



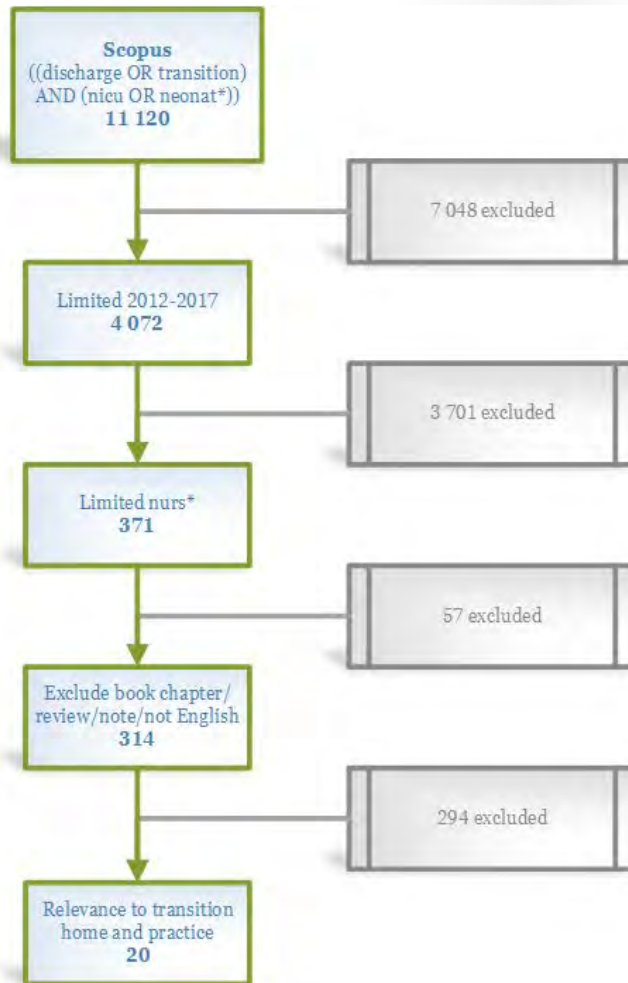
nurturing families in
neonatal care

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once upon
a time...



"some events tear a hole in the fabric of existence, and we knit the rough edges, so far as we are able, by telling stories about what happens. These stories cannot do their work of suture until they are witnessed. Our witness does not bring closure to suffering. It's just the best we can do" (Frank, 2004, p. 46)

Frank, A. (2004). Dwelling in grief. *The Hastings Centre Report*, 34, 46-47. doi:10.2307/3528252



Nurturing a new story

"I'm a NICU mom. It's not like
being a real mother yet."
(Rossman, 2017)

Rossman, B., Greene, M., Kratovil, A., & Meier, P. (2017). Resilience in mothers of very-low-birth-weight infants hospitalized in the NICU. *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing*, 46(3), 434-445. doi:10.1016/j.jogn.2016.11.016



Nurturing resiliencies

"We did our own little nursing notes at home. These sort of strange rituals help as you transition into a more normal life" (Gibbs, 2016)

Gibbs, D., Boshoff, K., & Stanley, M. (2016). The acquisition of parenting occupations in a neonatal intensive care: A preliminary perspective. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 83(2), 91-102. doi:10.1177/0008417415625421



Nurturing transitions

"Some parents said that the word "home" was rarely used and then "all of a sudden it [discharge] was happening." (Franck, 2017)

Franck, L., McNulty, A., & Alderdice, F. (2017). The perinatal-neonatal care journey for parents of preterm infants. *Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing*, 31(3), 244-255. doi:10.1097/JPN.0000000000000273



Nurturing...

“you know, I think nurses who work with babies need to love what they do, and need to want to be there... I’m glad she listened to me...she didn’t argue with my concerns... it’s that love that made the plastic box a bed...otherwise it’s just a box”
(Rasmussen, 2011, p. 95)

Rasmussen, S. (2011). Stories families/whanau tell to describe care by nurses within hospitals: A narrative analysis (Master's thesis). Auckland University of Technology, Auckland, New Zealand. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/10292/2121>