

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

PROJECT TITLE: Exploring neonatal transport modalities and feasibility of implementation of Kangaroo Mother Care in neonatal transport in Ghana

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: Dr. Emmanuel Okai, Prof. Hora Soltani, Frankie Fair

OTHER STAFF INVOLVED: Hilda Konadu Danquah (NICU nurse)

INSTITUTIONS: University of Cape Coast (UCC), Cape Coast Teaching Hospital (CCTH) and Sheffield Hallam University (SHU)

Introduction: Hello, I am **Dr Emmanuel Okai**, a Lecturer/researcher at UCC and SHU. I am approaching you because you are visiting this health facility, and I would appreciate it if you were to participate in this project. Before you participate in this study, you must understand the following: the purpose of the study, the study procedures, benefits, risks, discomforts, and precautions as well as your right to decline or withdraw from the study at any time. This information leaflet will help you decide if you would like to participate.

Purpose of the Study: This study is being undertaken to assess the feasibility of using Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) for the transport of preterm and low-birth-weight babies. We are going to ask questions to get some background information to help us understand the data we get if you consent to this study. If you are a mother, the health personnel who have decided to transfer your baby to the Cape Coast hospital for further care will explain what KMC is and ask if you are happy to transfer your baby to Cape Coast with that method. We will allow you to tell us how you feel about the transfer method at the end of the transfer

Confidentiality: Information volunteered as part of this study will be treated as strictly confidential and your identity protected in all circumstances.

Procedures: A set of questions will be administered after you give your consent when you have time to answer them. The interview after the end of the transfer will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

Potential benefits: Kangaroo mother care is a safe method which ensures your baby is kept warm and comfortable for the journey. It will also increase the bond between you and your baby. By participating in this study, you will be helping medical personnel understand how safe and practical the process is

Incidental Medical Information: If we find any incidental information, we will consult with your local physicians and provide you with the results if they will impact you or your child's health. If you do not wish to receive incidental information, we will respect your wishes and not provide you with this information.

Financial Compensation/Costs

There will not be financial compensation.

You will not incur any expenses from participating in this project.

Rights as a participant in the study: Participation in this study is voluntary. The decision to participate is completely up to you. Should you decide to participate, you may withdraw from the study at any time. The care you receive now or in the future will not be affected whether you participate in or withdraw from this study.

Ethical Approval: This study protocol has approval from the CCTH/College of Health Sciences Human Ethics Committee and Sheffield Hallam University Research Ethics Committee

Contact Information: For any additional questions regarding your participation in this project, you can contact myself on 0545628988 (e.okai@uccsms.edu.gh),. If you agree to participate, please sign the consent form.

Thank you