

Breastfeeding in Childhood Asthma: A Boon or a Bane

Authors : Harish Peri, Amit Devgan

Abstract : The aim of this study was to evaluate the impact of exclusive breastfeeding on asthma and lung function in childhood asthma. A case-control study comprising 80 cases (children with asthma) and 80 controls(children without asthma) in the age group 6-12 years were included. A diagnosis was made by the treating pediatrician. A parental questionnaire was given and data regarding the name, age, sex of the child, duration of asthma, whether breastfed or not, duration, exclusiveness of breastfeeding and maternal asthmatic status were collected. Peak Expiratory Flow Rate was measured for every child using a Peak Expiratory Flow Meter. Results showed Exclusively Breastfed children were found to better protected against asthma and have improved lung function as compared to Non-exclusively Breastfeed children, irrespective of the mother's asthmatic status. This study demonstrated that exclusive breastfeeding has a protective action against childhood asthma.

Keywords : asthmatic mothers, childhood asthma, exclusive breastfeeding, non-asthmatic mothers

Conference Title : ICP 2015 : International Conference on Pediatrics

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : February 16-17, 2015