Helping Babies Breathe
- igniting coverage and quality of newborn resuscitation
Assisting Managing Director and shareholder in Laerdal Global Health, a not-for-profit company that is an alliance partner in the Helping Babies Breathe Global Development Alliance.
Asphyxia: Major cause of newborn death

Access to newborn resuscitation is severely limited

Total newborn deaths: 3.1 million

- Preterm: 35%
- Infections: 27%
- Congenital: 9%
- Other: 6%
- Asphyxia: 23%

Asphyxia: Major cause of newborn death


The response: Helping Babies Breathe

Goal:
Reach 1 million birth attendants

How?
- Evidence-based & simplified
- “Cookbook” design
- Practical, hands-on course
- Frequent retraining
- Affordable
- Access to therapy equipment
- Implementation support from Global Development Alliance
Spreading fast – now in 60 countries!

Helping Babies Breathe®
A Global Public-Private Alliance

Status report April 2013

Now in 60 countries; 18 with national scale up plans

First 130,000 birth attendants trained and equipped
WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS: The Helping Babies Breathe program was implemented in 8 hospitals in Tanzania in 2009. It has been associated with a sustained 47% reduction in early neonatal mortality within 24 hours and a 24% reduction in fresh stillbirths after 2 years.
Recommended for scale-up in several global reports
Spurs new medical device innovations

- Openable for cleaning
- Boilable for disinfection
- Reusable 100s of times
- Highly affordable ($3)

- Better mask seal
- Fewer parts
- Easier to clean
- Lower cost

Reusable newborn suction device

«Upright» resuscitator
In sum, Helping Babies Breathe ignites the quality and coverage of newborn resuscitation, because it...

1. Is evidence-based, simplified, focused, and easy to remember
2. Easily can be integrated with other maternal/newborn programs
3. Has global implementation support and local ownership
4. Has demonstrated huge lifesaving potential
5. Spurs new medical device innovations
Thank you

For more information, see:
www.helpingbabiesbreathe.org

Ingrid Laerdal
Ingrid.laerdal@laerdal.no