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| **Results from a Safe Sleep Training and Crib Distribution Program in Georgia, USA** |
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| **Introduction:**Research has suggested that a separate sleep surface for infants (versus sharing a bed with an adult) is associated with a lower risk of SIDS. To increase access to safe infant sleep surfaces, free crib distribution programs have been implemented. Despite the widespread use of such programs, only two studies in the USA have been published that evaluated the effectiveness of such programs. **Objectives:**This current study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of a safe sleep training and crib distribution program implemented in Fulton County, Georgia, USA. Specific objectives of this study are to: (1) Describe parental knowledge and practices from this sample compared with data reported in national surveys, (2) Compare participant knowledge and practices related to infant sleep (location, position, etc.) before and after receipt of the safe sleep training program and crib, and (3) Describe racial and ethnic differences, to the extent possible, based on final sample size.  **Materials and Methods:**This study is a prospective, matched pre- and post-test survey design cohort study with a ten-week follow-up. Participants are recruited through local health departments which provide services such as supplemental food, health care referrals, nutrition education, and vaccinations to low-income families. Eligible participants must meet the following criteria: (1) women who are between 32-40 weeks pregnant or within 3 months postpartum, and (2) demonstrated financial need, for example, receiving services such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Medicaid, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Families are invited to attend a group education session that lasts approximately 1 ½ hours. Families complete a pre-test survey prior to the start of the program, and a post-test survey upon program completion. For those who agree, a follow-up phone survey is conducted approximately ten weeks after program completion. Survey questions include demographic data; knowledge, practices, and advice received around safe infant sleep; program satisfaction; and open-ended questions. The safe sleep training program was developed in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Public Health and community partners, and includes a guided discussion provided by a master’s prepared certified health education specialist with specialized training in safe sleep education. The program includes information on the number of sleep-related infant deaths in Georgia; “the ABC’s of safe sleep” (Alone, Back, Crib) in line with the AAP’s recommendations and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development’s Safe to Sleep® campaign; choking concerns; and recommendations for parent-infant bonding. Upon program completion, participants receive a portable crib, written materials, and a *Sleep Safe and Snug* board book by John Hutton. Descriptive statistics, means, and frequencies will be calculated for each of the survey questions.  **Results:**We anticipate that approximately 200 families will have completed the program by July 2016; full data and results will be presented at the conference  **Conclusions:**Implications of the findings will be discussed, including the effectiveness of the program and suggestions for future educational programs.  **Funding Source:** The 1998 Society, Georgia Department of Public Health |
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