

# Acceptance, motivation and partnership: Behavioral issues among providers and families, before and during the Covid-19 pandemic



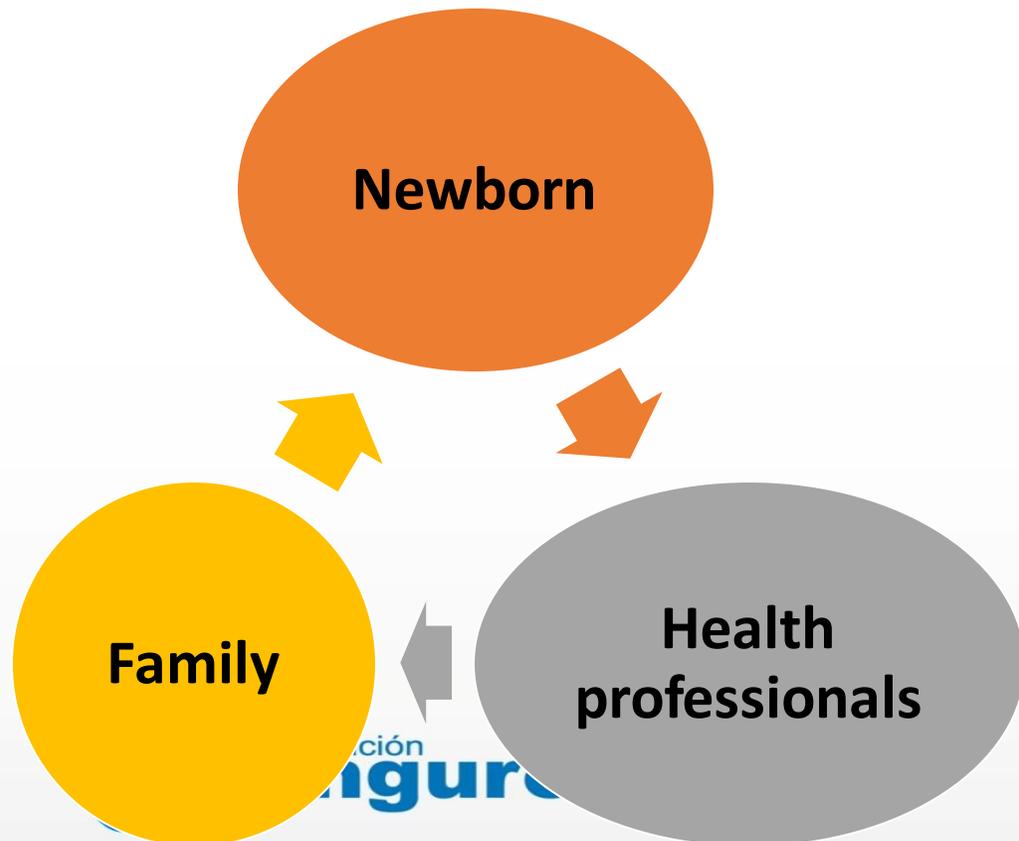
Courtesy of Uppsala neonatal Unit



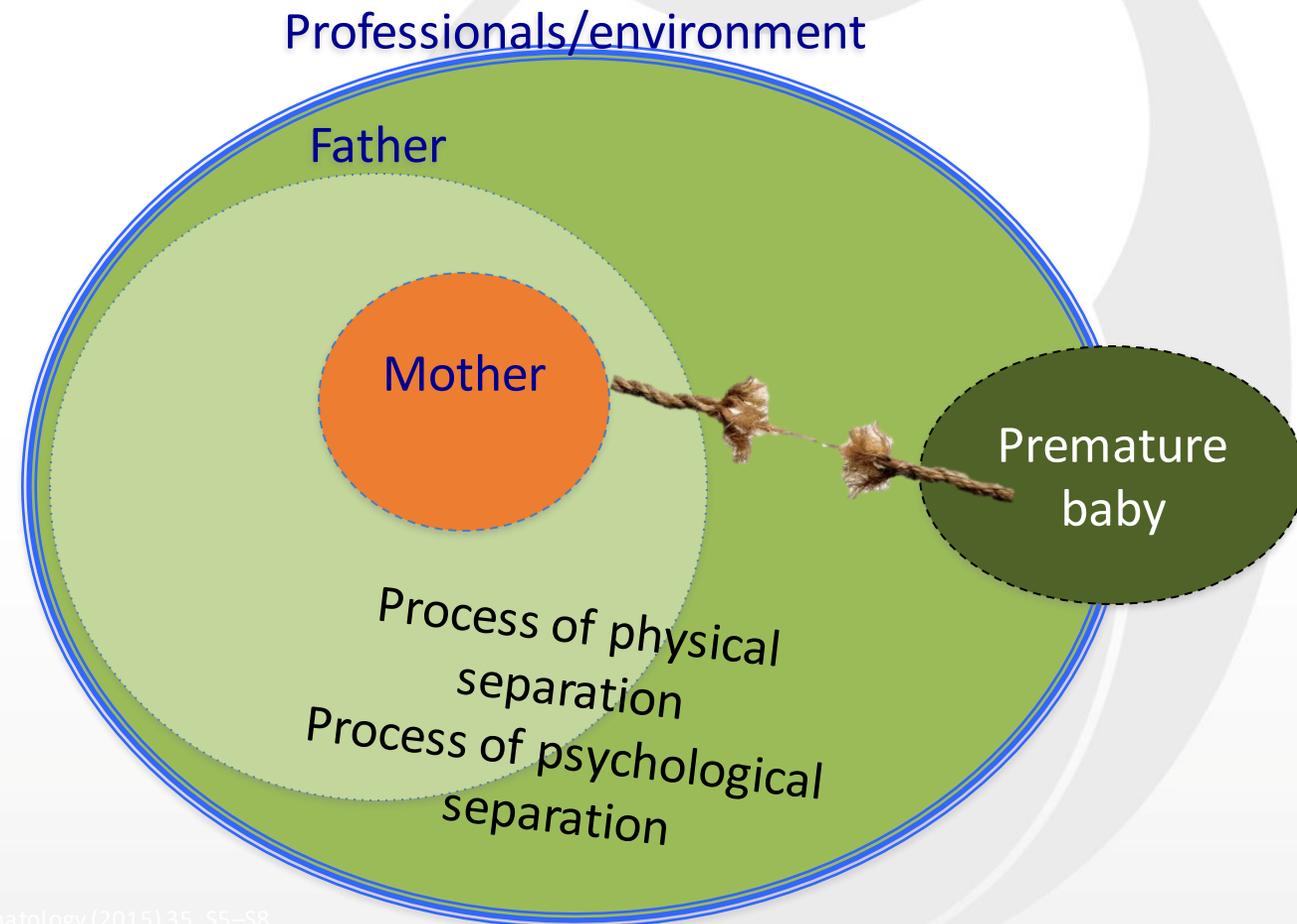
**The COVID 19 pandemic is not an excuse to step back 30 years and to return to bad practices**

# Kangaroo Mother Care: the cornerstone of the nurturing care for premature and Low birth weight infant

Who are the actors?



How they are connected?



# The staff must recognize the family as experts in caring for the premature or LBWI infant once trained and accept their autonomy

- ✚ To decide the care of the infant with the family
- ✚ To stimulate participation of all the members of the family in the care of the infant especially of the father and siblings. \*

***\* video and photos for siblings and only the mother and father during the COVID pandemic***



# What does “Empowerment” of the family mean?

**Emotional**

«Feeling ready »

« Being ready »

**Operational**



# Parents are the actors of the kangaroo adventure



Kangaroo parents in various Colombian hospitals

# Adaptation of the NCIU to the COVID pandemic for KMC practice

**The key:** separation between suspected/confirmed Covid zone and non Covid zone



NCIU open 12 to 24 hours for the healthy mother and her healthy baby, skin to skin contact and breastfeeding for early discharge and ambulatory follow up

Parents, considered before as spectators, are now the main providers of the care of their fragile infant. Health professionals are responsible to teach and support them during the hospital stay of the infant.



**Parents are not “visitors” even during this COVID pandemic**

# August 2020 Report of the Colombian National Institute of Health

## The challenge: to have reliable data to illustrate the problem



Around 400.000 deliveries during the first semester of 2020



# What we cannot loose



# Adaptation of the ambulatory follow-up KMC program



# Before

# Now: yes, it is possible



**The key:** Cleaning protocols and respect of biosecurity measures from the staff and parents and children



# Survey on the effective implementation of the official recommendations in 42 KMC programs in 23 cities, 54 answers, 3 KMCP are not functioning

June 30, 2020

- Mostly all the surveyed staff felt they are protecting breastfeeding, mother-baby bonding, and the family's mental health
- 90.6% responded positively to taking all the protective measures for staff and parents. During these 4 months, only 5 members of the KMC staff in 3 programs tested positive.
- The KMCP staff reported that if preventive measures were explained to parents, 100% agreed to carry their baby and in kangaroo position and to breastfed him/her, and 88.7% agreed to attend ambulatory visits; 10% of parents refused immunization visits

# Conclusion

- Depending on location of the program, 60% to 90% of the premature and low birth weight infants had access to KMC in Colombia before the COVID 19 pandemic.
- Newborns in Colombia seem to be infected with COVID in **0.05%** of the deliveries, representing **0.1%** of all cases.
- WHO published provisional evidence-based guidelines to protect skin to skin contact and breastfeeding . Respecting the biosecurity measures we were able to demonstrate it is possible to maintain KMC in the hospital and in the ambulatory programs without putting in danger the staff, the parents or the kangaroo babies.

*Do you think it justifies to close the NICU and NCU, to separate the baby from his/her mother, to impair breastfeeding, and to put his/her life in danger in any part of the world?*