





Tricia Vance

NICU Lactation Specialist

Experienced NICU lactation specialist and IBCLC with 11 years supporting medically fragile newborns and their families in Level III and IV NICUs. Expert in managing complex lactation challenges including extreme prematurity, NEC, cleft palate, and cardiac anomalies. Established a peer milk-sharing program that increased human milk feeding rates from 59% to 81% across a 72-bed NICU, directly improving infant outcomes and reducing length of stay.

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Experience

NICU Lactation Specialist

Aug 2016 - Present

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Columbus, OH

Senior NICU lactation specialist providing expert consultation for complex neonatal feeding cases in a 72-bed Level IV NICU.

- Manage complex lactation cases for 25+ NICU families daily including infants with extreme prematurity (28 weeks), cleft palate, cardiac defects, and surgical diagnoses
- Increased human milk feeding rates from 59% to 81% over 4-year period through introduction of peer milk-sharing program and enhanced family education
- Developed oral feeding progression protocol for post-surgical infants collaboratively with neonatologists and SLPs, reducing NG tube dependency by 29%
- Train 20 NICU bedside nurses quarterly on skin-to-skin readiness cues, milk expression technique, and NICU family support communication
- Co-authored NICU lactation policy manual updated in 2023, adopted as standard of care across 4 affiliated NICUs

NICU Staff Nurse with Lactation Focus

Jul 2013 - Jul 2016

OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital

Columbus, OH

NICU bedside RN with dedicated lactation support responsibilities in a 40-bed Level III NICU.

- Provided hands-on lactation support alongside standard NICU nursing care for 4+ infants per shift
- Completed 1,200 supervised IBCLC-eligible lactation contact hours while working as primary NICU nurse
- Implemented a 'Liquid Gold' milk tracking board improving milk supply monitoring compliance by 38%

Skills

NICU Complex Case Management

Oral-Motor Assessment

Premature Infant Lactation Support

Donor Human Milk Programs

Cleft Palate Feeding Techniques

Post-Surgical Infant Feeding

Staff Education & Training

Epic EHR & NICU Documentation

Education

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

May 2012

The Ohio State University

Columbus, OH

Nursing

GPA: 3.7

Languages

English

Native



Certificates

International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC)

2016

International Board of
Lactation Consultant
Examiners (IBLCE)

Gold-standard lactation
credential

Registered Nurse (RN)

2014

Ohio Board of Nursing

Ohio state nursing license

Certified Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse (RNC-NIC)

2020

National Certification
Corporation

Specialty NICU nursing
certification

Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) Certified

2023

American Academy of
Pediatrics

Active NRP provider