COLLEGE OF NURSING

FOR APPLICATION YEAR: 2021

PROJECT TITLE: <u>Safety Barriers surrounding Kangaroo Care for Neonates in the ICU</u>

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Project Description

Kangaroo Care (KC), or skin-to-skin contact, is an evidence-based intervention in which the caregiver and infant's bare skin lie chest to chest. Kangaroo care can help premature infants achieve greater physiologic stability, improve growth, and reduce time spent in the hospital. Frequently cited barriers to implementing KC include concern over patient safety, lack of tools to overcome safety barriers, and the lack of clear implementation guidelines when promoting KC. To address these barriers, many hospitals are promoting the use of KC supportive devices and other risk mitigation strategies. World Kangaroo Care day is a day to celebrate the families that benefit from Kangaroo care, as well as the healthcare staff that implement the practice. The WISE student will use a de-identified dataset to examine barriers and facilitators to implementation of kangaroo care (IRB-approval received). In addition, the student will calculate usage statistics from the World KC Day app to summarize celebrations of the 10th anniversary of World KC Day (IRB-approval received). Finally, the student will help develop a survey that will be sent to healthcare staff that care for premature infants to gauge their opinions of Kangaroo Care and analyze the accessibility and policies regarding the practice among hospitals across the United States. The WISE student will assist in creating the survey, data analysis of the de-identified dataset, technical writing, and manuscript creation. The mentor for this study will provide training in data collection, analysis, and writing an abstract. In addition, the student will attend team meetings and learn about team management. Preference will be given to a College of Nursing student.