Prematurity:
Not Just for Infants Anymore
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Learning Objectives
At the completion of the presentation, the participant will:
• Describe the current state of the science related to neurodevelopmental and educational outcomes of children born prematurely.
• Describe the Premature Birth Knowledge Scale as a method for quantifying understanding of neurodevelopmental outcomes of children born prematurely.
• Identify the importance of coordination of educational support services for children born prematurely.
The highest risk for preterm birth occurs with:
Prior Preterm Birth
Preeclampsia diagnosed prior to term

From 2007-2016: <2% of preterm birth occurred at <32 weeks
From 2007-2016: 8-9% of preterm birth occurred between 32-36 weeks

IDEA Part C
State based eligibility criteria for 1) children with diagnosed physical, mental condition with high likelihood of developmental delays, 2) developmental delay in 1 of 5 domains (cognitive, motor, communication, social/emotional, adaptive).
In 2004: Increasing emphasis on quality measures, identification of at risk children, provision of services in the “natural environment”

Long-term Follow-up Studies
Bavarian Longitudinal Study:
27-41 weeks gestation, Germany, born 1985-1986
EPIcure Cohort:
25 weeks or less, from UK / Ireland. 1st cohort born 1995, 2nd cohort born 2006
Rhode Island Cohort:
Stratified preterm groups, born 1985-1989, healthy PT, neurologic PT, medical PT, SGA, full-term control group

Aylward(2005) the range of disabilities experienced by children born prematurely is not different from those of the general population, but occurs with significantly higher incidence.

High frequency, low severity conditions
Families turn to primary health care providers and the school system for support and guidance.

Do we know what to tell them?

Premature Birth Knowledge Scale
Let’s try a few of the items together.
Marlow (2018) most very and extremely preterm infants do well; this message must not be lost. Most are living independent and self-supportive lives, similar self-perceived quality if life to term peers.

High frequency, low severity conditions

References
References


