

To reduce the risk of necrotizing enterocolitis, a gastrointestinal condition that commonly affects pre-term infants, milk prepping and ensuring sterile practices is a vital step. The Centralizing Milk Prep project at St. Joseph's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) aims to integrate a designated area for milk preparation, assess sanitization procedures, and introduce new training material to staff members. Student interns started by setting up a Key Driver Diagram which is a flowchart designed to outline factors that are subjected to change as well as implementing ideas for improvement in those areas. Then, interns assisted in minimizing risk through evaluating sterile practices and designing visual aids for the new staff role called Milk Techs. These materials aimed to reinforce communication among staff. Currently these materials are being implemented throughout the 2025 year and their effectiveness will be assessed in minimizing errors in milk preparation and transportation by the timeliness of tasks completed and reduction of cases involving necrotizing enterocolitis.