

Hamad Medical Corporation

Symposium on
Obstetrics-Gynecology
& Neonatology

November 21-23, 1988 • Doha-Qatar

ABSTRACTS

INFANT FEEDING IN RIYADH

By:

DR. ABDULRAHMAN AL-FRAYH

Infant-feeding patterns were studied in 6,623 randomly selected Saudi families living in Riyadh. The 4,796 infants studied were under 1 year of age and were fed with breast milk plus bottle complements. Bottle-feeding was started in 27.3% of infants during the first month after birth. The mean age of which solid food was introduced was 3.45 months. The overall results suggest a decreasing incidence of breast-feeding along with diminishing length of nursing period.

Infant-feeding habits in a community are constantly changing. Despite the considerable advantages of breast-feeding. (1-3) breast-feeding rates have declined. (4,5) We investigated current infant-feeding practices among a representative sample of Saudi mothers living in Riyadh. The study was part of a larger survey being conducted to determine the auxanological variance and growth standards among Saudi pre-school children.