|  |
| --- |
|  |
| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 147**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **SIDS/SUID** | | Type: **Oral** | | **Why Does Infant Sleep Position Change Over Time and Who Influences Mothers’ Decisions? A study of African-American women in the Washington, D.C. area** | | **Abrams, Anna**1; **Mathews, Anita**2; **Oden, Rosalind**2; **Joyner, Brandi**2; **Moon, Rachel**3 *1 - Tulane University School of Medicine. 2 - Children's National Medical Center. 3 - University of Virginia.* | | **Introduction** Despite ongoing research, sudden unexpected infant death (SUID), which includes sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), accidental suffocation, and ill-defined deaths, is responsible for ~3500 U.S. deaths each year. SUID rates have not decreased in the past 2 decades and there are racial/ethnic disparities, with African American infants twice as likely to die as their Caucasian counterparts. Differing attitudes toward sleep position between African American and Caucasian women may be associated with higher rates of prone sleeping in the former group.  Objectives: 1) To document changes in sleep position in the first 6 months of life in African American infants, and 2) To study associated factors with various sleep positions.  **Material and Methods** We analyzed data from a prospective study of 1194 African American mothers, in which mothers were interviewed about their infant care practices over the first 6 months of their infants’ lives. Mothers were recruited in the newborn nursery and interviewed when their infants were 2-3 weeks, 2-3 months, and 5-6 months of age. Baseline characteristics were compared between groups using frequencies and means with 95% confidence intervals (CI). The x2 test was used to compare expected and observed values of given variables. Correlations were studied using the two-tailed test of significance and Pearson correlation coefficients.  **Results** Data were obtained at 1-2 weeks for 959 (80.3%) infants, at 2-3 months for 717 (60%) infants, and at 5-6 months for 638 (53%) infants. At baseline, 91.7% of mothers intended to place their baby to sleep in the supine position. This number decreased to 85.9% and 79% at the 2-3 month follow up survey and the 5-6 month follow up respectively. At baseline and 1-2 weeks, nurses (p=0.023) and the infant’s father (p=0.04) were significant influences on parental decisions about sleep position. However, the influence of friends and family became increasingly significant with time (p=0.025 at the 2-3 month follow up and p<0.001 at the 5-6 month follow up).  **Conclusions** Changes in infant sleep position over time may be affected by a change in which outside parties are influencing mothers’ decisions. Interventions aimed at family and friends may be more effective in modifying parent behavior with regards to infant sleep position. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Rachel** | | Lastname: | **Moon** | | E-mail: | **rym4z@virginia.edu** | | Country: | **USA - United States of America** | | Institution | **University of Virginia** | | Cellphone: | **301-325-5445** | | City: | **Charlottesville** | |