Background
- The AAP recommends beginning shared reading at birth as it promotes optimal infant development and parent-child interactions
- Limited data exists on best practices around shared reading promotion in infants 0-6 months

Objective
- To estimate the prevalence and variations in anticipatory guidance about shared reading given during the newborn stay at hospitals across the U.S.

Methods
- 2020-2021 emailed survey of anticipatory guidance practices among U.S. hospitals in the Better Outcomes through Research for Newborns (BORN) Network (currently ongoing)

Results
- N=52 newborn nursery physicians from discrete U.S. hospitals (46% response rate to date)
- 10 (19%) include shared reading in their anticipatory guidance
- 17 (33%) regularly discuss any early literacy topics
- 17 (33%) give children’s books to new parents

Conclusions
- Anticipatory guidance practices vary widely across U.S. hospitals
- Despite AAP recommendations, shared reading is not routinely discussed during newborn hospitalization and many other topics are more commonly incorporated in anticipatory guidance
- Additional research is needed to:
  - Determine which topics affect caregiver behavior when discussed in the newborn period in order to standardize guidance given
  - Assess the impact of early introduction of reading guidance on shared reading behaviors

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