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Studying the validity of infant sucking tester instrument (IST)

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The importance of controlling primary sucking skills have been emphasized for years and the need for reliable tools for newborn babies suckling has been mentioned in several researches. In this study, we investigate the functionality of IST device in order to evaluate babies suckling. In this research, sucking of a group of healthy babies with 20 members and a group of premature babies with 15 members were investigated by IST device. In the end, suckling characteristics of healthy babies for the first and second tests were compared. They were also compared with the test carried out for premature babies. In this research, the mean of data associated with the test and retest of healthy babies was calculated separately and compared. The comparison which we made and the obtained P-value=0.460 show repeatability or reliability of the device. Also, the means related to the suckling of premature babies were also analysed using T-test and were compared with those of healthy babies. This comparison showed that P-value equals which is meaningful and verifies the difference between suckling characteristics of healthy and premature babies. IST device is a powerful and useful tool for studying the suckling characteristics of healthy and premature babies. Also the new version of this instrument can assess nutritive and non-nutritive sucking from bottle, sucking from nipple of mother and finger feeding.

Biography

Payam has completed his Bachelor degree at the age of 22 years from Babol University and now studying in master of speech therapy in Isfahan University School of Medicine. I am the head of the of student research committee.

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