

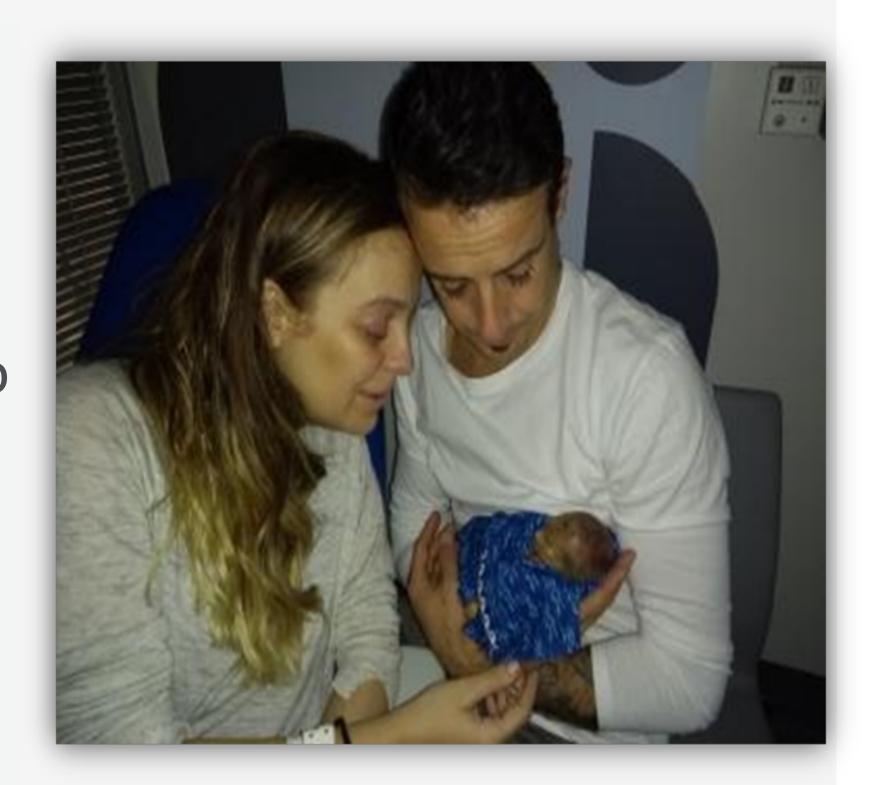
NURSING INTERVENTIONS THAT HELP RELIEVE GRIEF

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BACKGROUND

The psychological suffering experienced by parents following perinatal loss is extremely hard to endure. We as professionals must reach out to and support parents as from the very moment of death to help them go through their period of mourning in a healthy way. The aim of this project was to discern what interventions on the part of the nursing profession may contribute to alleviating perinatal grief.





METHODS

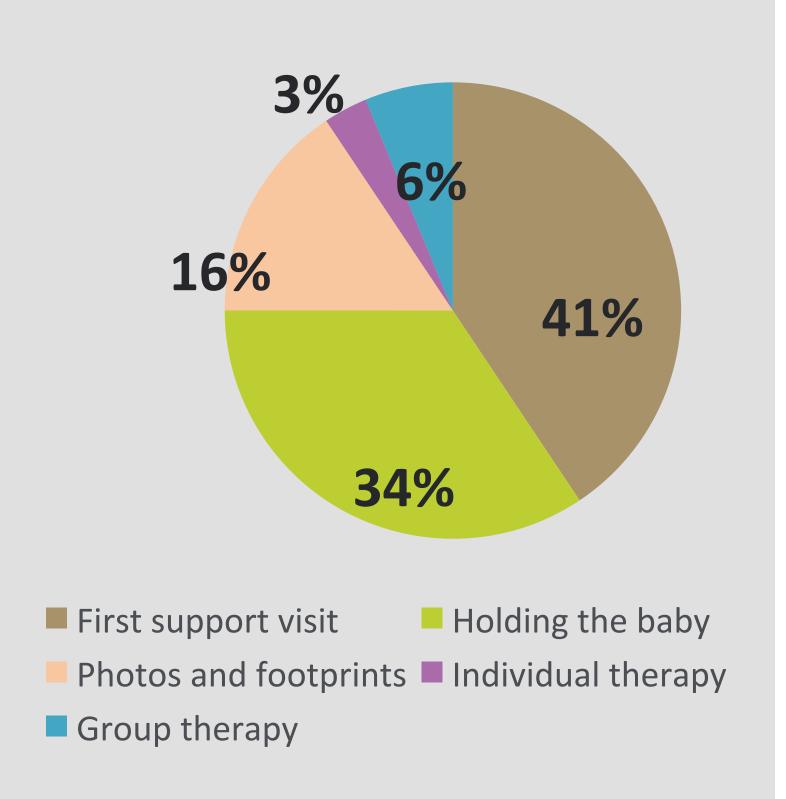
The project consisted of a cross-sectional study of a sample of 17 patients who had experienced perinatal loss and had been attended to at the General University Hospital of Catalonia from 2017 to February 2019. Telephone calls were made in accordance with the guidelines of a questionnaire.





RESULTS

The most satisfactory interventions on the part of the nursing profession at the initial moment of perinatal loss proved to be the first support visit (76,47%), holding the baby (64,7%) and photos and footprints (29,41%). Interventions in the mourning process consisted of individual therapy (5,88%) and group therapy (11,76%). After experiencing perinatal loss, 35,29% of mothers became pregnant again.





CONCLUSIONS

The initial support visit serves to guide parents in a state of emotional shock. On the other hand, an appropriate farewell and possession of physical objects related with the baby contribute to a healthy process of mourning. The individual and group therapy samples were small, consequently the results are not significant. Lastly, the act of undergoing a healthy mourning process may be regarded as a means to reducing parents' doubts as to whether or not to have another child.

