

Implementation of Neonatal Intensive Unit Care Telemonitoring in Minas Gerais State, Brazil

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The Minas Gerais State government is working to create 200 new Neonatal ICU beds. One of the problems for the deployment of these new services is the lack of trained human resources in countries cities. Telemedicine resources should be used. **OBJECTIVE:** Describe the development of a telemedicine service for Neonatal ICU aimed in reduce neonatal mortality and support healthcare professionals in clinical decisions. The project is a partnership between the Health State Secretary of Minas Gerais and Telehealth Center of Medicine School at Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais. The project aims to promote specific training and technical assistance for health and administrative professionals. **METHODOLOGY:** A system of teleconsultation and videoconferencing was devised involving neonatologists with experience in intensive care in a Centre of Telemonitoring and neonatologists of ICU from countries cities. There is a monitoring and discussion of clinical cases. There are sub-specialists to make contact if it is needed. There is availability on duty, during the 12 h/day care, neonatologists and nurses. The data have been storage for future assessment and analysis for studies. Incorporation of new technologies for telemonitoring has been studied. The coordination has been organizing workshops for the ICU managers. Videoconference and semi-presential courses have been organized to offer permanent education for the professionals. **RESULTS:** The Telemonitoring Center has been organizing and so far it has been possible to make contact with 4 Neonatal ICU. Neonatologists and nurses were trained to use the system and they are organizing protocols to help the colleagues to work better in the new ICU that will be in function soon. The professionals of the Telemonitoring Center are identifying some difficulties to conduce the cases and videoconference will be done for permanent education. Daily at about 30 cases have been discussed since the beginning of the project, two weeks ago. **CONCLUSIO! N:** The ICU professionals have considered that the project is helpful for giving support in the decisions. The needs of permanent education have been identified for coordination.

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