

Avoidable Non-Pathological Factors Delaying The Medical Care And Increasing Mortality And Morbidity In Young Infants

Ponnappalli Venkata Surya Phani Sastry

Osmania Medical College

E-mail: sastry91@gmail.com

Problem statement: Prevention and cure are the basis for public health. When disease has started, curing it efficiently and effectively decreases the mortality and morbidity to a large extent. Apart from the disease cause, appropriate and timely intervention has a huge impact on the outcome. This present study is focused on the various factors affecting this appropriate timely intervention at the level of parents, basic health care system and transport to the tertiary care. It is intended to study some non-pathological factors (missing links) like lack of awareness regarding newborn care and identifying danger signals and factors leading to the delay in bringing the child to proper health care facility. Infant mortality is high(44/1000) in India. A major fraction (two thirds) is constituted by the young infants (up to 2 months). In this study we have taken young infants as subjects. Methods: This is a tertiary care hospital based cross-sectional study of young infants, conducted at Institute of Child health, Niloufer Hospital. The study period is 60 days we have included 400 young

infants from those admitted in NICU and wards excluding the ones admitted directly from our labour room/OT or directly from that of another hospital. The infant's guardian is investigated with a detailed questionnaire. The data obtained is analyzed to study the factors delaying the timely arrival of the sick young infant to a local hospital/ Tertiary care centre; study the level of awareness of household members regarding identification of sick young infant at home; study whether mothers/ decision makers were imparted knowledge regarding newborn care and danger signs at the time of delivery and later. Results: final results will be presented as the study is completed. At three fourth the way in the study some facts found include; none of the parents were counseled anything about child care at any health institution but the daayi's gave the counseling in instances when they did the delivery; illiterates and highly educated people scored less delay compared to the less educated; people giving home remedy is very less than expected ;the anganwadi system has a significant coverage of population which could be exploited more;...Conclusions: will be made when study is completed.