



Preemie Professional

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Edward C. Co, M.D.

Neonatologist at Integris Baptist Medical Center



Photo Credit: Kathy Stewart

Years in Field: 25

Orgs:

Pediatrics Medical Group at Integris Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, OK

Preemie Focus:

Initiated the Synagis Program at Integris Baptist Medical Center NICU in 2007 as a neonatal quality initiative to reduce re-admissions due to RSV.

Web:

Integris Baptist Medical Center NICU:
<http://integrisok.com/nicu-about>

Professional Tip!

Working together to develop a culture of mutual trust, respect, and collaboration among neonatal staff, families and hospital administration to improve neonatal outcomes.

Advocate: Hydrocephalus Day

October 25, 2013 is Hydrocephalus Day. As a community that knows this condition all too well, we walk hand in hand recognizing this affliction and its life-long effects on preemies. Learn more and to support this very important cause, check out this PreemieWorld friend: Hydrocephalus Association at <http://www.hydroassoc.org>

Preemie Resource: Staying #RSVfree

PreemieWorld provides a number of free handouts to be used in the NICU and beyond in its "Freebies For You" section of the website.

This month's freebie is "Staying #RSVfree." "You can never prepare enough for this season," comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC. "Our handout provides some

nice tips not only for home but also for when you are also out and about such at the doctor's office. This is the list I would have wanted for those first few years."

Get this month's freebie here and pass it on: <http://bit.ly/RSVFREE> and look at our other freebies here: <http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies>

To Do List



Congrats to [Jenny Reyes](#) on winning *Imagine* by Dianne Maroney in our September 2013 "Preemie Genius" contest!



Professionals, sign up your organization to receive *Preemie Family* to distribute to your families: <http://bit.ly/PreemieFam4Pros>



Download PreemieWorld's FREE tools <http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies> and pass them onto NICU Parents as part of your welcome packet.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



NANN 29th Annual Educational Conf
National Assoc. of Neonatal Nurses
October 2-5, 2013
Nashville, TN
<http://www.nann.org>

AAP National Conf & Exhibition
American Academy of Pediatrics
October 26-29, 2013
Orlando, FL
<http://www.aap.org>

Have an event to share? Email us details at connect@preemieworld.com

*Tools and Resources
for the Preemie Community*

Support: Owyn's Butterfly Kisses



Founded in early 2013 by Stephanie Cipriani and Gwen Schoonover, Owyn's Butterfly Kisses fundraises to support West Penn's NICU which specializes in prematurity.

Website:
www.OwynsButterflyKisses.org

Outreach:
Regional - the greater Pittsburgh area

Programs:
Annual preemie calendar, special hats and other mementos/ gifts for families. Check out the calendar here: <http://bit.ly/OwynsCal>

Have a support group you want to share? Contact us! connect@preemieworld.com

Organization: Reaching for the Stars:
A Foundation of Hope for Children with Cerebral Palsy

Reaching for the Stars began with two mothers wanting the best for their children diagnosed with CP.

Established: 2005

Website:
www.reachingforthestars.org

Focus: RFTS believes that leading-edge pediatric research, increased awareness and education will lead to new treatments of CP, improving the lives of impacted children and their families.

Accomplishments:

- Largest parent-led CP non-profit foundation in the world with presence in the U.S., Canada, Asia & Australia.
- Established March 25th as the official U.S. Cerebral Palsy

Awareness Day in the United States via congressional designation.

- Partnered with the CDC and and the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine to recruit for CP clinical trials.
- Secured 2013 congressional appropriations language committing to line item funding of CP research in budget.
- Created the first CP specific sports camp for kids in Georgia.



The EVENT of the YEAR: Preemie Parent Summit



2013 Preemie Parent Summit

<http://bit.ly/PreemieParentA>

October 4-6, 2013 • Nashville, TN

Preemie Genius: Advance My Baby

The Details:

By:

Paula Tarver, OTR/L &
Jeanne Martin, OTR/L

Website:

www.advancemybaby.com



The Genius:

Preemie parents worldwide worry about many things upon discharge from the NICU. Alongside health issues and nutrition is the concern for the proper ways to stimulate the development of their babies.

Occupational Therapists Tarver and Martin have created a colorful, clear and friendly guide to provide parents of premature infants with exercises to help advance development. Clearly, this guide should be on every preemie parent's bookshelf.

You could win a copy of Advance My Baby by "liking" our FB page 10/1/13 - 10/28/13 at <http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

After the NICU:

Please don't give my baby RSV!

RSV season often sends preemie parents into a tizzy worrying about how to handle strangers wanting to touch their baby. Here are some nice ways to say "back off!"

- "My daughter/son has a fragile immune system, so silly faces and sweet words from afar are the best ways to say hello!"
- "Aw, its almost time for a nap/feeding/diaper change, so a 'Hi there!' is the best way to greet him/her right now."
- "Aw you are so nice to say hello. S/he was our preemie so please help us keep her/him healthy by focusing on smiles and giggles."

Have a topic for After the NICU? Send it into us at connect@preemieworld.com

Preemie Professional Online

NICU Professionals Group: (www.Linkedin.com)

"Happy NICU Nurses Day! PreemieWorld has an FB page dedicated to this very special day - <http://bit.ly/NICUNursesDay>"

"STUDY: VLBW Infants Often Miss Rotavirus Vaccination Upon NICU Discharge - <http://ow.ly/nZOUR>"

Early Intervention Professionals Group: (www.Linkedin.com)

"Feeding Issues with Your Preemie? Check Out the Feeding Matters 'Power of Two' Mentor Program - <http://ow.ly/oNVLQ>"

"The future of healthcare and therapists"

Preemie World (www.Twitter.com):

"Feeding Issues with Your Preemie? Check Out the Feeding Matters 'Power of Two' Mentor Program - <http://ow.ly/oNVLQ>"

"Understanding the Effects of Early Skin-to-Skin Contact"

BE THE COOL PRO: Tell Your Families about the "Preemie Network" on Inspire.com:

Deb Discenza of PreemieWorld moderates this global network of over 15,000 parents from NICU to home to school. www.inspire.com/preemie

Check out these groups and more by referring to the "Get 'Social' With Us" on page 4 for more information. Have news or research to share with us? connect@preemieworld.com

Get "Social" With Us!



www.PreemieWorld.com
www.LittleMantheMovie.com



@ PreemieWorld



- PreemieWorld
- Preemie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU



PreemieWorld



Check out other LinkedIN groups we moderate:

- NICU Professionals
- Early Intervention Professionals
- Preemie Parent Support Group Leaders
- Preemie Parents
- Little Man the Movie


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Q&A: What are the Top Myths Surrounding RSV?

RSV season is less than a month away, so we are grateful to our friends at the Alliance for Patient Access (AfPA) for dispelling myths surrounding RSV.

1. **RSV is a common cold.** *False!* While RSV may "look" like a common cold, in older adults and young infant, it can be life threatening. RSV is 10 times more deadly than the flu.

2. **RSV is spread through coughing.** *False!* RSV is spread through droplets and the live virus can live for hours on surfaces such as countertops. RSV is highly contagious and this is why good hand washing is so important to prevent the spread of RSV.

3. **There is a medication to help prevent RSV.** *True!* Synagis (also known as *palivizumab*) is a medication that can help prevent RSV. Babies at risk for RSV are given Synagis every month during RSV season (Oct-March in most places).

4. **My baby can only get RSV once a year.** *False!* After recovering from an RSV infection, your baby is still susceptible to getting it again if exposed, as we do not build immunity to this virus after getting it once. This is why babies who get Synagis need to have the injections monthly, because the antibody in the injection "wears off" in ~28days.

Get more info on RSV: <http://bit.ly/RSVLetter>