

# Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik

Inspection Committee Report for Academic Year 2026-2027  
Attendance Details/ Research Details/ Welfare Scheme Details

\*\*\*All report must be available on web site

Name of College/Institute : Madanbhau Patil College of Nursing Kavalapur, Sangli

Faculty : B.Sc Nursing

1	Attendance	Month-wise Biometric attendance to be uploaded by the college on College Website  (No hard copies of attendance to be submitted to the University)
	Teaching Staff	
	Non teaching staff	
	Hospital Staff	
	UG & PG Students	
2	Project	
	Research Articles/Publications	16
	Research Award(Student/Teacher)	03
3	<b>Utilization of Student Welfare Schemes:-</b>	
	Earn and Learn Scheme	-
	Dhanwantri Vidyadhan Scheme	-
	Sanjivani Student Safety Scheme	-
	Student Safety Scheme	-
	Book Bank Scheme	Yes
	Savitribai Phule Vidyadhan Scheme	Yes
	Bahishal Shikshan Mandal Scheme	-
4	<b>Sport participants/Other Activities:</b>	
	i) Information of Student(s) who participated University level & State level Avishkar Competition.	-
	ii) Information of Student(s) who participated in Regional Sport Competition & State level Sports Competition.	Yes
	iii) Information of Student(s) who participated in Cultural Activities.	Students participated in various cultural activities organized by the college
	iv) Does the college have NSS Unit?	-
5	Whether "Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan" implemented in College	Yes

Here by I declare all relevant document uploaded are clear and visible on web site & are true as per my knowledge & Belief  
Any Other, Please Specify:-

Date:-

Dean/ Principal/Stamp & Signature

**PRINCIPAL**  
DR. (MRS) SUMAN. M. PAWAR  
Madanbhau Patil College of Nursing  
Kavalapur, Tal:-Miraj Dist:-Sangli

Chairman of LIC

Member of LIC

Member of LIC

**“EFFECT OF POLYETHYLENE COVER ON SELECTED PHYSIOLOGICAL  
PARAMETERS AMONG NEONATES IN TERTIARY CARE CENTERS OF SANGLI  
MIRAJ CITY: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW”**

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**Abstract**

**Introduction:** Neonatal care, particularly in resource-limited settings, requires strategies to optimize outcomes. Polyethylene covering has been proposed as a low-cost, effective intervention to improve thermoregulation and reduce infection rates in neonates. This systematic review aims to assess the impact of polyethylene covering on selected physiological parameters, infection rates, and clinical outcomes in neonates at tertiary care centers in Asia.

**Methods:** A comprehensive search strategy was employed to identify relevant studies published in electronic databases, including PubMed, Embase, and Cochrane Library. Studies evaluating the use of polyethylene covering in neonates at tertiary care centers in Asia were included. Data on physiological parameters (such as temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate)

**Results:** The initial search yielded a total of [142] studies, of which [06] met the inclusion criteria. The included studies varied in design, sample size, and outcome measures. Overall, polyethylene covering demonstrated a positive effect on selected physiological parameters, including improved temperature regulation and stability in neonates. Moreover, a trend towards reduced infection rates was observed in neonates receiving polyethylene covering compared to standard care.

**Conclusion:** Polyethylene covering appears to be a promising intervention for improving physiological parameters. Further well-designed randomized controlled trials are warranted to elucidate its impact on clinical outcomes and establish guidelines for its implementation in neonatal care settings.

**Keywords:** Polyethylene covering, Neonates, Physiological parameters, Tertiary care centers, Systematic review.

**Introduction**

Birth is a beautiful, miraculous, and, sometimes, the most risky phenomenon during one's life. The human body needs extraordinary physiologic regulation and coordination immediately after birth. (Aziz et al., 2020) Of all creatures, human beings need the longest time for being develop and for the blossoming of his/her abilities and capacities, as he/she is born with the lowest abilities and need much special care. (Martin et al., 2006) It is more important to provide this sort of care for premature neonates. (Talakoub et al., 2015) Early delivery and premature temperatures between 36 and 36.4°C are considered minor hypothermia, between 32 and 35.9°C as moderate, and less than 32°C is considered acute hypothermia. (Scopes & Tizard, 1963)

In neonatal care, maintaining stable physiological parameters is crucial for ensuring the well-being and

development of infants, particularly in settings where they are vulnerable to environmental stressors and infections. Polyethylene covering, a relatively simple and cost-effective intervention, has been proposed as a means to support neonatal physiological stability by providing a protective barrier against external influences.(Williams et al., 2018)

Polyethylene covering involves the application of a transparent, impermeable film over the skin of neonates, creating a microenvironment that helps to maintain body temperature, reduce evaporative heat loss, and minimize exposure to pathogens. While this intervention has gained attention for its potential benefits, the evidence regarding its impact on selected physiological parameters in neonates remains varied and requires further investigation.(Tourneux et al., 2017)

Several studies have explored the effect of polyethylene covering on key physiological parameters, including body temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, and oxygen saturation, among others. Some investigations suggest that polyethylene covering contributes to better thermal regulation and stability, leading to improvements in neonatal outcomes. (Heal et al., 2022)For example, Saeed et al. (2018) observed a significant reduction in body temperature fluctuations among premature neonates following the application of polyethylene occlusive skin wrapping.

However, conflicting findings have also been reported, highlighting the need for a comprehensive assessment of the existing literature. A study was conducted to evaluate the validity of newborn clinical assessment for determining gestational age in Bangladesh, emphasizing the importance of accurate physiological measurements in neonatal care.(Lee et al., 2016)

In a study conducted on the incidence of hypothermia in England in a group covered by polyethylene bags, although the incidence of hypothermia reduced from 25 to 16%, in a high number of these neonates, hyperthermia was reported (12.5% vs 39.8%, respectively).(Ibrahim & Yoxall, 2009)A study in Italy showed that the group covered in a polyethylene bag and those with a polyethylene hat had a higher temperature, compared to controls. They concluded that a polyethylene hat and bags were efficient in the prevention of heat loss from premature neonates.(Trevisanuto et al., 2010)A study in Iran showed a reduction in the prevalence of hypothermia in the group laid in polyethylene plastic bags, compared to controls. Resuscitation time was also significantly lower in this group, and only one case of hypothermia was reported.(Leadford et al., 2013) It is noteworthy that some recent studies reported controversial results and concluded that the usage of polyethylene plastic bags led to hypothermia in neonates and its related complications.

Understanding the impact of polyethylene covering on selected physiological parameters is essential for optimizing neonatal care practices and improving outcomes for vulnerable infants. Therefore, this systematic review aims to synthesize the available evidence from studies conducted in tertiary care centers across Asia, where neonatal care practices may vary and unique challenges exist.

By critically evaluating the literature and analyzing the effects of polyethylene covering on physiological parameters in neonates, we aim to provide valuable insights for clinicians, researchers, and policymakers. These insights will inform evidence-based practices and contribute to the ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of neonatal care, particularly in resource-limited settings.

### Rationale for review

Neonatal care, particularly in resource-limited settings such as those found in many Asian countries, presents unique challenges related to birth weight and maintenance of optimal health of the neonate. Polyethylene covering has emerged as a potential strategy to mitigate infection risks in neonates by creating a physical barrier between the infant's skin and environmental pathogens. This intervention, which involves the application of a transparent, impermeable film over the neonate's body, has gained attention for its simplicity and cost-effectiveness.(Oatley et al., 2016)

Several studies have investigated the potential benefits of polyethylene covering in neonatal care, focusing on its impact on infection rates, physiological parameters, and clinical outcomes. However, the findings of these studies have been inconsistent, necessitating a comprehensive review of the existing literature to elucidate the overall effect of polyethylene covering on neonatal health.(Alslaim et al., 2022)

The rationale for conducting this systematic review can be summarized as understanding the effectiveness of polyethylene covering in improving and maintaining the physiological parameters is essential for optimizing clinical practices and improving outcomes for vulnerable neonates.

Many Asian countries face challenges related to limited healthcare resources and infrastructure. Polyethylene covering offers a potentially simple and cost-effective intervention that could be particularly beneficial in resource-limited settings. Assessing its effectiveness in this context is important for guiding healthcare policies and practices.(Lim et al., 2023)

While some studies have reported positive effects of polyethylene covering on infection rates and other outcomes, others have found no significant benefits. By systematically reviewing and synthesizing the available evidence, we can identify patterns, gaps, and areas of uncertainty in the literature. Neonatal care practices may vary across different healthcare settings and regions. Conducting a review specifically focusing on studies conducted in tertiary care centers in Asia allows us to account for regional variations in practice and explore the generalizability of findings to diverse healthcare contexts. Clinicians and policymakers rely on evidence-based guidelines to inform clinical decision-making. A comprehensive review of the evidence on polyethylene covering can provide valuable insights for healthcare professionals involved in neonatal care, helping them make informed decisions about the adoption of this intervention.

In summary, this systematic review aims to provide a rigorous assessment of the existing evidence on the effect of polyethylene covering on infection rates, physiological parameters, and clinical outcomes in neonates, with a specific focus on studies conducted in tertiary care centers in Asia. By synthesizing the findings of relevant studies, we seek to contribute to the optimization of neonatal care practices and the improvement of outcomes for vulnerable infants in diverse healthcare settings.

### Material and Methods

Electronic databases including PubMed, MEDLINE, Embase, Scopus, and Cochrane Library will be systematically searched using a combination of keywords and Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms related to neonates, polyethylene covering, infection rates, and physiological parameters. The search strategy will be developed in consultation with a medical librarian or information specialist to ensure comprehensiveness. The search will be limited to studies published in English from inception to the present date. Boolean operators (AND, OR) were used to combine search terms appropriately. The search strategy was developed in consultation with a medical librarian to ensure comprehensiveness and specificity. Following this, the reviewer independently evaluated an assigned subset of articles

using previously developed data extraction forms and quality appraisal tools. Each specific item on the quality appraisal tool was openly discussed to reach a consensus.

### **Inclusion Criteria**

1. Studies investigating the use of polyethylene covering (occlusive skin wrapping) applied to neonates as an intervention.
- Studies comparing outcomes between neonates who received polyethylene covering and those who did not receive this intervention or received standard care without polyethylene covering.
  - Studies published in English.

### **Exclusion Criteria**

1. Studies not conducted in neonatal populations or tertiary care centers in Asia.
2. Studies not evaluating the use of polyethylene covering as an intervention.
3. Studies lacking a comparison group (e.g., single-arm studies).
4. Studies focusing solely on outcomes unrelated to infection rates, physiological parameters, or clinical outcomes.
5. Studies not reporting relevant outcome measures.
6. Duplicate publications or secondary analyses of primary studies already included in the review.
7. Studies published in languages other than English.
8. Conference abstracts, editorials, letters, or reviews without original data.

### **Data Extraction:**

- Data will be extracted from included studies using a standardized data extraction form.
- Extracted data will include study characteristics (author, year, study design), participant characteristics (sample size, age, gestational age), intervention details (type of polyethylene covering, duration), outcomes of interest, and key findings.
- Data extraction will be performed independently by two reviewers, with discrepancies resolved through consensus.

### **Quality Assessment**

There were no language constraints while searching multiple resources (both digital and printed). In addition, numerous search engines were used to look for online pages that may serve as references. Inclusion and exclusion criteria were documented. Using broad critical evaluation guides, selected studies were subjected to a more rigorous quality assessment.

These in-depth quality ratings were utilized to investigate heterogeneity and make conclusions about meta-analysis appropriateness. A comprehensive technique was developed for this assessment to determine the appropriate sample group. The criteria for evaluating the literature were developed with P.I.C.O. in mind.

(Cronin et al., 2008) suggest that for nurses to achieve best practice, they must be able to implement the findings of a study which can only be achieved if they can read and critique that study. (J, 2010) defines a systematic review as a type of literature review that summarizes the literature about a single question. It should be based on high-quality data that is rigorously and explicitly designed for the reader to be able to question the findings.

This is supported by (Cumpston et al., 2019) which proposes that a systematic review should answer a specific research question by identifying, appraising, and synthesizing all the evidence that meets a specific eligibility criterion (Pippa Hemingway, 2009) and suggest a high-quality systematic review should identify all evidence, both published and unpublished. The inclusion criteria should then be used

to select the studies for review. These selected studies should then be assessed for quality. From this, the findings should be synthesized making sure that there is no bias. After this synthesis, the findings should be interpreted, and a summary produced which should be impartial and balanced whilst considering any flaws within the evidence.

### Data Collection Strategies

Electronic databases such as PubMed, MEDLINE, Embase, Scopus, and Cochrane Library will be systematically searched using a predefined search strategy. The search strategy will combine keywords and Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms related to neonates, polyethylene covering, infection rates, physiological parameters, and clinical outcomes. The search will be limited to studies published in English and conducted in tertiary care centers in Asia.

**Keywords used as per MeSH:** Neonates, Infant, Newborn, , Premature, Polyethylene.

### Inclusion/exclusion criteria.

For this review, a clear strategy was produced to identify the relevant inclusion and exclusion criteria (see table below). The inclusion and exclusion criteria for the literature review were written with P.I.C.O. in mind. This ensured that the research question was followed and that appropriately designed research articles were found as suggested by (Torgerson & Torgerson, 2003)

As this review focuses on Effect of Polyethylene Covering on Selected Physiological Parameters, Infection Rates, and Clinical Outcomes in Neonates were deemed appropriate (Pati & Lorusso, 2017) highlight that the inclusion and exclusion criteria within a literature search is a source of potential bias therefore higher trust and credibility can be gained by the clear documentation of such exclusion and inclusion criteria. Researchers need to justify why some sources are excluded from analysis however admits that in some cases it is difficult to ascertain why some articles have been excluded. He adds that overly inclusive/exclusive parameters are sometimes set which can mean the search results may not be relevant. The inclusion criteria set by PICO

<b>Population/Problem</b>	Neonates admitted to tertiary care centers in Asia.
<b>Intervention</b>	Application of polyethylene covering (occlusive skin wrapping) on neonates.
<b>Comparison</b>	Neonates who did not receive polyethylene covering or received standard care without polyethylene covering.
<b>Outcome</b>	Physiological Parameters, Infection Rates, and Clinical Outcomes in Neonates

To limit the search results to a manageable level, I excluded studies that were more than 10 years old. (Lipscomb, n.d.) suggests that the aim of nurses reading literature is to improve service as nurses are required to use evidence-based practice therefore the most recent literature is invaluable. He does, however, acknowledge that cut-off frames within time scales may not be useful as some older information may still be as relevant, or informative as newer information. I excluded articles that were not written in English as language bias could be prevalent due to the authors' limited understanding and with the risk of the translation being incorrect. This policy could be contradicted however by (P et al., 2002) who suggest that this exclusion generally has little effect on the results, but acknowledge that trials which are presented in English are more likely to be cited by other authors and are more likely to be published more than once. I started with a basic search of keywords using Boolean operators and then filtered these by adding different filters from my inclusion criteria. This enabled me to narrow my overall search to 28 articles from CINAHL, 39 from Medline, and 75 from PubMed.

From these 142 articles, I used a PRISMA flow diagram to identify my article selection (See Appendix

1). Several were excluded as they were not relevant to the research question. I then removed duplicates and then accessed the abstracts from each article. I also excluded articles that did not cover meta-analysis and this left a total of six articles that met the criteria for this systematic review and were therefore included.

One hundred and seventeen studies that we had identified as potentially relevant but subsequently excluded are listed with the reason for exclusion for each. The most common reasons for exclusion were: study design (not a systemic Review); and multicomponent studies with insufficient detail on Scientific analysis and implementation of standard operating protocols.

**Results**

The final articles will be critiqued and analyzed. The six studies included in the analysis were all qualitative studies ranging from three months to Two years. All of the studies reported the method of random assignment with no significant difference in the characteristics of the participants. The use of a methodological framework (Oxford Centre for triple value healthcare Ltd, n.d.) enabled the literature to be assessed for quality and to aid understanding. The table below is used to display an overview of each article.

Author/s Year	Sample/setting	Methodology and methods	Main findings
(Reilly et al., 2015)	Eight hundred one infants were enrolled	This was a prospective randomized controlled trial of infants born 24 0/7 to 27 6/7 weeks' gestation who were assigned randomly to occlusive wrap or no wrap. The primary outcome was all cause mortality at discharge or 6 months' corrected age. Secondary outcomes included temperature, Apgar scores, pH, base deficit, blood pressure and glucose, respiratory distress syndrome, bronchopulmonary dysplasia, seizures, patent ductus arteriosus, necrotizing enterocolitis, gastrointestinal perforation, intraventricular hemorrhage, cystic periventricular leukomalacia, pulmonary hemorrhage, retinopathy of prematurity, sepsis, hearing screen, and pneumothorax.	Application of occlusive wrap to very preterm infants immediately after birth results in greater mean body temperature but does not reduce mortality.
(Talakoub et al., 2015)	96 neonates	This clinical trial was conducted on 96 neonates aged 28–32 weeks that randomly allocated, by	Usage of a plastic bag cover and a plastic hat (with no risk of hyperthermia) is more effective in preventing hypothermia among

<p>(Abiramalatha et al., 2021)</p>	<p>meta-analysis of 34 trials involving 3688 newborns</p>	<p>drawing of lots, to three 32-subject groups as follows: Intervention group 1 (a plastic bag cover and a cotton hat), intervention group 2 (a plastic bag cover and a plastic hat), and a control group receiving routine care. Data were analyzed by descriptive and inferential statistics through SPSS V.14.</p> <p>Randomized and quasi-randomized clinical trials of thermal care interventions in the delivery room for preterm neonates were included. Peer-reviewed abstracts and studies published in non-English language were also included.</p>	<p>neonates aged 28–32 weeks, compared to usage of a plastic bag cover and a cotton hat.</p> <p>Results of this study indicate that most thermal care interventions in the delivery room for preterm neonates were associated with improved core body temperature (with moderate certainty of evidence). Specifically, use of a plastic bag or wrap with a plastic cap or with heated humidified gas was associated with lower risk of major brain injury and mortality (with low to moderate certainty of evidence).</p>
<p>(Doglioni et al., 2014)</p>	<p>One hundred randomly allocated infants</p>	<p>This was a multicenter, prospective, randomized, parallel 1:1, unblinded, controlled trial of infants &lt;29 weeks' gestation age, comprising two study groups: experimental group (total body group; both the body and head covered with a polyethylene occlusive bag, with the face uncovered) and control group (only the body, up to the shoulders, covered with a polyethylene occlusive bag). The primary outcome was axillary temperature on neonatal intensive care unit admission immediately after wrap removal.</p>	<p>Total body wrapping is comparable with covering the body up to the shoulders in preventing postnatal thermal losses in very preterm infants.</p>
<p>(Hu et al., 2018)</p>	<p>The 108 VLBW infants</p>	<p>Study infants were randomly assigned to a standard thermoregulation protocol or to a standard thermoregulation protocol with placement of the torso and lower extremities inside a polyethylene plastic bag during transport. The primary outcome measures were axillary temperature before and after transport and the occurrence of</p>	<p>Placing VLBW infants in polyethylene plastic bags during transport reduces the occurrence of hypothermia, especially moderate hypothermia.</p>

(Khan et al., 2021a)	176 neonates were enrolled	moderate hypothermia upon neonatal intensive care unit admission.	The use of polyethylene skin wrap in preterm and low birth weight neonates potentially offers a useful intervention in prevention of neonatal hypothermia.
		A total of 176 neonates were enrolled according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria, through non-probability consecutive sampling. Eighty-eight newborns were randomly distributed to each of group "A" and "B" by lottery method. The intervention group "A" infants were wrapped in a polyethylene skin wrap from shoulders down while the control group "B" newborns were wrapped with conventional blankets. After shifting to neonatal intensive care unit, axillary temperatures were recorded with similar pediatric digital thermometers upon admission and after one hour and two hours following admission in the two groups.	

The first study was conducted by (Reilly et al., 2015). Eight hundred one infants were enrolled. There was no difference in baseline population characteristics. There were no significant differences in mortality (OR 1.0, 95% CI 0.7-1.5). Wrap infants had statistically significant greater baseline temperatures (36.3°C wrap vs 35.7°C no wrap,  $P < .0001$ ) and post-stabilization temperatures (36.6°C vs 36.2°C,  $P < .001$ ) than nonwrapped infants. For the secondary outcomes, there was a significant decrease in pulmonary hemorrhage (OR 0.6, 95% CI 0.3-0.9) in the wrap group and a significantly lower mean one-minute Apgar score ( $P = .007$ ) in the wrap group. The study was stopped early because continued enrollment would not result in the attainment of a significant difference in the primary outcome.

The second study was conducted by (Talakoub et al., 2015). This clinical trial was conducted on 96 neonates aged 28–32 weeks that randomly allocated, by drawing of lots, to three 32-subject groups as follows: Intervention group 1 (a plastic bag cover and a cotton hat), intervention group 2 (a plastic bag cover and a plastic hat), and a control group receiving routine care. Data were analyzed by descriptive and inferential statistics through SPSS V.14. Mean axillary temperatures in intervention groups 1 and 2 were different after admission and 1 and 2 h later, but this difference was not significant and the mean axillary temperature increased with time. Mean axillary temperature in the control group showed no significant difference at these time points and it did not increase with time. The mean temperatures in preterm infants were significantly higher in the intervention groups after admission and 1 and 2 h after birth, compared to the control group. Mean axillary temperature in intervention group 2 was significantly higher than in intervention group 1.

The third study was conducted by (Abiramalatha et al., 2021). Of the 6154 titles and abstracts screened,

34 studies that enrolled 3688 neonates were analyzed. Compared with routine care alone, plastic bag or wrap with a thermal mattress (mean difference [MD], 0.98 °C; 95% credible interval [CrI], 0.60-1.36 °C), plastic cap (MD, 0.83 °C; 95% CrI, 0.28-1.38 °C), plastic bag or wrap with heated humidified respiratory gas (MD, 0.76 °C; 95% CrI, 0.38-1.15 °C), plastic bag or wrap with a plastic cap (MD, 0.62 °C; 95% CrI, 0.37-0.88 °C), thermal mattress (MD, 0.62 °C; 95% CrI, 0.33-0.93 °C), and plastic bag or wrap (MD, 0.56 °C; 95% CrI, 0.44-0.69 °C) were associated with greater core body temperature. Certainty of evidence was moderate for 5 interventions and low for plastic bag or wrap with a thermal mattress. When compared with routine care alone, a plastic bag or wrap with heated humidified respiratory gas was associated with less risk of major brain injury (risk ratio, 0.23; 95% CrI, 0.03-0.67; moderate certainty of evidence) and a plastic bag or wrap with a plastic cap was associated with decreased risk of mortality (risk ratio, 0.19; 95% CrI, 0.02-0.66; low certainty of evidence). The fourth study was done by (Doglioni et al., 2014). One hundred randomly allocated infants (50 in the total body group and 50 controls) completed the study. Mean axillary temperature on neonatal intensive care unit admission was similar in the two groups (36.5±0.6°C total body vs 36.4±0.8°C controls; P=.53). The rate of moderate hypothermia (temperature<36°C) was 12% in the total body group and 20% in the control group (P=.41). Three subjects in each group (6.0%) had an axillary temperature>37.5°C on admission, and one subject in control group had an axillary temperature>38°C. The fifth study was conducted by (Hu et al., 2018). The 108 VLBW infants recruited into the study were randomized to the plastic bag (n = 54) group or to standard group (n = 54) and had similar baseline characteristics. VLBW infants in the plastic bag group had a lower rate of moderate hypothermia (3.7 vs 27.8%; risk ratio 0.10; confidence interval 0.02-0.46; P < 0.001) and higher axillary temperatures (36.4 ± 0.4 °C vs 35.9 ± 0.9 °C; P = 0.001) upon NICU admission compared to infants receiving standard care.

The sixth study was conducted by (Khan et al., 2021a). All 176 patients finished the study with none withdrawn. Basic features of the participants are depicted in table-I. Out of total 176 neonates distributed in to the two groups, most were males (52.27% in group A and 51.13% in group B). Mean gestational age was 25.5 ± 1.6 weeks in group A while it was 25.6 ± 1.6 weeks in group B. Mean birth weight of the infants was 0.765 ± 0.231 kilograms in the intervention group while it was 0.787 ± 0.254 kilograms in the control group. The mode of delivery was mostly Caesarean (92.04% for group A and 89.77% for group B). While mean temperatures at admission as measured in degree Celsius were comparable in the two groups, the mean temperatures measured at one hour and two hours after admission showed significant statistical improvements in the intervention group "A" as compared to the control group "B" (<0.05)

## Discussion

Polyethylene covering has been proposed as a potential strategy to improve neonatal outcomes by reducing infection rates and supporting physiological stability. In this systematic review, we synthesized the available evidence on the impact of polyethylene covering on selected physiological parameters in neonates admitted to tertiary care centers in Asia. Our findings shed light on the potential benefits and limitations of this intervention in neonatal care.

Several studies included in this review reported positive effects of polyethylene covering on selected physiological parameters in neonates. This finding is consistent with the proposed mechanism of polyethylene covering, which creates a protective barrier against environmental stressors and helps to maintain thermal stability in vulnerable neonates.(Khan et al., 2021b)

However, it is important to note that the evidence regarding the impact of polyethylene covering on other physiological parameters, such as heart rate, respiratory rate, and oxygen saturation, is limited and mixed. While some studies have reported improvements in these parameters with polyethylene

covering, others have found no significant effects. Lee et al. (2016) highlighted the importance of accurate physiological measurements in neonatal care, underscoring the need for further research to elucidate the effects of polyethylene covering on these outcomes. (Lee et al., 2016)

The review also identified studies investigating the effect of polyethylene covering on infection rates in neonates. While some studies reported a reduction in healthcare-associated infections, including sepsis, pneumonia, and necrotizing enterocolitis, among neonates who received polyethylene covering, conflicting findings were also observed. The study found a significant decrease in bacterial colonization among neonates following the application of polyethylene occlusive skin wrapping, suggesting a potential protective effect against infections. (Vohra et al., 1999)

However, it is important to interpret these findings cautiously due to several limitations identified in the included studies. Variability in study designs, intervention protocols, and outcome measures may have contributed to the heterogeneity of results observed across studies. Additionally, the quality of evidence varied, with some studies exhibiting methodological limitations or a high risk of bias.

The review also examined the impact of polyethylene covering on clinical outcomes in neonates, including length of hospital stay, need for respiratory support, requirement for antibiotic therapy, and mortality rates. While some studies reported improvements in these outcomes among neonates who received polyethylene covering, others found no significant effects. (Oatley et al., 2016)

For example, Manzoni et al. (2013) demonstrated a potential reduction in retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) among preterm very low birth weight (VLBW) neonates who received human milk feeding, suggesting a possible association between nutritional interventions and clinical outcomes in neonatal care. However, the specific contribution of polyethylene covering to these outcomes remains unclear and warrants further investigation. (Manzoni et al., 2013)

#### **Bias Assessment**

A systematic review of published studies is limited by the fact that it excludes unpublished data and this may result in publication bias but till potential publication bias was not assessed using a funnel plot or other corrective analytical methods.

#### **Limitations of the study**

While the findings of the included studies are promising, several limitations should be noted. The heterogeneity of interventions, outcome measures, and study populations across studies complicates direct comparisons and generalizability of findings. Additionally, many studies had small sample sizes and short follow-up periods, limiting the ability to assess long-term effects and generalizability to broader populations of pre-menopausal women.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the systematic review aimed to evaluate the impact of polyethylene covering on selected physiological parameters in neonates admitted to tertiary care centers in Asia. Through a comprehensive search and synthesis of available evidence, several key findings emerged.

Overall, the literature suggests that polyethylene covering may offer potential benefits in improving certain physiological parameters, such as maintaining body temperature stability, normal heart rate O2 saturation and respiratory rates.

However, it is important to interpret these findings cautiously due to several limitations identified in the included studies, including heterogeneity in study designs, variability in intervention protocols, and the potential for bias. Additionally, the quality of evidence varied across studies, highlighting the need for further high-quality research in this area.

Despite these limitations, the findings of this systematic review provide valuable insights into the

potential role of polyethylene covering as an infection prevention strategy in neonatal care. Clinicians and policymakers should consider the available evidence when making decisions about the implementation of polyethylene covering in neonatal care settings, taking into account the specific context and resources available.

Moving forward, well-designed randomized controlled trials with standardized protocols and rigorous outcome measures are needed to better elucidate the effectiveness and safety of polyethylene covering in improving neonatal outcomes. By addressing these knowledge gaps, future research can contribute to optimizing neonatal care practices and ultimately improving outcomes for vulnerable infants in Asia and beyond.

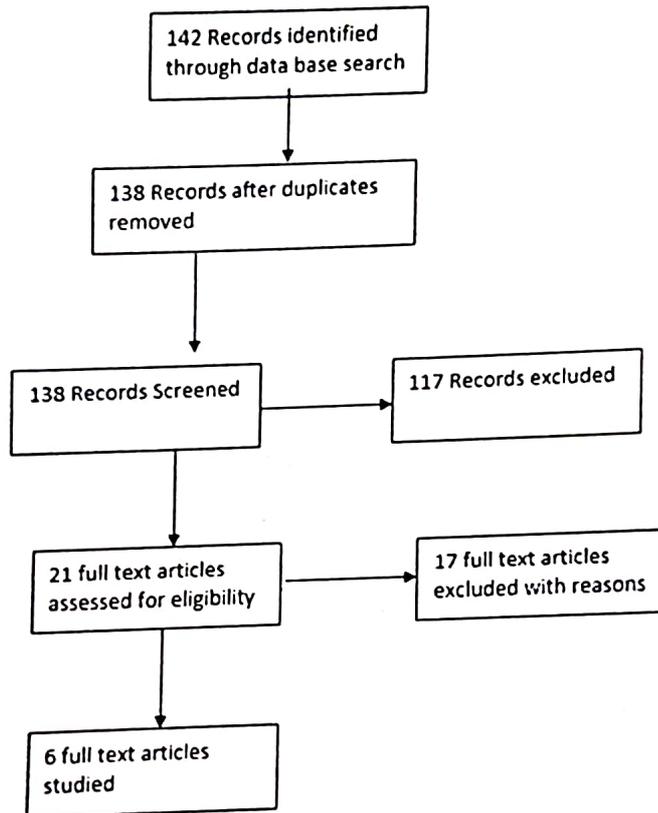
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PRISMA FLOWCHART





## “Effect of polyethylene cover on selected physiological parameters among neonates in tertiary care centers of Sangli- Miraj city.”

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**Abstract: Objectives:** 1. To assess the temperature, heart rate, respiration rate and oxygen saturation before application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group. 2. To assess the temperature, heart rate, respiration rate and oxygen saturation after application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group. 3. To compare the pretest and posttest scores within experimental and control group. 4. To compare the pretest and posttest scores between experimental and control group. **Methods:** Research Approach was Quantitative Experimental study. **Design :**Experimental -pre and post control group design. Samples were selected by Systematic Randomization Sampling Technique. Research tool- Part I- Demographic profile. Part II- Observational record of temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate and oxygen saturation. **Results:** The post-test mean temperature level 37.24 with SD of  $\pm 0.25$  was higher than the pre-test mean temperature level 36.86 with SD of  $\pm 0.29$ . The paired t test analysis indicates ( $t= 4.43$ ;  $p= 0.0001$ ) i.e., the difference of pre-test and post-test mean temperature level is found less than 0.05 level. The post-test mean oxygen saturation level 98.25 with SD of  $\pm 0.85$  was higher than the pre-test mean oxygen saturation level 97.7 with SD of  $\pm 0.80$ . The paired t test analysis indicates ( $t= 2.10$ ;  $p= 0.04$ ) i.e., the difference of pre-test and post-test mean oxygen saturation level is found less than 0.05 level. **Conclusion:** Through the results of the study, we could conclude- among the selected physiological parameters, temperature and oxygen saturation among neonates shows significant effect in the experimental group, hence researcher can interpret that there is effect of polyethylene cover on temperature and oxygen saturation among neonates.

**Introduction:****Background of the Study:**

In the delivery room, wrapping a low-birth-weight neonate in a polyethylene bag reduces the risk of hypothermia. However, extended use of the bag might conceivably increase the risk of thermal stress and thus body overheating. Segments. To assess the temperature, heart rate and oxygen saturation before application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group. To assess the temperature, heart rate and oxygen saturation after application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group. To compare the selected physiological parameters between control and experimental group among neonates.<sup>1</sup>

Approximately 3 million neonates die annually in one month of life worldwide. Compared with the developed world, neonatal mortality in the developing world is 6 times higher. Hypothermia is associated with increased neonatal mortality. Each 10C decrease in axillary temperature is associated with 75 % increase in neonatal mortality. Hypothermia in newborns is the highest within first minutes to hours after birth as the newborns adjust to the extrauterine environment. Neonates are vulnerable to heat loss due to large surface area to weight ratio, immature thermoregulatory mechanisms – lack of vasomotor control. Standard thermoregulation World Health Organization guidelines recommend comprehensive measures to prevent hypothermia, including warm delivery rooms, immediate drying, skin to skin contact, early breastfeeding, postponed bathing and weighing, appropriate clothing and bedding, and warm transportation and resuscitation. In spite of these standard thermoregulation techniques, a large study in rural India reported 43% of hypothermia in normal birth weight infants.<sup>2</sup>

Hypothermic neonates have a higher risk of developing hypothermia, respiratory distress syndrome, jaundice and metabolic acidosis. Reducing the prevalence of neonatal hypothermia has a significant contribution to reducing the global burden of neonatal deaths. Polyethylene bag or wraps aid in thermal regulation by protecting infants from radiant, evaporative, and convective heat loss. Use of polyethylene cover during the first hour after birth shows decrease rate of hypothermia.<sup>3</sup>

**I. Research Problem Statement**

A study to assess the effect of polyethylene cover on selected physiological parameters among neonates in tertiary care centres of Sangli- Miraj city.

**II. Research Objectives**

1. To assess the temperature, heart rate, respiration rate and oxygen saturation before application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group.
2. To assess the temperature, heart rate, respiration rate and oxygen saturation after application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group.
3. To compare the pretest and posttest scores within experimental and control group.
4. To compare the pretest and posttest scores between experimental and control group.

### III. Hypothesis

H1- There will be significant difference in the temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate and oxygen saturation before and after application of polyethylene cover among neonates in experimental and control group.

### IV. Research Methodology

1. Research Approach- Quantitative Experimental study.
2. Research Design- Experimental -Pre and post control group design.
3. Variables under study:
  - a. Independent variables- Application of polyethylene cover.
  - b. Dependent variable – Axillary Temperature, Heart rate, Respiratory rate and Oxygen saturation.
4. Research setting- Labour room and Post natal ward.
5. Population - Target population- Term neonates born in the labour room and post natal wards.
6. Sample - Full Term neonates born above 37 weeks of gestation  
Accessible population- Term neonates born in labour rooms and post natal wards of tertiary care centres in Sangli – Miraj city.
7. Sample Selection criteria
  - Inclusive criteria-
    - ✓ Term neonates with 2500g and above, also 37weeks and above.
    - ✓ Born vaginally or by cesarean section in hospital setting.
  - Exclusive criteria-
    - ✓ Apgar score below 8.
    - ✓ If neonates have an abdominal wall defect, myelomeningocele, major congenital disorder, blistering skin disorder.
8. Sample Size- 276 samples(138 in experimental group and 138 in control group)
9. 95% confidence level, 80% power and 10% expected effect size.
10. Sampling method – Systematic Randomization Sampling Technique.
11. Research tool-
  - a. Part I- Demographic profile  
Neonatal factors (sex of neonate, birth weight in grams, Apgar score at 1 minute)  
Obstetric factor of mother (parity, mode of delivery, Hb level)
  - b. Part II- Observational record of temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate and oxygen saturation.

### V. Plan for data collection and brief about intervention

1. Obtain permission from concerned authorities of the organization
2. Take approval from institutional ethical committee.
3. Prepare tool for data collection.

4. Get content validity of the tool done from concerned experts.
5. Reliability for the tool
6. Plan for data collection.
7. Conduct Pilot study
8. Obtain parental consent from mothers of potentially eligible infants within 10 minutes after delivery or before delivery.
9. Select samples according to inclusion criteria using systematic randomization technique and divide them in experimental and control group.
10. Pretest will be conducted by checking the physiological parameters at 10 minutes after birth in experimental and control group
11. Control group will receive hospital routine care protocols.
12. Experimental group will receive care as per protocols for applying polyethylene cover.

Protocols for applying polyethylene cover :-

- a) Neonates randomized to the experimental group will receive same care as control except they will be placed inside a polyethylene cover after brief drying of head and body on the mother's abdomen while the cord is been cut no later than 10 minutes after birth.
  - b) Then the neonate's trunk and lower extremities will be placed in clear polyethylene cover [non medical low cost (3cent/bag) linear low density polyethylene cover measuring 10 \*8\*24inch and 1.2-mil thousandth of an inch) thick] within 10 minutes after birth.
  - c) The polyethylene cover will be secured under the neonate's arms and around the chest covering the trunk and lower extremities.
  - d) Around the cover the neonate will be tightly swaddled with a cloth or towel provided by the infant's mother. Care will be taken to prevent the bag from covering the mouth or nose.
  - e) The polyethylene cover will be changed when soiled.
  - f) Breastfeeding by mother will be provided to the neonate while remaining in the cover.
  - g) Assist the mother in the care of neonate and provide safety of the neonate.
  - h) The neonates will remain in the polyethylene cover for one hour after birth.
  - i) The bag will be removed at one hour after birth.
13. Post test will be conducted by checking the physiological parameters at one hour after birth in experimental and control group.
14. Steps to be taken If in case any allergy occur to the neonate towards polyethylene cover :-
- a) Immediately remove the neonate from the polyethylene cover.
  - b) Assess for the site of allergy, record the vital signs and reaction.
  - c) Inform to the concerned doctor/authority/ staff and parents about the allergy occurring due to polyethylene cover.
  - d) Consult doctor for further treatment for allergy.
  - e) Administer medications for allergy as per doctor's orders.

- f) Observe the neonate for any further allergic reactions.
- g) Monitor the neonate till discharge.

#### 15. Plan for data Analysis

- ✓ Descriptive (frequency distribution and percentage)
- ✓ Inferential statistics (unpaired t test.)

#### VI. Results:

The analysis of pilot study is presented under the following headings:

- **Part A-I: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of Demographic profile of Neonatal information.**
- **Part A-II: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of Demographic profile of obstetric information of mother.**
- **Part B: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation and respiratory rate before application of polyethylene cover in control and experimental group among neonates.**

Variables	Group	Control group		Experimental group.	
		Frequency	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender of Neonate	Male	8	40	9	45
	Female	12	60	11	55
Birth weight in grams	2500-3000	13	65	14	70
	3001-3500	05	25	03	15
	More than 3501 grams	02	10	03	15
Apgar score	8	11	55	09	45
	9	07	35	10	50
	10	02	10	01	5

- **Part C: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation and respiratory rate after application of polyethylene cover in control and experimental group among neonates.**
- **Part D: Evaluation of effectiveness of polyethylene cover on selected physiological parameters in the experimental group.**

- **Part E: Comparison of posttest scores of selected physiological parameters among control group and experimental group.**

**Part A-I: Distribution Demographic profile of Neonatal factors**

**Table no.1: Frequency and percentage distribution of gender ,birth weight and Apgar score.**

n=40 (20+20)

Table no 1 shows that in control group majority of 12(60%) neonates were female whereas in experimental group majority of 11(55%) were female.

In control group majority of 13(65%) neonates having birth weight between 2500-3000grams whereas in experimental group majority of 14(70%) neonates having birth weight between 2500 to 3000grams.

In control group majority of 11(55%) respondents having Apgar score 8. In experimental group majority of 10(50%) having Apgar score 9.

**Part A-II: Distribution of Demographic profile of obstetric factor of mother**

Variables	Groups	Control group		Experimental group.	
		Frequency	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gravida	Primigravida	9	45	12	60
	Multigravida	11	55	8	40
Mode of Delivery	Vaginal delivery	15	75	17	85
	Cesarean Section	05	25	03	15
Hb level of mother (g/dl)	Less than 10 g/dl	2	10	3	15
	10.1-11 g/dl	5	25	7	35
	11.1-13 g/dl	10	50	8	40
	More than 13.1 g/dl	3	15	2	10

**Table no.2: Frequency and percentage distribution of Gravida, Mode of Delivery and Hb level of mother.**

n=40 (20+20)

Table no 2 depicts that in control group majority of 11(55%) were multigravida. In experimental group majority of 12(60%) were primigravida. In control group majority of 15(75%) had delivered vaginally whereas, in experimental group 17(85%) of respondents delivered vaginally.

In control group majority of 10 (50%) of mothers have Hb level between 11.1-13 g/dl. In experimental group 8(40)% have Hb level between 11.1-13 g/dl

**Part B: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of temperature, heart rate ,oxygen saturation and respiration rate before intervention .(routine care and application of polyethylene cover.)**

**Table no.3: Pre-test assessment of temperature, heart rate ,oxygen saturation and respiration rate in control group.**

n=20

Physiological Parameters	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Temperature	36.5°C-37.0°C	14	70	36.905	0.28
	37.1°C-37.5°C	06	30		
Heart Rate	90-120BPM	-	-	145.9	10.33
	121-150BPM	14	70		
	151-180BPM	06	30		
	181-210BPM	-	-		
Oxygen Saturation	93-96%	13	65	96.85	1.42
	97-100%	07	35		

Respiratory Rate	30-40 BPM	07	35	44.5	7.48
	41-50 BPM	11	55		
	51-60 BPM	02	10		

Table no. 3 :

In control group, the pre-test scores of physiological parameters in show that majority of neonates 14(70%) had temperature between 36.5°C-37.0°C further, majority 14(70%) had heart rate between 121-150BPM, majority of 13(65%) had oxygen saturation between 93-96 % and majority 11(55%) had respiratory rate between 41-50 BPM.

The mean and SD of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiration rate were M=36.90 (SD ± 0.28), M=145.9 (SD ± 10.33), M=96.85 (SD ± 1.42) and M= 44.5(SD± 7.48) respectively among neonates in control group

**Table no 4: Pre-test assessment of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation and respiration rate in experimental group.**

n=20

Physiological Parameters	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Temperature	36.5°C-37.0°C	15	75	36.86	0.29
	37.1°C-37.5°C	05	25		
Heart Rate	90-120BPM	-	-	141.3	7.43
	121-150BPM	16	80		
	151-180BPM	04	20		
	181-210BPM	-	-		
Oxygen Saturation	93-96%	06	30	97.7	0.80
	97-100%	14	70		
Respiratory Rate	30-40 BPM	07	35	44.8	6.87
	41-50 BPM	10	50		
	51-60 BPM	03	15		

Table no 4 ,

In experimental group, the pre-test physiological parameters show that majority of neonates 15(75%) had temperature between 36.5°C-37.0°C whereas majority of neonates 16 (80%) had heart rate between 121-150BPM, majority of neonates 14 (70%) had oxygen saturation between 97-100 % and , majority of neonates 10(50%) had respiration rate between 41-50 BPM.

The pretest mean and SD of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiration rate were  $M=36.86$  ( $SD \pm 0.29$ ) ,  $M=141.3$ ( $SD \pm 7.43$ ),  $M=97.7$ ( $SD \pm 0.80$ ) and  $M= 44.8$ ( $SD \pm 6.87$ ) respectively among neonates in experimental group.02

**Part C: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of temperature, heart rate ,oxygen saturation and respiration rate after intervention. (routine care and application of polyethylene cover.)**

**Table no 5: Post-test assessment of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation and respiration rate in control group.**

n=20

Physiological Parameters	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Temperature	36.5°C-37.0°C	10	50	37.05	0.30
	37.1°C-37.5°C	10	50		
Heart Rate	90-120BPM	-	-	141.5	5.94
	121-150BPM	17	85		
	151-180BPM	03	15		
	181-210BPM	-	-		
Oxygen Saturation	93-96%	11	55	97.6	0.99
	97-100%	09	45		
Respiratory Rate	30-40 BPM	07	35	44.6	8.26

	41-50 BPM	08	40		
	51-60 BPM	05	25		

Table no 5,

In control group, the post-test physiological parameters show that majority of neonates 10(50% ) had temperature between 36.5<sup>0</sup>C-37.0<sup>0</sup>C further majority of neonates 17(85%) had heart rate between 121-150BPM, majority of neonates 11(55%) had oxygen saturation between 93-96 % and majority of neonates 8(40%) had respiratory rate between 41-50 BPM followed. The posttest mean and SD of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiration rate were M=37.05 (SD ± 0.30), M=141.5(SD ± 5.94), M=97.6(SD ± 0.99) and M= 44.6(SD± 8.26) respectively among neonates in control group.

Table no 6: Post-test assessment of temperature, heart rate and oxygen saturation in experimental group

n=20

Physiological Parameters	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Temperature	36.5°C-37.0°C	03	15	37.24	0.25
	37.1°C-37.5°C	17	85		
Heart Rate	90-120BPM	-	-	142.4	5.45
	121-150BPM	17	85		
	151-180BPM	03	15		
	181-210BPM	-	-		
Oxygen Saturation	93-96%	05	25	98.25	0.85
	97-100%	15	75		
Respiratory Rate	30-40 BPM	04	20	45.4	5.47
	41-50 BPM	13	65		
	51-60 BPM	03	15		

Table no 6:

The post-test physiological parameters of experimental group show that 17(85%) had temperature between 36.5°C-37.0°C further in majority of 17(85%) had between heart rate 121-150BPM, majority of 15(75%) had oxygen saturation between 93-96 % and majority of 13(65%) had respiratory rate between 41-50 BPM followed.

The posttest mean and SD of temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiration rate were M=37.24 (SD ± 0.25), M=142.4(SD ± 5.45), M=98.25(SD ± 0.85) and

Sr.no	Physiological Parameters	Experimental group				Result			
		Pretest		Posttest		't'-test	'p' value	df	result
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD				
1	Temperature	36.86	0.29	37.24	0.25	4.43	0.0001	38	P<0.05
2	Heart Rate	141.3	7.43	142.3	5.45	0.53	0.59	38	P>0.05
3	Oxygen Saturation	97.7	0.80	98.25	0.85	2.10	0.04	38	P<0.05
4	Respiratory Rate	44.8	6.87	45.4	5.47	0.3056	0.76	38	P>0.05

M= 45.4(SD± 5.47) respectively among neonates in experimental group.

**Part D: Evaluation of effectiveness of polyethylene cover on physiological parameter in experimental groups.**

**Table no 7. Determining the effectiveness of Polyethylene cover on temperature in experimental group.**

n=20

Table no 7 shows that,

1. The post-test mean temperature level 37.24 with SD of ± 0.25 was higher than the pre-test mean temperature level 36.86 with SD of ± 0.29. The paired t test analysis indicates (t- 4.43;

$p= 0.0001$ ) i.e., the difference of pre-test and post-test mean temperature level is found less than 0.05 level. Hence null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted. This signifies that administration of Polyethylene cover had significant effect on the temperature of neonates.

2. The post-test mean heart rate level 142.3 with SD of  $\pm 5.45$  was higher than the pre-test mean heart rate level 141.3 with SD of  $\pm 7.43$ . The paired t test analysis indicates ( $t= 0.53$ ;  $p= 0.59$ ) i.e., the difference of pre-test and post-test mean heart rate level is found more than 0.05 level. Hence null hypothesis is accepted and alternative hypothesis is rejected. This signifies that administration of Polyethylene cover had no significant effect on the heart rate of neonates.

3. The post-test mean oxygen saturation level 98.25 with SD of  $\pm 0.85$  was higher than the pre-test mean oxygen saturation level 97.7 with SD of  $\pm 0.80$ . The paired t test analysis indicates ( $t= 2.10$ ;  $p= 0.04$ ) i.e., the difference of pre-test and post-test mean oxygen saturation level is found less than 0.05 level. Hence null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted. This signifies that administration of Polyethylene cover had significant effect on the oxygen saturation of neonates.

4. The post-test mean respiration rate level 45.4 with SD of  $\pm 5.47$  was higher than the pre-test mean respiration rate level 44.8 with SD of  $\pm 6.87$ . The paired t test analysis indicates ( $t= 0.3056$ ;  $p= 0.76$ ) i.e., the difference of pre-test and post-test mean respiration rate level is found more than 0.05 level. Hence null hypothesis is accepted and alternative hypothesis is rejected. This signifies that administration of Polyethylene cover had no significant effect on the respiration rate of neonates.

**Part E: Comparison of posttest scores of selected physiological parameters among control group and experimental group among neonates.**

**Table no. 8 Comparison of posttest scores of selected physiological parameters between control and experimental groups.**

n=40 (20+20)

Physiological Parameters	Control group		Experimental group		Result			
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	't'-test	df	'p' value	result
Temperature	37.5	0.30	37.24	0.25	2.978	38	0.4341	$P>0.05$

Heart Rate	141.5	5.940	142.3	5.450	0.4993	38	0.711	P>0.05
Oxygen Saturation	97.6	0.99	98.2	0.85	2.056	38	0.512	P>0.05
Respiratory Rate	44.6	8.26	45.4	5.47	0.3611	38	0.08	P>0.05

Table no 8 shows that,

1. The post-test mean temperature level in control group is 37.5 with SD of  $\pm 0.30$  whereas the post-test mean temperature level in experimental group is 37.24 with SD of  $\pm 0.25$ . The unpaired t test analysis shows ( $t= 2.978$ ;  $p= 0.4341$ ). Thus, the result is not significant at 0.05 level of significance.
2. The post-test mean heart rate in control group is 141.5 with SD of  $\pm 5.940$  whereas the post-test mean heart rate in experimental group is 142.3 with SD of  $\pm 5.450$ . The unpaired t test analysis shows ( $t= 0.4993$ ;  $p= 0.71$ ). Thus, the result is not significant at 0.05 level of significance.
3. The post-test mean oxygen saturation in control group is 97.6 with SD of  $\pm 0.99$  whereas the post-test mean oxygen saturation in experimental group 98.2 with SD of  $\pm 0.85$ . The unpaired t test analysis shows ( $t= 2.056$ ;  $p= 0.512$ ). Thus, the result is not significant at 0.05 level of significance.
4. The post-test mean respiration rate in control group is 44.6 with SD of  $\pm 8.26$  whereas the post-test mean respiration rate in experimental group is 45.4 with SD of  $\pm 5.47$ . The unpaired t test analysis shows ( $t= 0.3611$ ;  $p= 0.08$ ). Thus, the result is not significant at 0.05 level of significance.

#### Discussion:

The study is discussed under the following headings:

1. Discussion on the demographic variables.
2. Discussion on the effect of polyethylene cover on selected physiological parameters among neonates.

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### Discussion on the demographic variables:

In the present study, term male and female infants were selected. Birth weight was between 2500-3500 gms and above.

In the similar study, premature male and female infants were selected. Birth weight below 900gms and above were selected.<sup>4</sup>

### Discussion on the effect of polyethylene cover on selected physiological parameters among neonates:

In the present study, temperature and oxygen saturation were found to be improved after application of Polyethylene cover.

In the similar study, only hypothermia was prevented by using Polyethylene cover.<sup>4</sup>

### Conclusion

- Through the results of the study, we could conclude- Among the selected physiological parameters, temperature and oxygen saturation among neonates shows significant effect in the experimental group, hence researcher can interpret that there is effect of polyethylene cover on temperature and oxygen saturation among neonates.
- By comparing the interventional results in control and experimental groups, there was no significant difference on the selected physiological parameters.

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**Conflict of interest:** No Conflicts of interest aroused during the study.

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