

Y&H Preventing IVH Care Bundle

BABIES BORN AT <28 WEEKS DURING THE FIRST 72 HOURS OF LIFE



1. Midline Head Position

Keep head in midline for the first 72 hours. This can be in supine or side lying and during Kangaroo care.

2. Head Elevation

Can be achieved with incubator at maximum tilt (can reduce tilt for procedures.)



3. Minimal Handling

- 2 person cares and turns
- Use slow, controlled small movements
- Turns: keep head in midline, aligned with body
- Nappy changes: Ideally use side-lying position, if supine keep legs as close to the bed as possible

4. Slow administration of medications

- Administer large volume boluses slowly over at least 30 minutes (Except in an emergency)
- Give flush at same/slower rate than the infusion or injection

5. Minimise stress and pain

- Give buccal EBM/sucrose prior to painful procedures
- Use arterial lines for sampling when available
- Follow developmental care guidance



6. Slow arterial line sampling

Slow withdrawal and replacement of fluid when sampling (over 1-2mins).

Scan for Network Guideline and Resources

7. Respiratory Care

Start with VG ventilation, Aim for pCO₂: 4.5 kPa to 8.5 kPa days 1 to 3 and 4.5 kPa to 10 kPa from day 4 onwards.

