

Academy of Neonatal Care: Local, Nationwide, Global!

Kelly Welton, BA, RRT-NPS

“This was necessitated by the closure of several venues where live training was to take place, and now, with the Delta surge, it is happening again. While we are happy this NICU training is now available to anyone in the USA, expanding the training means one thing: we need to go worldwide!”

We previously wrote about the next generation of RT's from a local (Southern California) standpoint. Recently, a 3-day live program was approved by the AARC as an online course. This was necessitated by the closure of several venues where live training was to take place, and now, with the Delta surge, it is happening again. While we are happy this NICU training is now available to anyone in the USA, expanding the training means one thing: we need to go worldwide!

NICUs exist worldwide, and many countries' health systems are continually studying, publishing, and generally improving neonatal care worldwide.

Online and distance learning has been around for some time now, and Covid has elevated our online experience by requiring faster, better platforms to learn and test.

Meetings that previously required travel to see how another country handles a certain disease process now can be accessed from home, often at any convenient hour. Significantly as travel is restricted and likely will be for many more months, we cannot let that slow down our continual improvement of patient care.

Have you ever wondered how another country handles RDS babies? How does another health system in a country without sophisticated implements deal with 24-week premature babies? How does a country thousands of miles away with minimal resources handle the treatment of pneumonia?

Here in the US, we like to think we have the best health system in the world. The most advanced technology. Look at global NICU survival rate statistics, and we are close to the top.

What if we could train, via distance learning, healthcare personnel from around the world? Starting with the basics, let each learner

decide how far they want to go with their education. A learner's health system or availability of equipment and supplies may dictate their scope, but let it be that and not the fact that they have no one to teach them one-on-one.

Such a program exists via AcademyofNeonatalCare.org.

Even training in basic foundational NICU care would be helpful to many in countries where there are no RT's, only specialists who learn primarily on the job.

Practical information, such as clustering care and assessment

Technical, such as how to set up NIV and optimize settings for the baby

How- to such as surfactant administration and screening for congenital heart disease

Best practices, such as management of apneas and bradycardias

All of these aspects of care could be pooled with worldwide input to determine new Best Practices and elevate the care of newborns everywhere, not just in developed countries.

“All of these aspects of care could be pooled with worldwide input to determine new Best Practices and elevate the care of newborns everywhere, not just in developed countries.”

In our live classes, we discover how vital actual hands-on time is to practice with new equipment until a level of proficiency and competency is reached. Until a NICU student has a way to do so, online programs that allow the learner to review the modules as many times as desired and at times that are convenient for them can help them transfer the knowledge to an actual baby when the time comes.

We look forward to enrolling NICU students from every part of the world in hopes of not just expanding their knowledge but expanding their minds to create systems and processes from any tools, equipment, or resources they have, whether limited or abundant.

Disclosures: The author is President of the Academy of Neonatal Care, A Delaware 501 C (3) not for profit corporation.

NT

NEONATOLOGY TODAY is interested in publishing manuscripts from Neonatologists, Fellows, NNPs and those involved in caring for neonates on case studies, research results, hospital news, meeting announcements, and other pertinent topics.

Please submit your manuscript to: LomaLindaPublishingCompany@gmail.com

Corresponding Author



--

Kelly Welton, BA, RRT-NPS

President,

Academy of Neonatal Care

La Quinta, California, United State

www.AcademyofNeonatalCare.org

Phone: 877-884-4587

Email: Educator@academyofneonatalcare.org

"