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KEY WORDS (at least 5 words)

- ✓ ROP
- ✓ Pain
- ✓ Baby Massage
- ✓ Comfort
- ✓ Prematurity

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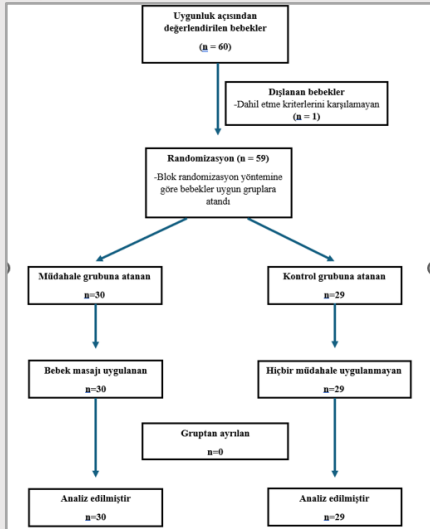


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THE EFFECT OF MASSAGE APPLIED BEFORE THE RETINOPATHY OF PREMATURE EXAMINATION ON THE PAIN LEVEL AND COMFORT OF NEWBORNS

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THESIS ABSTRACT

This study examined the effect of massage application on infants' pain levels and comfort prior to retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) examination. It is a randomized controlled experimental design. Research data were obtained by evaluating the infants three times: before the ROP examination, during the examination, and after the examination, using a data collection form, the Premature Infant Pain Scale (PIPP), and the Premature Infant Comfort Scale (PICS). Video recordings were taken during and before the ROP examination, and scale assessments were performed by two neonatal nurses other than the researcher. While there was no significant difference in heart rate, respiratory rate, and SPO2 values between the intervention and control groups before the ROP examination, a significant difference was found during and after the ROP examination. The intervention group was found to have a shorter crying duration. When looking at the PIPP scale and PBKÖ scale scores of the infants in the study, it was found that the change in both scale values during and after the procedure compared to the pre-intervention measurement differed between the groups.

APPLICATION AREAS OF THE THESIS RESULTS

ROP examination is quite painful for newborns. Reducing pain and ensuring comfort are among the two fundamental goals of nursing care. Nurses will incorporate baby massage effectively into their clinical practice prior to ROP examination to reduce pain and increase comfort for newborns.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

1. Tekin, N., Özyazicioğlu, N., & Güney Varal, İ. (2024). The Effect of Massage Applied Before Examination for Retinopathy of Prematurity on Pain Level and Comfort in Newborns. 32nd National Neonatology Congress, Antalya, Turkey (Oral Presentation).
2. Bulut, A., Tekin, N., Özyazicioğlu, N., Başaran, E., & Oto, A. (2025). Comparing Prognostic Value of the Pediatric Glasgow Coma Scale and the Glasgow Coma Scale - Pupils Score in Pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury. *Journal of trauma nursing : the official journal of the Society of Trauma Nurses*, 10.1097/JTN.0000000000000884. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1097/JTN.0000000000000884>