



10 Pro Tips for Elevating NICU-MT Specialized Care

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1. Take special care when working with premature infants who are fragile. Seek training for NICU-MT, use evidence-based techniques, follow specific protocols, and adhere to ethical guidelines.
2. Implement the Institute for Infant and Child Medical Music Therapy's specific NICU-MT protocols for gestational age, music frequency, duration, and decibel level to avoid negative neurologic side effects.
3. Encourage the development of music therapy programs in the NICU to stimulate infant development during NICU care for future well-being.
4. Educate medical staff about the unique benefits of music stimulation for neurologic maturation when discussing referrals and interventions. Communicate with medical staff using neuroscience concepts. Explain how premature infants respond to NICU-MT protocols.
5. Advocate for NICU-MT clinical standards to ensure effective treatment of premature infants. For NICU treatment, have 1 NICU-MT for every 4 infants; for post-discharge follow-up during the first 3 years, have 1 NICU-MT for every 10 infants.
6. Establish reimbursement methods for NICU-MT services. Charging for services is critical for the future status of music therapy in medical care.
7. Look for ways to integrate patient and family-centered care, including using music therapy protocols to focus specifically on parents, guardians, and families. Music therapy has tremendous benefits for infants in the NICU, and it can also provide substantial benefits for families.
8. Be culturally sensitive when helping families and guardians use music for infants' growth and development.
9. Explore new uses of music therapy protocols to reduce negative effects of medical treatment, enhance neurologic maturation, and promote developmental milestones in the NICU.
10. Stay updated on the latest research and clinical protocols by maintaining contact with the activities of the Institute for Infant and Child Medical Music Therapy.



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