.00% 0.00% **CORRECT CORRECT CORRECT** PARENTAL CAREGIVING **SATISFACTION** KNOWLEDGE **GUIDANCE RATE SKILLS RATE** WITH DIGITAL **RATE OF** OF NURSING **PARENTAL** STAFF ON **RESOURCES CAREGIVING PARENTAL GUIDANCE CAREGIVING** Diversified discharge plan

Conclusion

Diversified discharge planning not only enhances parental caregiving abilities for premature infants but also effectively addresses their special care needs. The simulated home care model has received high acclaim from healthcare professionals, and we aim to extend its application to other critically ill infants in the future.

