Stress and discomfort in the care of preterm infants: A study of the Comfort Scale and the Newborn Individualized Developmental Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP®) in a Dutch level III NICU

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For Thijs and all other preterm infants, unknown of the strain to stand on one’s own feet in the outside world after their NICU stay.

Cover illustration: Drawing from Charlotte Haldewang, Mother of Gustave (2006) A preterm infant looks a lot like a snail, vulnerable and needs to be approached with gentle care and likes to withdraw into the silence and darkness of its shell. The process of implementing NIDCAP is moving forward with the same speed as the snail. For those reasons the snail was chosen as the mark of recognition of the NIDCAP study.

The research in this thesis was performed at the Intensive Care Neonatology of the Emma Children’s Hospital / Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

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ACADEMISCH PROEFSCHRIFT

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aan de Universiteit van Amsterdam
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prof.dr. D.C. van den Boom
ten overstaan van een door het college voor promoties
ingestelde commissie,
in het openbaar te verdedigen in de Agnietenkapel
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door

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