about

Team HOPE is an interdisciplinary team from the Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the Monroe Carrell Jr. Children's Hospital that seeks to provide evidence-based care for opioid-exposed infants. The team is comprised of physicians, nurses, social workers, child life specialists, lactation consultants, and care providers from the:

- Department of Pediatrics Division of Academic General Pediatrics
- Department of Pediatrics Division of Hospital Medicine
- Department of Pediatrics Division of Neonatology
- Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

mission

To improve the care of the opioid exposed mother-baby dyad through a multifaceted, family-centered approach. The team seeks to keep moms and babies together after birth, and move the dyad out of an intensive care setting when possible.

team hope care model

Traditional care models send babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) to the NICU after birth, separating mom and baby.

The Team HOPE model keeps mom and baby together and out of intensive care settings after birth, and provides support services such as volunteers, a lactation consultant, and a dedicated child life specialist.
Team HOPE began September 2017 and this multidisciplinary care model is helping to better manage NAS for affected babies and their families. The report below includes infants born between September 1, 2017 and December 30, 2019.

Team HOPE Infant Criteria: Otherwise healthy opioid-exposed infants with EGA > 35 weeks, NICU Length of Stay ≤ 5 days, and born at VUMC or transferred in from an outside facility before 5 days of life.

**Characteristics of Team HOPE infants**
- **297** Infants met Team HOPE criteria
- **27%** Diagnosed with NAS
- **19%** Received one or more doses of morphine
- **3** Re-admitted within 7 days of discharge

**Child Life related measures**
- **84%** Seen by a Child Life Specialist
- **14** New volunteers on-boarded*
- **24%** Seen by any volunteer

*started February 2018

**Breastfeeding related measures**
- **69%** Infants eligible to breastfeed
- **86%** Eligible mothers ever breastfed or fed expressed breast milk during hospitalization
- **91%** Infants breastfed at discharge

**Location at discharge**
- **62%** Discharged from Newborn Nursery
- **36%** Discharged from Pediatric Medicine Acute Care
- **2%** Discharged from NICU

**Length of Stay (Days)**
- **5** Length of stay for all Team HOPE infants
- **11** Length of stay for infants diagnosed with NAS

**CONTACTS**

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