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Reliability Measurement of the Premature Infant Oral Motor Intervention (PIOMI)

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RELIABILITY MEASUREMENT OF THE PREMATURE INFANT ORAL MOTOR INTERVENTION (PIOMI)

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Premature Infant Oral Motor Intervention (PIOMI), a 5-minute oral motor intervention on 29-30 weeks post-menstrual age infants, has been developed to improve bottle-feeding and decreased length of stay (Lessen, 2009). The objective of this research was to determine the reliability of the PIOMI. The research question addressed was if the PIOMI demonstrates interobserver, interuser, and test-retest reliability. The research was conducted in a Level 3 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at a large Midwestern teaching medical center.

A reliability tool was developed for this study based on a 4 point Likert scale according to 3 criterion: correct order, correct time, and correct technique. A training video on the PIOMI was also created. Two raters observed three nurses performing the PIOMI on preterm infants. The reliability among the raters (interobserver), the reliability among different nurses (interuser), and the reliability of the same nurse performing the PIOMI twice (test-retest) was calculated.