

# Neonatal Nursing & Maternal Healthcare

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## **When the bough breaks: Preventing infant falls**

Sino George

Emory University Hospital Midtown, USA

Newborns experience in-hospital falls at rate of approximately 1.6/10,000 live births, resulting in 600-1600 falls per year in the United States before the last decade, the topic of in-hospital newborn fall/drop was virtually nonexistent in the literature. Although in-hospital adult falls have long been a focus of research and intervention, there has been no tracking of data on the prevalence of falls among newborns and no published protocols specifically to prevent falls among newborns until recently.

The birth of a baby can be one of the most joyous experiences for families. Dropping a baby after falling asleep or caring for an infant when an accidental injury occurs can be an emotional and life-changing experience for families, especially if serious injury occurs. Literature now shows that healthcare facilities can make a difference in newborn events by incorporating

**Notes:**