**Supporting Tables**

S1 Table: Descriptive analysis of 44 neonatal departments included in the analysis.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Category**  | **Number/median** | **[%] /IQR** |
| **Neonatal care level** | Perinatal center Level I | 40 | 90.9 % |
|  | Perinatal center Level II | 3 | 6.8 % |
|  | Obstetric clinic | 1 | 2.3 % |
| **Type of hospital**  | University hospital | 10 | 22.7 % |
|  | Other teaching hospital | 28 | 63.6 % |
|  | Other hospital | 6 | 13.6 % |
| **Size of unit [number of beds], median, IQR** |  | 21 | 15-29 |
| **Size of hospital [number of beds]** |   | 597 | 468-1067 |
| **Probiotics** |  | 44 | 100.0 % |
| **Administration of probiotics since [date], median, IQR** |  | 14 June 2010  | 1 January 2010 – 1 October 2010  |
| **Infants per unit (total)** |   | 333 | 229-489 |
| **Infants per NICU (before intervention)** |   | 149 | 88-230 |
| **Infants per NICU (after intervention)** |   | 172 | 115-228 |

IQR – interquartile range, NICU – Neonatal intensive care unit.