

## Factors Affecting Breast Feeding Pattern among Mothers in a Selected Area Dehradun, Uttarakhand

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Human milk is uniquely tailored to meet the nutrition needs of human infants. It has the appropriate balance of nutrients provided in easily digestible and bio available forms Every infant & child has the right to good Nutrition according to the 'Convention on the rights of the child. According to the WHO & UNICEF recommend Early initiation with in 1 hour of birth, Exclusive for 6 month & complementary at 6 month with breast feeding up to 2 year of age or Beyond. Approx 44% of infants 0-6 months exclusively breast feed over the period of 2015-2020.

**Aim of the study:** A study to identify the factors affecting breast feeding pattern among mothers in a selected area Dehradun, uttarakhand.

**Methodology:** Retrospective exploratory design was used to explore the problem. Total 66 (sixty six) mothers who were fulfilling the inclusion criteria selected by purposive sampling technique and data were collected by interview method.

**Result:** The study findings show that Lactational, Nutritional, Milk Pumping, Medical & Life Style were the main factors which might be affecting breast feeding pattern among mothers. There was only association between Milk Pumping Factors with socio demographic variable birth weight at 0.05 level of significance.

**Conclusion:** The study result shows that Mothers who were having infant (0-1 yr) not able to feed two hourly & There must be a need for skill fully manage and try to minimize the risk.

**Keyword:** Breastfeeding, Factors, Mothers.

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### INTRODUCTION

Human milk is uniquely tailored to meet the nutrition needs of human infants. It has the appropriate balance of nutrients provided in easily digestible and bioavailable forms Every infant & child has the right to good Nutrition according to the 'Convention on the rights of the child.<sup>1</sup> According to the WHO & UNICEF recommend Early initiation with in 1 hour of birth, Exclusive for 6 month & complementary at 6 month with breast feeding up to 2 year of age or Beyond.<sup>2</sup> Approx 44%

of infants 0-6 months exclusively breast feed over the period of 2015-2020.<sup>3</sup>

The two most important hormones associated with lactation are oxytocin and prolactin. Oxytocin, named after the Greek word for "speedy birth," acts in the body as a smooth muscle contractor, facilitating contractions during labour and the release of milk during lactation. Where as Prolactin is the primary hormone responsible for milk production levels increase slowly during pregnancy, triggering changes in the breast tissue that stimulate milk production.<sup>3</sup>

The mother's body releases oxytocin into the blood stream to aid in milk ejection. During the feeding session, when tactile stimulation is received from the nipple, oxytocin and prolactin are released in pulsating patterns, controlled by nerve fibers linked to the hypothalamus.<sup>3</sup> Globally in 2020, 149 million children under 5 were estimated to be stunted (too short for age), 45 million were estimated to be wasted (too thin for height) & 38.9 million were overweight or obese.<sup>4</sup> First 2 year of a child life were important, as optimal nutrition during this period lowers

morbidity & mortality, reduces the risk. So optimal breast feeding could save the lives of over 820,000 children under the age of 5 years each year.<sup>5</sup>

### *Aim of the study*

The Aim of the study were as follows:

- To identify the factors affecting breastfeeding pattern among mothers in a selected area of Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- To find association between selected demographic variables and breastfeeding pattern among mothers.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Retrospective exploratory design was used to explore the problem. Total Sixty Six mothers who were fulfilling the inclusion criteria selected by purposive sampling technique and data were collected by interview method. The study was conducted in Keshav Basti village of doiwala block, Dehradun Uttarakhand.

## RESULT

*Data were analysed under following heading: Maternal Data, Infant Data Pattern of breast feeding.*

Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage %
<b>Acceptance of breast milk during first few days of the birth breastfeed</b>		
a. Yes	65	98.5
b. No	1	1.5
<b>Duration of exclusive breastfeeding</b>		
a. Up to 6 months	57	86.4
b. Less than 6 months	9	13.6
<b>Breastfeeding from both breast in each session</b>		
a. Yes	65	98.5
b. No	1	1.5
<b>Duration of breastfeeding per session</b>		
a. 1-10 mins	40	60.0
b. 11-20 mins	26	39.4
<b>Mode of breastfeeding in first six month of life</b>		
a. On Demand	62	93.93
b. Time Schedule	4	6.06
<b>Time interval</b>		
a. On demand	62	93.93
b. More than 6 hours	4	6.06
<b>Methods of Feeding</b>		
a. Bottle Feed	8	12.1
b. Formula Feed	8	12.1
c. Breast Feed	50	75.8

Table 1(c) revealed that out of 66 Mothers (98.5%) babies were Normally accepted breast milk in starting few days of the birth. Majority (86.4%) babies were exclusively breastfeed upto 6 month (98.5%) were breastfeed with both breast and (60.6%) Participants used for breastfeeding 1-10 (Lactational, Nutritional & Milk Pumping)

To assess factors affecting breast feeding pattern Likert scale was used to collect data, it consists

min in per session. (93.93%) mothers provided demand feed in first six month. Majority (93.93%) were demand feed on specific time interval. (6.06%) babies were feeded more than 6 hours (75.8%) babies were breast feeded with breast milk only.

of 26 statements. For the purpose of research, investigator has divided 26 statements in 8 sections.

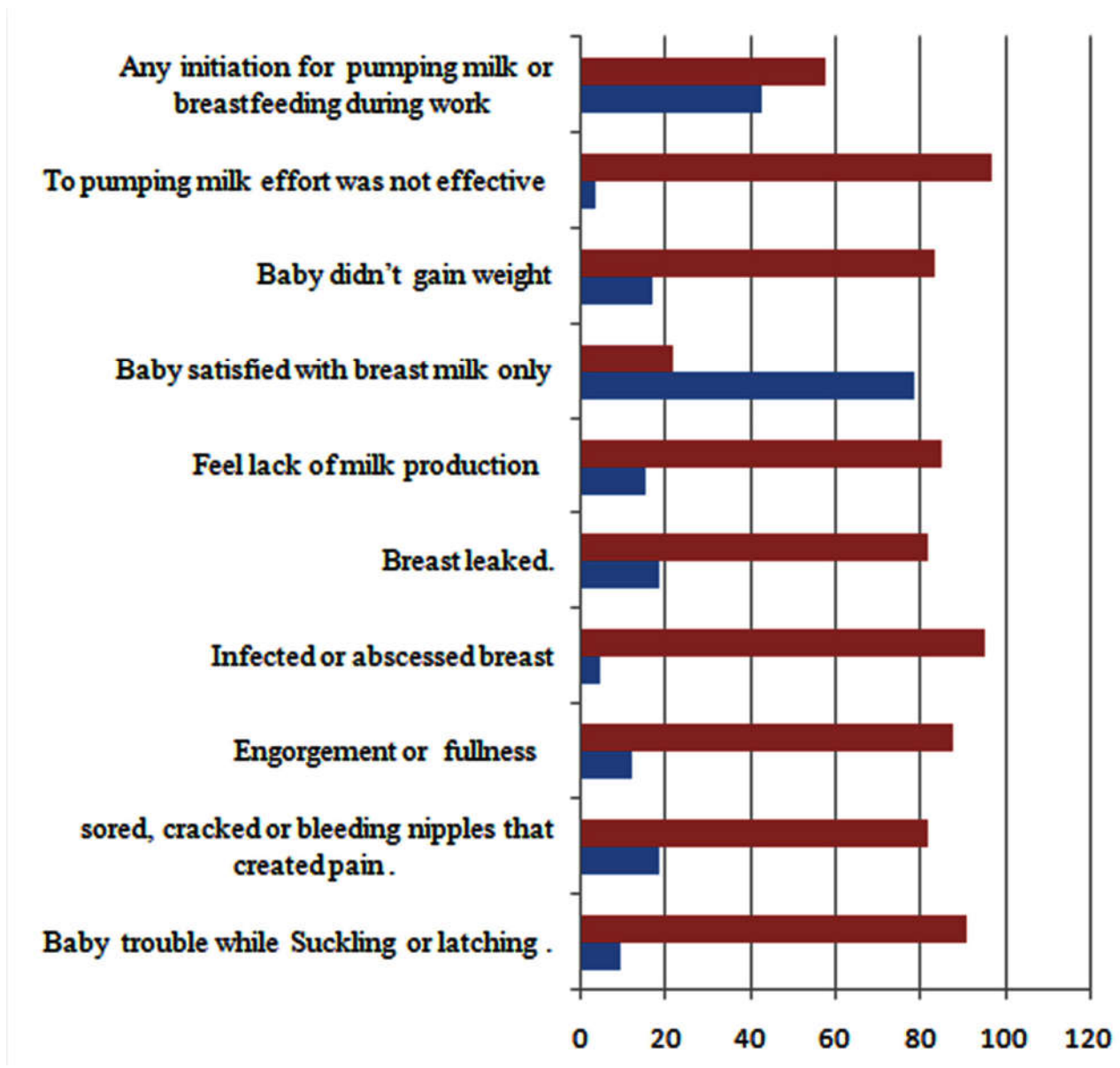


Fig. 1: Factors affecting breast feeding pattern among mothers

Fig. 1 Factors affecting Breast feeding among mothers (Lactational, Nutritional, Milk pumping) Blue denote = Yes, Red Denote =No

Fig. 1 shows that (18.2%) were having cracked & Sore nipples (9.1%) babies were facing trouble while suckling or Latching (4.5%) had infected or Abscess

breast (78.8%) babies weresatisfied with breast milk (24.2%) mothers had trouble to milk flow to start (16.7%) said that there baby didn't gain weight & Majority (57.5%) mother's didn't take any initiation for pumping milk or breast feeding during work.

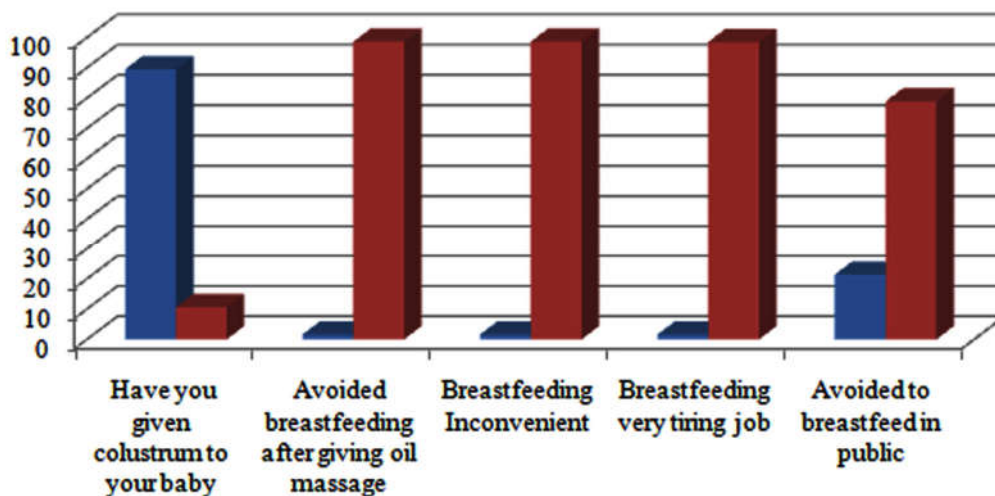


Fig. 2: Factors Affecting Breast feeding Pattern (Psychological Factors) Blue denote = Yes, Red Denote =No

Fig. 2 Reveals That approximately (71.3%) mothers avoided breast feeding immediately after their bath (10.6%) were not given colostrum to their baby (98.5%) mother's didn't feel breast feeding was inconvenient (1.5%) felt breast feeding was tiring job and (78.8%) didn't avoided breast feeding their baby in public.

When we see the association between Socio demographic Variables with Maternal factor It Shows that only birth weight were significantly associated ( $p=0.038$  i.e  $P<0.05$ ) with milk pumping factor remaining other variables (like age, mother education, working hour, type of delivery, sex of baby) were not significantly associated with milk pumping factor. There fore it was found that only the birth weight was significantly associated with milk pumping factor.

## DISCUSSION

### A. Factors affecting pattern of breast feeding

Study revealed that majority number (98.5%) babies were accepted breast milk during first few days of birth. Nearly (98.5%) babies were breast fed from both breasts in each session and (60.6%) were breast fed 1-10 min in per session and most of the babies (93.93%) babies were breast fed on demand and only(6.06%) fed at time interval in first six month of life. Majority (75.8%) babies were fed by breast only. In Contrary to the findings of the previous study by Vyas S, Sharma P, Kandpal SD, Semwal J, Srivastava A, Nautiyal Vin (2012)<sup>6</sup> stated that 159(51.46%) were given pre-lacteal feed and 177(49.44%) were breast feed from both

breast were as 58(43.61%) fed upto 10 mins. 219(52.52%) were breast fed on demand. Only 19(37.26%) were breast fed at regular interval and Majority 177 (49.44%) babies were fed by breast only.

### Lactational factor

In present study few (18.2%) were having cracked & sore nipples and leaked breast in very few babies (9.1%) were facing trouble while suckling or latching, few of them (4.5%) had breast infected or abscess. Similar findings were reported by Saxena P, PalS, Salhan S, Sarda N stated that (90%) mothers have breast engorgement (11%) have cracked nipples, only (1%) breast were abscess.<sup>7</sup>

### Nutritional factor

The findings of the study revealed that only (24.2%) mothers had trouble for milk flow to start and (16.7%) mothers said that there baby didn't gain weight and only (10.6%) reported that any health professional said that there baby was not gaining weight. This result was supported by Saxena P, Pal S, Salhan S, Sarda N stated that (6.1%) have Inadequate milk output.<sup>7</sup>

### Milk pumping factor

In present study findings Few (3.0%) mothers have tried pumping milk but efforts was not effective as much as required and Majority (57.5%) mothers didn't take any initiation for pumping milk or breast feeding during work. Similar result was supported by Saxena P, Pal S, Salhan S, Sarda N stated that (22%) were working mothers and not taking proper

efforts for pumping milk or breastfeeding during work.<sup>7</sup>

### **Medical factor**

In present study nearby (4.5%) mothers were stopped feeding as they wanted to conceive or wanted to become pregnant. Study findings are supported by Catherine R L, Brown DL, Alexander L, Bryanton J, Semenic S8 stated that 10.4(7.9-13.4%) mothers & babies were have medical conditions.

### **Social factor**

In present study approximately (71.3%) mothers avoided breast feeding immediately after bath and (10.6%) were not given colostrum to their baby. Only (1.5%) avoided breast feeding after giving oil massage to their baby. Similar study result supported by Vyas S, Sharma P, Kandpal S D, Semwal J, Srivastava A, Nautiyal VI stated that 212 (51.96%) were feed their baby with colostrum.<sup>6</sup>

### **B. Association between selected demographic variables and breastfeeding pattern among mothers**

In present Study found that there is significantly association between birth weight (Fisher Exact  $P=0.038$ ) with milk pumping factor as measured at level  $P< 0.05$  level of significance. Similar findings supported by Ahmadi M & Moosavi SM stated that (53.78%) Mothers where pumped breast milk because they return to work.<sup>9</sup>

## **CONCLUSION**

The study result shows that Mothers who having infants (0-1 yr) were not able to feed two hourly & There must be a need for skillfully manage and try to minimize the risk. So future studies can be conducted.

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