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Prevalence and factors associated with diarrhea among children aged 0-59 months in Badbaado camp in Mogadishu Somalia

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Introduction: A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted in Mogadishu-Somalia to identify the factors associated to the occurrence of diarrheal disease in under-five in Dharkeynley district IDPs, Somalia.

Method: A cross-sectional section study was undertaken among internally displaced people in Badbaado camp. The study sample of 165 respondents was included in the study. All the six sections of Badbaado IDP camp were sampled to obtain a representative sample for the study. Probability proportion to size was used to select the number of households from each section/unit. Systematic random sampling was used to select the household with at least a child aged 0-59 months. Pre-tested semi-structured questionnaires were used to collect the sociodemographic, socio-economic and sanitation and hygiene characteristics of the children as well as sanitation and hygiene factors. The data was analyzed using SPSS version 16 and STATA version 12.

Results: The prevalence of diarrhea in Badbaado IDP Camp was 33%. Children with age between 2-4 years were more likely to have diarrhea compared to children who are less than 2 years or (2.6, 95%, CI 1.26-5301). The children who are not immunized were more likely to have diarrhea compared who are immunized or (3.5, 95% CI 0.97-1157).

Conclusion & Recommendation: The prevalence of diarrhea was 33% among children in Badbaado camp. Children partially immunized were more at risk to have diarrhea. Children aged between 3-4 years were more likely to have diarrhea compared to children who were 2 years old.

Nutritional status of preschool children attending kindergartens in Kosovo

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Statement of the Problem: Countries throughout the world are at various stages of nutritional transition and, increasingly, they are documenting that food insecurity and under-nutrition exist side by side with problems of over-nutrition, obesity and chronic diseases. There is very limited data on malnutrition of preschool children in Kosovo. The main objective of the study is to provide a nutritional status profile of preschool children attending kindergartens in Kosovo.

Methodology: A cross-sectional study including children aged 12–59 months (n=352 children) and children aged 60–83 months (n=134) enrolled in public and private kindergartens of Kosovo was conducted. Anthropometric measurements used for this study are weight and height of the preschoolers (12–83 months). A measuring board was used for measuring the length/height of children younger than two years, while digital weight and height scale Seca 763 was used for measuring of preschool children taller than 110 and Seca 213 was used for measuring the height for children who were shorter than 110 cm. Statistical analyses of underweight and overweight trends across sex and age groups as well as between children from public and private kindergartens were carried out. Qualitative variables were tested with a chi-square test. The differences between groups were assessed with a student t-test for normally distributed variables and a Mann-Whitney test for abnormally distributed numerical variables.

Findings: The mean z-scores for weight-for-age, height-for-age, weight-for-height, and BMI-for-age largely fell within 0.0 and 1.0. The percentage of stunted children is 3%, whereas child wasting is 1.9%. The overall percentage of obese children is 2.3%; furthermore, 8.9% are overweight and 27.3% having a possible risk of being overweight.

Conclusion & Significance: The incidence of children underweight is slightly decreasing. The prevalence of overweight and obese children in sample chosen is evident.