

Literacy Promotion in the Well Newborn Nursery

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Background

- The AAP recommends beginning shared reading at birth as it promotes optimal infant development and parent-child interactions
- Limited data exists on best practices around shared reading promotion in infants 0-6 months

Objective

- To estimate the prevalence and variations in anticipatory guidance about shared reading given during the newborn stay at hospitals across the U.S.

Methods

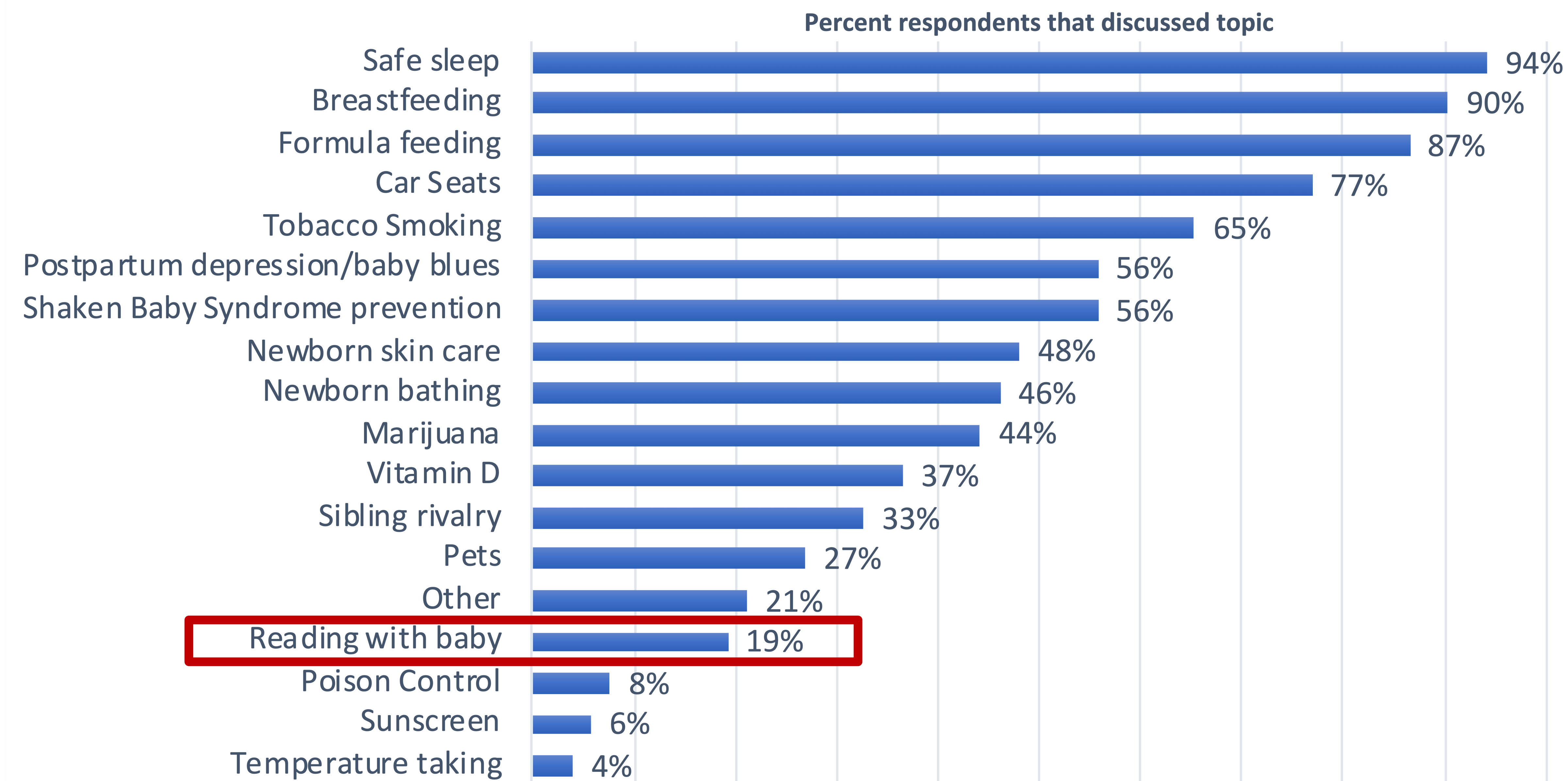
- 2020-2021 emailed survey of anticipatory guidance practices among U.S. hospitals in the Better Outcomes through Research for Newborns (BORN) Network (currently ongoing)

Results

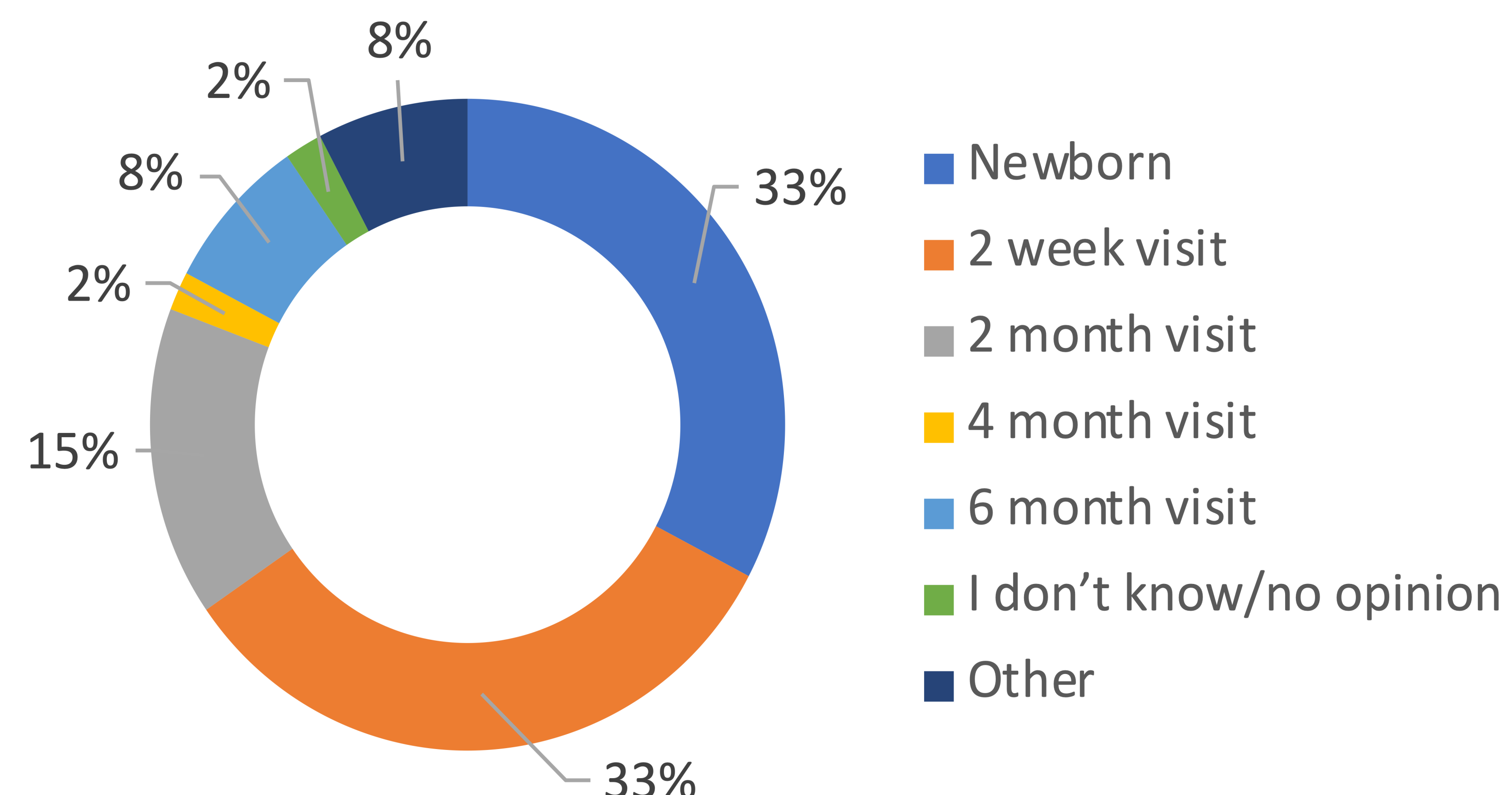
- N=52 newborn nursery physicians from discrete U.S. hospitals (46% response rate to date)
- 10 (19%) include shared reading in their anticipatory guidance
- 17 (33%) regularly discuss any early literacy topics
- 17 (33%) give children's books to new parents

Results

Topics Discussed as Anticipatory Guidance by Physician Team



Respondents' Opinions of When Physicians Should Introduce Reading to Parents



Reasons for not discussing early literacy topics during newborn stay

Too many other topics to cover; don't want to overwhelm families
(shared reading ranked 10th in important topics)

Should be discussed by PCP (however, 48% unsure when shared reading guidance actually initiated in outpatient setting)

Conclusions

- Anticipatory guidance practices vary widely across U.S. hospitals
- Despite AAP recommendations, shared reading is not routinely discussed during newborn hospitalization and many other topics are more commonly incorporated in anticipatory guidance
- Additional research is needed to:
 - Determine which topics affect caregiver behavior when discussed in the newborn period in order to standardize guidance given
 - Assess the impact of early introduction of reading guidance on shared reading behaviors

Acknowledgments



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