



Family Integrated Care Myths and Truths

Myths	Truths
<p>Parents look after their sick micro-preemies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only stable non-vented babies are eligible to be enrolled in the program • Some may be infants who were born extremely preterm and are now growing/feeding infants; however, many are larger preterm infants between 30 to 35 weeks gestation
<p>Parents take on advanced clinical nursing skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The professional responsibility and accountability of nursing remains the same as current practice • Nurses train parents to give basic care to their baby, such as oral feeding, bathing, weighing etc. • Nurses are asked to teach, coach and support parents in taking on a more active role as caregivers to their infants
<p>Parents are at the bedside 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the course of the program, parents are asked to make a commitment to stay in the hospital for 8 hours a day, primarily during the daytime shift, as it allows them to participate in formal teaching sessions • Ongoing feedback from nurses and parents as to how this schedule works for them and if it needs to be modified is wanted
<p>The primary aim of the FICARE project is to get rid of nurses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no intent to reduce the nurse-to-patient ratio • Parents very much want nursing ratios to remain the same, and simply want to become actively involved in the care of their infant, with the expert coaching of ever-present nurses • This program broadens and strengthens the nurse's role in the NICU as primary care providers and advanced-skilled caregivers • The goal of FICARE is to truly embrace the full scope of Patient and Family Centered Care
<p>The FICARE project is a top down initiative coming from NICU management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing professionals have been involved since the beginning of the pilot program - nurses traveled to Tallin, Estonia and have been actively involved in the Steering Committee by providing a "voice" to nurses