

This study highlights the areas where knowledge amongst fathers about breastfeeding could be lacking..

Materials and Methods

We conducted this study at Shri B.M. Patil Medical College and Hospital, BLDE University, Bijapur, Karnataka. Eighty fathers with a child ≤ 2 years, attending the Paediatric outpatient department of the hospital were administered an open-ended questionnaire to assess their knowledge of breastfeeding. We collected data on their education level, income, religion, social bondings, family background, attitudes, family network and antenatal clinic visits.

Results

87% of fathers (81% Hindus and 19% Muslims) were > 30 years of age. Only 6% said that they discussed breastfeeding with their partner. About half the fathers said that the child must be breastfed within 4 hours of birth; 15% thought that cow's milk, sugar water, honey, milk supplements, dates may precede breast feeding. Nuclear family fathers were more informed about factors such as giving Colostrum ($p < 0.01$), demand feeding ($p < 0.03$), satiety, period of breastfeeding > 18 months ($p < 0.005$). Joint family fathers, especially Muslims, had stronger cultural beliefs and considered breast milk to be adequate ($p < 0.000$). By contrast, Hindus from nuclear family would start breast feeding with each session lasting > 15 minutes and supplement it at 6 months ($p < 0.001$).

Conclusions

Well-informed and health-educated fathers can significantly impact the practice of breastfeeding.

Key Words

breastfeeding practice, Indian fathers, Health and nutrition of infants

Factors Affecting Morbidity and Mortality in Emergency General Surgery

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Introduction

Emergency surgery is defined as non-elective surgery that is performed with the aim to prevent morbid or fatal health consequences of a surgically treatable disease. Despite the focus on quality improvement in surgery, studies continue to show that emergency status contributes significantly to morbidity and mortality in patients undergoing emergency general surgeries. The

most common emergency surgical presentation is bowel obstruction, appendicitis, perforative peritonitis, obstructed hernia and bleeding. Complications resulting from emergency surgeries lead to worsened clinical status, emotional and financial burden to patients and families, and additional hospital costs..

Materials and Methods

All surgical inpatients coming to B M Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre, Bijapur in whom emergency general surgery was done within 12 hours of admission were studied for a period for 2 months and followed up for a month. History of patients was noted. APACHE SCORE calculation was done. Post-operative complications were noted which include bleeding, surgical site infection, and sepsis, urinary, cardiac, respiratory, and deep vein thrombosis. We categorized patient with and without complications and looked at the association of risk factors with outcome : sex, transfer (from home or other hospital), wound class, ASA class, DVT prophylaxis, antibiotic administration, sepsis, diabetes mellitus, steroid use, COPD, smoker.

Results

Total 20 patients were included in our study out of which 12 patients developed complications, Bleeding in 4 patients, surgical site infection in 4, respiratory in 2, and cardiac in 1 patient. 2 patients expired. It was found that complications occur in patients with impaired renal function test, hypoproteinemia, anemia, and old age.

Conclusions

Emergency general surgery patients with postoperative complication are likely to be older, male, smokers, have increased blood glucose and creatinine levels, lower albumin levels, and longer surgical times.

Key Words

Emergency general surgery

Dipping Tobacco And Cardiovascular Risks In Young Adults

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Introduction

Dipping tobacco (DT), also known as moist snuff, a form of smokeless tobacco, produces health hazards such as oral cancer, increased heart rate, and brain damage. The current study evaluates the extent of the impact of DT use on the cardiovascular system compared to non- users of

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