Safe Oxygen Saturation Targeting and Monitoring in Preterm Infants. Can We Avoid Hypoxia and Hyperoxia?

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Oxygen is a neonatal health hazard that should be avoided in clinical practice. In this review, an international team of neonatologists and nurses assessed oxygen saturation (SpO2) targeting in preterm infants and evaluated the potential weaknesses of randomised clinical trials.

Conclusions: SpO2 of 85-89% can increase mortality and 91-95% can cause hyperoxia and ill effects. Neither of these ranges can be recommended and wider intermediate targets, such as 87%-94% or 88%-94%, may be safer.