

**REPORT OF
11TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF NEONATAL NURSES
(IANN)**

13th – 15th February 2026

Theme: Innovations and Evidence Based Practices in Neonatal Nursing

Venue: AIIMS Kalyani



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target for the neonatal mortality rate (NMR) is to reduce it to 12 or fewer deaths per 1,000 live births by 2030. The Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) in India, as reported in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), was 25 per 1,000 live births. To meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) target of 12 NMR per 1,000 live births, India needs to reduce the NMR by 6.3% annually, and this would require bringing into practice the recent advancements in the field of neonatal health.

IANN is a professional organization established in 2008 to advance knowledge and foster excellence in neonatal nursing. It advocates policy within the healthcare delivery system to provide quality care to neonates.

IANN promotes the development of neonatal nursing through conferences, meetings, and seminars every year. In 2026, the 11th annual conference of the Indian Association of Neonatal Nurses (IANN) was hosted by AIIMS Kalyani from 13th February to 15th February on the theme “*Innovations and Evidence Based Practices in Neonatal Nursing*” Neonatal nurses from all over India participated in the three-day event to discuss the development of neonatal nursing.

The program was organized under the patronship of Dr. Arvind Sinha Executive Director and CEO, AIIMS Kalyani. The entire program was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Manju Vatsa, Founder president of IANN, Dr. Jyoti Sarin, Past President IANN, Dr. Poonam Joshi and Ms. Parul Dutta Organizing chairpersons and Dr. Suvashri Sasmal and Dr Alpanamai Bera Organizing secretaries.

The chief guest for this program was Dr. Sushma Nangia, Director, KSCH. The Guests of Honor were Dr. T. Dileep Kumar, President INC, Dr Arup Roy, FIAP, FNNF and Dr. Monjur Hossain, Chief of Field Office UNICEF.

AIM OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference aims to offer neonatal nurses and healthcare providers an opportunity to learn about the recent evidence-based updates in neonatal care and explore innovations in Neonatal Nursing.

DAY 1, 13th February 2026, Friday

VENUES: AIIMS Kalyani, IPGMER & SSKM , Medical College Kolkata

Registration for the workshops was done at the respective venues from 9.00-9.30 am. The Concurrent workshops were organized from 9.30 AM to 5.00 PM. Every pre-conference workshop conducted their pre-test and post-test to assess the participants' performance. Approx 40 participants attended in each workshop.

WORKSHOP 1. NRP: OPTIMIZING THE GOLDEN HOUR

VENUE: AIIMS, Kalyani

The **coordinators** of the sessions were Dr. Jyoti Sarin, and Ms. Tanusree Biswas

The workshop included various **sessions**. *Dr. Jyoti Sarin* discussed the Overview and Principles of Resuscitation. Ms. Kutty Rachel Babu described the *Initial Steps in Resuscitation and*

Endotracheal Intubation. Ms. Suman Dabas reviewed *Bag & Mask Ventilation and Medications*. *Chest Compression* was described by Dr. Mukesh Chandra Sharma and endotracheal intubation was explained by Dr. Aarti Kapoor. Medication was discussed by Ms. Tanusree Biswas and *Special Considerations during Resuscitation of Preterm Babies, Ethics and Care at the End of Life* was explained by Dr. Shoham Majumdar.

There were total of five **workstations**, namely, *Initial Steps in Resuscitation, Bag and Mask Ventilation, Chest Compression, Endotracheal Intubation, and Medications* facilitated by all the experts.

Pre-tests and post-tests were also conducted. The pre-conference ended with a valedictory session.



WORKSHOP 2. POINT OF CARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN NEONATAL CARE

VENUE: 2nd Floor of B.C. Roy Auditorium, AIIMS Kalyani

The **coordinators** of this workshop were Dr. Achala, Ms. Susy Sarah John and Ms. Ushoshee Ghosh.

The workshop included various **sessions** like *Introduction to POCQI & Experience Sharing* by Dr. Achala. Ms. Susy Sarah John explained *Steps – I: Problem Identification, forming a team, and writing an Aim statement. Step –II: Analysing and measuring the quality of care: Part A – Analysing the quality of care* was described by Ms. Savita Gahalain, and *Part B – Measuring the quality of care* was explained by Dr. Rameshwari Zala *step III, Developing and testing change ideas (including the PDSA Cycle)*. Ms Ushoshee Ghosh explained *Step IV: engaging stakeholders to sustain improvements*. All the experts shared projects on Quality Improvement in Neonatal care.

All resource persons facilitated hands-on sessions, including designing and presenting QI projects in groups. Pre-tests and post-tests were also conducted. The workshop ended with Final reflections /Way Forward and valedictory session.



WORKSHOP 3. SIMULATION AND OSCE IN NEONATAL NURSING

VENUE: Examination Hall, AIIMS Kalyani

The **coordinators** of this pre-conference workshop were Dr. Manju Vatsa, Ms. Ekta and Dr Jamuna Rani R.

The **sessions** started with **an** overview of *Simulation in neonatal nursing education* by Dr. Manju Vatsa, followed by a *Video on simulation*. Ms. Ekta Malik discussed *Developing simulation scenarios* and *Debriefing*. Ms. Ekta Malik and Dr. Jamuna Rani R and Dr Deviga T gave a demo of the simulation session. *Dr. Manju Vatsa did an OSCE overview.*

Hands-on sessions, including **the Preparation of OSCE stations and presentation by participants**, were facilitated by all the experts.

Pre-test and post-test were done. The workshop was concluded with a valedictory session.



WORKSHOP 4. SKILLS UPDATES IN NICU, INCLUDING RESPIRATORY SUPPORT INVASIVE & NON INVASIVE

VENUE: IPGMER & SSKM Hospital

The **coordinators** of this pre-conference workshop were Ms. Parul Dutta and Ms. Supa Guha.

A team of neonatologists and nursing personnel consisted of Dr. Sougata Choudhury, Ms. Ankita Nath, Ms. Subhra Dey, Dr. Rakesh Dey, Ms. Baby Mondal, Dr. Ashadur Jamal, Ms. Mallika Saha Ms. Moumita Bhattacharyya, Dr. Anindya Kumar Saha, Ms. Supa Guha, Ms. Mita Malik

Four-morning stations were organized - The setting up of the CPAP machine and patient interface and the role of nurses, setting up of the HFNC machine and patient interface and the role of nurses, setting up of ventilator and patient interface and the role of nurses, Nursing role in the initial management of desaturating the baby.

There were four **evening stations**. Selection of the endotracheal (ET) tube, its fixation, ET, and oropharyngeal suction, Care of the central line and PICC, The nurse's role in screening for ROP, Disinfection of resuscitation and ventilator equipment.

Pre-test and post-test were done. A valedictory session was also held at the end.



WORKSHOP 5. DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORTIVE CARE: INTACT NEONATAL SURVIVAL

VENUE: CNE CELL, LECTURE THEATRE, Medical College Kolkata

The **coordinators** of this pre-conference workshop were Dr. Alpanamayi Bera, and Mr. Raghu VA.

The workshop opened with an overview on Neuro-developmental and supportive care. The **other sessions** explained the *Concept of Neuro-Developmental Supportive Care for Neonates* by Dr Dinesh Munian. Mrs. Rekha Bhattacharya highlighted the importance of the *Healing Environment of Neonatal Care and Protected Sleep*. *Developmentally Supportive Activities of Daily Living (ADL) of Neonates* was explained by Dr. Malar Kodi. *Protection from Pain and Stress in Neonatal Care* was discussed by Mr. Raghu V. A. Mrs. Bulbul Kundu focussed on promoting *Family Centered Care for Newborn Infants*. A brief session on Kangaroo Mother Care was deliberated by Dr. Alpanamayi Bera.

Skill Stations related to Kangaroo Mother Care; Non-Pharmacological measures of Pain Management in neonates, Nesting, Swaddling, and Containment; Oro-motor Stimulation, Non-Nutritive Sucking and Feeding; Positioning, Posture, Tactile Stimulation, Massage, and Handling of small and sick neonates were organized. All resource persons facilitated this activity.

Pre-test and post-test were done and concluded with open discussion and valedictory sessions.



WORKSHOP 6. HOME-BASED NEWBORN CARE

VENUE: Yamuna Hall, AIIMS Kalyani

The **coordinators** of the workshop were Ms. Srinithya Raghavan, Ms. Vasundhara Balaswamy and Ms. Bina Halder.

Sessions included an *Overview of home-based newborn care* by Dr. Rimple Sharma, Essential Newborn Care Practices at birth and at home was taken by Dr. Richa Gupta. Dr Mugunthan M. focused on Infection control practices- hand hygiene, cord care, and *eye care*. Home Visit Protocols for Newborn Monitoring and Continuity of Care *by* Dr Nilanjan Dastidar, District Maternal and Child Health Officer (DMCHO), Nadia. Stabilization, Transport, and Referral of Sick Newborns was taken by Ms. Vasundhara Balaswamy.

In the afternoon, there were four skill stations related to home based newborn care for the participants. Pre-tests and post-tests were also conducted. Open discussion and valedictory sessions were also held.



DAY 2, SATURDAY 14th February 2026

VENUE: B. C. Roy AUDITORIUM, AIIMS kalyani

PLENARY SESSION I: CONTINUUM OF CARE FROM WOMB TO HOME

Chairperson:

- Dr. Nihar Ranjan Mishra and Dr. Jamuna Rani R

Speakers:

- Dr. Malar Kodi, Associate Professor AIIMS Rishikesh, discussed “*Antenatal and Intranatal approach to improving Neonatal outcomes.*” Her presentation touched on various topics, such as the Weekly Iron Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) program and Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB). She stated WHO guidelines and current Government of India initiatives to help improve neonatal outcomes.
- Dr. Bijan Saha, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, SSKM, IPGMER shared his insights on “*Golden Hour Care of Newborn: Recent updates*”. In his talk, he focussed on the Principles of the “Golden Hour Care of Newborn,” such as Antenatal counselling and team briefing, delayed cord clamping of the cord, prevention of hypothermia, effective and gentle resuscitation, optimum respiratory and hemodynamic support, transport to and stabilization in NICU, communication with family, nutrition care, initiation of breastfeeding, prevention of infection and laboratory investigation.
- Dr. Asim Mallick discussed “*Postnatal Care critical interventions for improved neonatal outcomes.*” He briefly explained the priority areas for action related to nutritional interventions, postnatal maternal assessment, newborn assessment, preventive measures, and health system interventions.



PLENARY SESSION II: ADVANCEMENTS IN RESPIRATORY CARE AND NUTRITIONAL CARE

Chairperson:

- Ms. Parul Datta and Dr. Bijan Saha SSKM, IPGMER

Speakers:

- Dr. Shoham Majumder, Assistant Professor, AIIMS Kalyani, presented on “Non-invasive ventilation *Approach and management of desaturating babies: Invasive and Non-invasive.*” He used a case-based discussion approach to help understand the DOPE approach to manage the respiratory concerns of newborns. DOPE stands for Displacement, Obstruction, Pneumothorax, or Equipment failure. Emphasis on general and system wise assessment was also done.
- Dr. Richa Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Neonatology, AIIMS Kalyani took a session on “*Surfactant therapy*”. The importance of CPAP and antenatal steroids in reducing the need for surfactant deficiency also highlighted.
- Ms. L. Levis Murry took a session on care of neonate on Ventilator



INAUGURAL SESSION

The inaugural ceremony started after the second plenary session, which saw the presence of many esteemed dignitaries, guests, and participants. The ceremony began with lamp lighting and an invocation song. Felicitation of distinguished dignitaries was done.

The inaugural ceremony started with a *Welcome address from Dr. Suvashri Sasmal Organizing secretary of 11th Annual conference of IANN*, which was followed by unfolding of the theme by Dr. Poonam Joshi, President IANN and the organizing chairperson of the

conference. She shared the various activities IANN organized during 2024-2026 in the annual report. One main event discussed was the 10th Annual Conference organized by IANN at NIHFV. Other events included observation of Breastfeeding Week, Newborn Week, and Prematurity Day at various government institutes.

An overview of IANN to the attending delegates was given by Dr. Manju Vatsa, the Founder President of the Indian Association of Neonatal Nurses (IANN). She shared her valuable insights on the current NMR and the Government of India's initiatives to prioritize maternal and newborn health. She highlighted how IANN was set up in 2007 and was like a sister organization to NNF. It is registered under the Society's Act of 2008 and has approximately 1600 members. She shared the role of IANN in bringing up the Post Basic Diploma in Neonatal Nursing and that the society has submitted the curriculum of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program to the INC.

The overview of IANN was followed by the

The esteemed guests gave the guest of honor's address.

Dr. T. Dileep Kumar, President INC, emphasized the importance of the nursing profession and how an exceptional cadre of specialized neonatal nurses and midwives can help achieve the SDG.

Dr. Arup Roy, FNNF West Bengal emphasized the vital role of nurses, as they combine science, compassion, and care for caring for the 'tiniest' vulnerable individual.

Dr. Monjur Hossain Chief of Field Office UNICEF, West Bengal also focused on the importance of skilled neonatal Nurses.

Dr. Sushma Nangia, Director & Head of Lady Harding Medical College, recalled how IANN came up at the first conference of neonatal nursing organized in 2007. She emphasized the importance of neonatal nurses and that "a doctor's observations of a newborn are snapshots, but the nurse's observations of a baby are like a movie."

The ***Chief guest address*** by Dr. Sushma Nangia was crucial. She discussed improving the overall health indicators at the national level and every district level, highlighting the disparity between various states. She also proposed the need for more trained and specialized nurse educators as the neonatal care system expands.

The Inaugural address concluded with a ***Vote of Thanks*** from Dr. Achala Secretary and Co-Chairperson of the conference. The dignitaries, resource persons, and delegates were acknowledged for their presence and input. UNICEF & INC were thanked for their financial and technical support.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Chairperson:

- Dr. Jyoti Sarin, Former President of IANN
- Dr. Poonam Joshi, President IANN

Speaker:

- Dr. Sushma Nangia, Director, KSCH, did a very engaging session on “*Status of Newborn Health in India.*” She talked about the necessary systemic changes to decrease further NMR and how India worked on the intervention pillar of INAP and added the 6th pillar of intervention – Care beyond survival.

PLENARY SESSION III: COMPETENCY-BASED TRAINING IN NEONATAL CARE

Chairperson:

- Ms. L. Levis Murry, Associate Professor, AIIMS New Delhi
- Ms. Vasundhara B

Speakers:

- Dr. Rimple Sharma , Professor cum Principal, AIIMS Jammu discussed the neonatal screening including the management of metabolic disorders.
Ms. Era Deepak Dayal deliberated on Congenital anomalies and
Dr. Debajani Gupta discussed in length about the ethical issues in neonatal nursing.



At 3.00 pm neonatal nursing quiz for M.Sc. Nursing students was conducted online by Ms. Leena Thomas, Ms. Ritu Gahalawat and Ms. Samrajeet Kaur.

The response of the students was overwhelming.

ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF IANN (ONLY FOR MEMBERS)

The annual GBM was held. There were a total of 30 members present during the meeting.

A detailed report of IANN activities was presented.

The meeting was dispersed at 7 PM followed by a cultural evening organised by the students.



DAY 3, SUNDAY 15th February 2026

VENUE: B. C. Roy AUDITORIUM, AIIMS Kalyani

FREE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Chairpersons:

- Dr. Jyoti Sarin, Director and Dean MM college of Nursing
- Rimple Sharma, Professor cum Principal, AIIMS Jammu

Six paper presentations were done.

- **Kiran Yadav:** Comparative Study to assess Mothers Perception and Satisfaction regarding care of neonates in Mother Newborn Care Unit and Newborn Intensive Care Unit at Tertiary Level Facility.
- **Protiksha Das:** Effectiveness of facilitated tucking in reducing the pain Response during venipuncture among preterm neonates Admitted to SNCU: a quasi-experimental study.
- **Nirupam Nisha Saha:** Innovations in Neonatal Nursing: A Scoping Review.
- **Suvashri Sasmal:** Effect of pre-feeding oro-motor stimulation on feeding outcomes in preterm infants during early infancy- a randomized controlled trial
- **Raghu V A:** Development and Validation of a Nurse-Led Developmental Intervention Package to Improve the Neurodevelopmental Outcomes of Preterm Babies in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

PLENARY SESSION V: EVIDENCE-BASED NEONATAL CARE

Chairpersons:

- Ms. Susy Sarah John, Vice president IANN
- Dr. Alpanamayi Bera, Co-Organizing Secretary



POSTER INAUGURATION/ POSTER WALK

It was judged by:

- Dr. Mukesh Chandra Sharma, Associate Professor, College of Nursing, AIIMS Jodhpur
- Dr. Alpanmayi Bera, Principal, College of Nursing, Medical College Kolkata

PLENARY SESSION VI: RECENT TRENDS IN NEONATAL NUTRITION

Chairpersons:

- Dr. Debjani Gupta,
- Ms. Srinithya Raghavan

Speakers:

- Dr. Sushma Nangia, Director Professor, Department of Neonatology, LHMC & associated SSKM and KSCH, New Delhi, presented “**Human Milk Banking.**” In her talk, she focussed on the requirement of human milk for healthy babies, sick and tiny infants, the model of human milk banking in India, the comprehensive lactation management centre and its key components, and the role of human milk banks in neonatal care.
- Ms. Parul Datta took a session on managing nutrition in NICU
- Dr. Achala, deliberated on family centred approach in exclusive breastfeeding



PLENARY SESSION VI: CASE-BASED SCENARIOS

Chairpersons:

- Dr. Malar Kodi, Associate Professor, AIIMS Rishikesh
- Dr. Richa Gupta, Assistant Professor, AIIMS Kalyani

Speakers:

- Dr. Leena Thomas, Associate Professor, College of Nursing, MM College Nursing, discussed the epidemiology, risk factors, clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, medical and nursing management, and new trends in “**Neonatal Jaundice**” using case-based discussion.

- Dr. Rupinder Deol, elaborated on the topic “**Shock in Neonates**” using case-based discussion related to the signs and symptoms, management of hypovolemic shock, septic shock, distributive shock, and cardiogenic shock.
- Dr. Raja Rajeshwari, elaborated on the topic “**Neonatal Sepsis**” using case-based discussion related to the signs and symptoms, management of neonatal sepsis.



FREE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Chairpersons:

- Dr. Jyoti Sarin, Dean and Director, MM College of Nursing
- Dr. Rimple Sharma, Professor cum Principal, AIIMS Jammu

Speakers:

Ipsita Mani Ray: Knowledge regarding prevention of hypothermia in newborns among mothers in tertiary care hospital, Kolkata

Shukla Banerjee: Critical Analysis of Pregnancy Induced Hypertension in the Context of 'Three Delays' and It's Outcome Among Women and Neonates Admitted in a Tertiary Care Hospital, West Bengal

Rameshwari Zala: Effectiveness of oral motor stimulation exercises on feeding skills in preterm infants: a randomized controlled trial protocol

Ranjita Mitra: Effects of targeted intervention in parents on neurodevelopmental outcome of preterm babies up to 2 years age: a pilot study in a tertiary care hospital.



VALEDICTORY SESSION

The two-day conference ended with the valedictory session. The winners of various activities were felicitated. The conference concluded positively with the hope of meeting again at the following year's annual conference, which will be organized at AIIMS Rishikesh, Uttarakhand.

