Objectives

- Identify which infants qualify as a high-risk infant (HRI) and conditions they are at increased risk of developing.
 - Indicate the importance of neurodevelopmental follow-up and specify necessary services for HRIs.
- List essential elements and processes needed to build a nurse led High-Risk Infant Follow-Up Clinic (HRIFC).

Significance & Background

Statistical Significance

15% **US** births require NICU admission

33% Preterm

600,000

NICU Admissions per year

High Risk Infants – Who are they?

- Perinatal Risk Factors
 - Maternal infections
 - Maternal smoking
 - Maternal alcohol consumption
- Premature Infants
 - < 32 weeks gestation at birth</p>

Postnatal Risk Factors

Low birth weight (< 1500 grams)

More likely to receive

special education in

grade school

- Congenital heart disease
- Birth trauma/acute event
- Genetic conditions
- Environmental

200% Neurodevelopmental Deficits

Math

- High risk infants have an increased risk for:
 - Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Cerebral Palsy (CP)
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Developmental Delays
- Feeding Issues
- High risk infants have significantly lower scores in:

 - Spelling Reading

Gestational Age at Birth

Risk for Deficit



Brighter Babies in Boomtown: Improving Neurodevelopmental Outcomes in Growing Rural Communities

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Handout, References, & Permissions

What is the solution? - HRIFC

Long distance

Lack Awareness

Multidisciplinary Care

- Coordination of care between the infant's primary care provider, pediatric specialists, & providers at the follow-up clinic will improve neurodevelopmental outcomes.
- Periodic assessments until three years of age identify motor & cognitive impairments.
- Essential services to include:







Knowledge Deficit

Primary Care

Provider Shortage







Lack

understanding

of high-risk

infant needs

Insufficient

time & focus

for high-risk

infant needs

Low priority

placed on

developmental

services

High cost &

high no-show

Design & Implementation – Take Action!

Growing Rural Communities – What is the problem?

- Business plan to organize essential elements & processes needed to build a nurse led HRIFC.
- Business plan elements:
- HRIFC standards & guidelines
 - Target market
- Community assessment

- SWOT/T analysis
- Partnership & contracts
- Regulatory & legal aspects Policy development
- Financial Assessments
- Quality & evaluation plan

- Sustainability & limitations

Future Implications



Supporting Organization & Institution



