Our team participated in the Newborn portion of the Mothers and Newborns affected by Opioids (MNO) initiative. Prior to implementation, the Modified Finnegan scale was utilized to identify those newborns requiring pharmacologic interventions and subsequent transfer to a higher level of care. Variation in scoring between healthcare providers made it difficult to correctly identify those newborns truly requiring a higher level of care without the benefit of non-pharmacologic interventions.

What is unique about our patient population is that SIU Family Medicine exclusively delivers at our organization. Since their patients are generally a more at-risk population, there is a heightened awareness, especially to patients who are already in need of other resources.

Our hospital team was comprised of the nursery Nurse Manager, Neonatology Department Chair, Nursing Outcomes and Improvements Facilitator, unit Social Worker, and IBCLC Lactation Consultant.

A valid assessment took to determine need for pharmacologic treatment, or success of non-pharmacologic interventions, has decreased our transfer rate to a higher level of care by 60%. Monitoring the aforementioned auditing components, along with remediation as necessary, continues to support sustainability and success of this initiative.

We would like to thank our unit ESC champions for supporting this initiative and serving a content resources for our unit.