



INTRODUCTION

Background

- The first post-partum bath presents an early challenge to the newborn's ability to maintain body temperature
 - Occurs in first 24 hours
 - Exposes the newborn to increased heat loss through evaporation, and conduction through the water
- At EUHM, common practice is to re-warm newborns under a radiant warmer
 - Presently moms are not offered the choice of S2S
 - May be missing benefits of early S2S contact

Research Question

- In a population of healthy, full-term newborns, is skin to skin (S2S) contact with mother as effective as radiant warming in restoring the newborn's temperature after the first bath?

Sample Demographics

VARIABLE	SKIN TO SKIN (N=96)	RADIANT WARMER (n=4)
Mother's age (mean, SD)	27.21 (6.06)	26.75 (8.38)
Birth weight	3210.9 (376.3)	3245 (369.4)
T ₁ Temp	36.8 (.03)	36.9 (.3)
Gender (% Female)	54.2	100
RACE/ETHNICITY (%)		
Black	65.5	75
White	27.1	0
Other	7.3	25

RESULTS

Limitations

- Non-randomized trial – perhaps those who agreed to enroll were more likely to prefer S2S
- Because of our decision to allow mothers to choose their rewarming method, we were unable to compare the effectiveness of two methods
- Fidelity to the S2S rewarming procedure was compromised at times

Safety of rewarming S2S

- Position of newborn
- Re-check position at 15 minutes
- Recheck temp at 30 and 60 minutes

Clinical Significance

- Patient and family centered care
- Breast feeding
 - Baby friendly initiative
 - Impact on rewarming

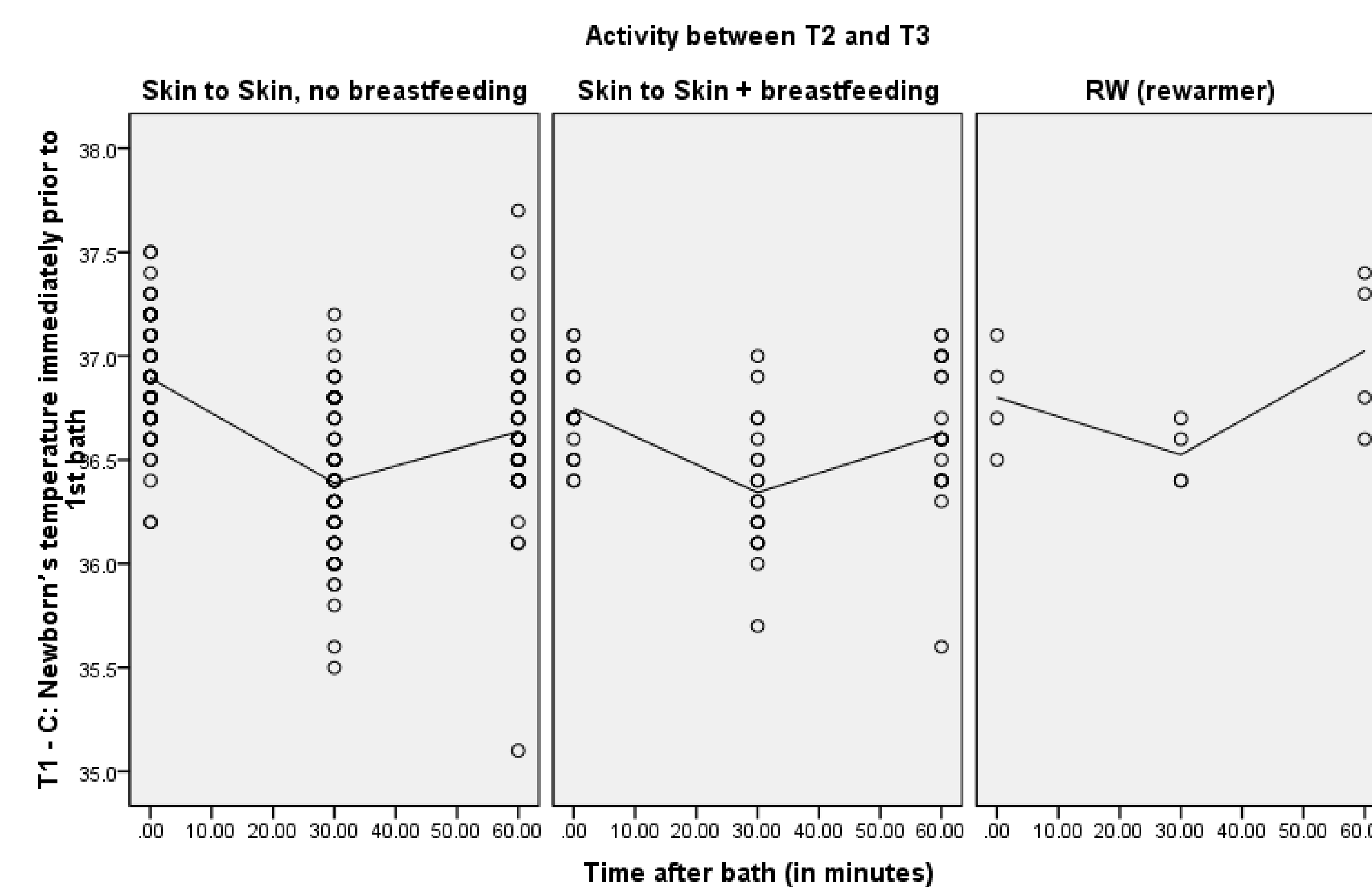
METHODS

Method : Non randomized clinical trial

Procedures:

- Once newborn ready for bath
 - Moms choose rewarming method immediately prior to bath
- Newborn temperatures taken
 - Prior to bath (T₁)
 - 30 min after bath (T₂)
 - 60 min after bath (T₃)
- Bath procedure standardized
- Skin to skin contact standardized
 - Infant placed upright and prone on mother's chest between her breasts, wearing only diaper and hat
 - Head is rotated to side in order to maximize skin to skin exposure

Results



Rescued: Five of the newborns in the S2S group failed to rewarm successfully and were rescued. Upon careful review of each case it was found that the newborns' positions or cover had been compromised, either because the mother fell asleep (n=3) or otherwise failed to strictly follow the procedures during the rewarming period.

CONCLUSIONS

- Given a choice, moms' clearly prefer S2S
- Relationships between Moms' race, age and babies' weights
- Gender differences and weight
- Breastfeeding outcomes
- 21% of babies breastfed during S2S
- A father requested to provide S2S when mom was too tired to participate
- Developed new procedures for rewarming newborns based on these study findings