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Infants' fussiness on the breast: A window to salvage breastfeeding before breast rejection

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Background: Infants' fussiness on the breast is a common lactation problem that can proceed to complete breastfeeding refusal if not professionally handled.

Aim: To study the factors associated with infants' fussiness while breastfeeding and the effect of proper lactation counseling on the breastfeeding outcome.

Subjects & Methods: Forty-six fussy infants were recruited in this interventional study. Personal interview together with assessment of the act of breastfeeding were done for each mother-infant dyad.

Results: 28 (61%) of the mothers had forceful milk letdown versus 9 (19.5%) having average letdown and 9 (19.5%) having inhibited letdown (p<0.01). 13 infants were using pacifiers, which was stopped in 10 of them (p=0.01), 8 infants received formula and 5 mothers were smokers and all couldn't stop smoking. Upon counseling, 37 infants continued breastfeeding without fussiness and 9 stopped it (p<0.01). The greatest success was accomplished in mothers having forceful letdown (p=0.0001) and average letdown (p=0.01), rather than those having inhibited letdown (p=0.57). 19 of the 37 mothers having acceptable let down were presenting with perceived low milk supply and only 3 remained unconvinced (p<0.01). 46.2% of pacifier users, 100% of formula users and 80% of infants of smoker mothers quitted breastfeeding.

Conclusion & Recommendations: Forceful milk letdown is commonly associated with fussiness on the breast with good outcome if properly managed. Inhibited letdown, smoking, bottle-feeding and pacifier use are associated with breastfeeding rejection.

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Clinical experience with peripheral blood stem cells therapy in musculoskeletal system

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Musculoskeletal related injury is a common occurrence. In many cases the damage is permanent and can adversely affect a person's quality of life. Now with advancing medical technology, the solution may lie in biologic therapy. In our centre, Kuala Lumpur Sports Medicine Centre, peripheral blood stem cells (PBSC) have been clinically proven to enable regenerative repair in cartilage. The science, surgical technique, harvesting and storage of PBSC and the post-operative rehabilitation programme that encompasses this therapy have sequentially been developed to maximise the chances of high quality cartilage regeneration and repair. As PBSC has been reported to contain pluripotent cells, it offers the tantalising promise of a solution to promote healing in the treatment of complex cases. This presentation highlights the successful cases, among many, in musculoskeletal system repair.

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