

Oxygen as a Neonatal Health Hazard: Call for Détente in Clinical Practice.

Sola A., Rogido M.R., Deulofeut R. *Acta Paediatr.* 2007 Jun;96(6):801-12.

Abstract

Education in oxygenation and in how oxygen is given to newborns needs to increase. Treatment with oxygen should no longer be considered proverbial and customary, regardless of our 'past experience' or consensus recommendations in clinical guidelines, since oxygen may lead to acute or chronic health effects.

Conclusion

Inappropriate oxygen use is a neonatal health hazard associated with aging, DNA damage and cancer, retinopathy of prematurity, injury to the developing brain, infection and others. Neonatal exposure to pure O₂, even if brief, or to pulse oximetry >95% when breathing supplemental O₂ must be avoided as much as possible.