Effect of Two Different Cord Care Regimens on Umbilical Cord Stump Separation Time among Neonates at Cairo University Hospitals

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Abstract

Background, a major cause of death in developing countries is umbilical cord infections. Aim of this research was to compare the effect of topical application of breast milk versus distilled water on umbilical cord stump separation time and occurrence of bacterial colonization among neonates. Design, quasi-experimental design. Setting was postpartum unit at El Manial Maternity Hospital. Sample, a total of 100 neonates was randomly selected immediately after admission to the postpartum unit according to certain criteria. The sample was randomly assigned into two groups (50 neonates each) group A who received cord care with breast milk, and group B who received cord care with distilled water. Tools, three tools developed and filled by the researchers: - structured interview schedule; cord swab bacteriological examination tool; and follow up schedule for signs of cord infection tool. Results indicated that, no statistically significant differences between groups were found in relation to, maternal socio-demographic or neonatal characteristics. Gestational age mean was 38.60 + 1.08 weeks gestation for neonates in breast milk group while, it was 38.92 + 1.15 weeks gestation for neonates in distilled water group (T= 1.42

PublishedIn: The Journal of American Science, 2011