

ICCN Poster Presentations

Nutrition and economics

Prediction of child growth status at birth (a model)

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Objective: many environmental and familial factors influence child growth. The aim of this analytical cross-sectional study was to determine the effects of ecological and demographic factors on 6-36 month age children's growth at 10 health and medical centers of Asadabadi region (North-Western Tabriz) during January to February 2002.

Methods: At first 1560 children were selected randomly by using familial fold number. Then we classified them to two groups: case groups; growth failure children (n=200) and control groups; normal growth children (n=150) by using anthropometrical and growth charts (NCHS) indicators and Gomez method. Then a questionnaire was completed for each child by interviewing the mother and using health records including weight and height of child birth, weight and height of mother, weight gain during pregnancy, mother's and father's literacy, mother's and father's ages and so on. Data was analysed with X² and Anova methods. The research was approved and supported by Tabriz University of Medical Sciences- Iran.

Results: Significant correlations were found between weight and height of a child at birth ($p<0.001$), weight and height of mother ($p<0.05$), weight gain during pregnancy, ($p<0.05$) and mother's and father's literacy ($p<0.03$) with child growth.

Conclusion: By using of this data and with attention to available demographic and ecological variables we designed a model that may predict future child growth status at birth.