**Supplementary file 1:** Distribution of feeding practices among cases and controls

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Variable | Casesn(%)\* | Controlsn(%) | Totaln(%) | Case vs controlsp value\*\* |
| Breast Feeding (before introduction of solid food) |
| Distribution  |
|  Never practiced  | 2(0.7) | 4(1.2) | 6(1) | 0.47 |
|  Practiced | 300(99.3) | 321(98.8) | 621(99%) |  |
| Duration |
|  < 5 months | 75(24.8) | 64(19.7) | 139(22.1) | 0.25 |
|  5 to 6 months | 198(65.6) | 221(68) | 419(66.8) |
|  > 6 months | 27(8.9) | 36(11.1) | 63(10) |
| Feeding during the course of sleep |
|  Absent | 3(10) | 33(10.3) | 36(5.8) | **0.001** |
|  Present | 297(99) | 288(89.7) | 585(94.2) |
| When is it practiced |
|  At all bedtimes, including naps | 224(74.2) | 165(50.8) | 389(62) | **0.001** |
|  At all night bedtimes, but not naps | 45(14.9) | 88(27.1) | 133(21.2) |
|  All night bedtimes, occasional naps | 22(7.3) | 22(6.8) | 44(7) |
|  At all naps, but not night bedtimes | 2(0.7) | 3(0.9) | 5(0.8) |
|  At all naps and occasional night bedtimes | 1(0.3) | 0 | 1(0.1) |
|  Occasionally at bedtimes, including naps | 3(1) | 10(3.1) | 13(2.1) |
| Breast Feeding (after introduction of solid food) |
| Distribution  |
|  Never practiced  | 36(11.9) | 37(11.4) | 73(11.7) | 0.83 |
|  Practiced | 266(88.1) | 288(88.6) | 554(88.4) |  |
| Duration  |
|  < 6 months | 85(28.1) | 106(32.6) | 191(30.4) | **0.03** |
|  > 6 months < 11 months | 95(31.5) | 117(36) | 212(33.8) |
|  > 11 months < 25 months | 86(28.5) | 65(20) | 151(24) |
| When is the habit practiced |
|  Day  | 1(0.3) | 1(0.3) | 2(0.3) | 0.08 |
|  Night | 4(1.3) | 14(4.3) | 18(2.9) |
|  Both day and night | 261(86.4) | 273(84) | 534(85.2) |
| Frequency during day time |
|  0  | 4(1.3) | 14(4.3) | 18(2.8) | **0.01** |
|  1 – 2 times  | 71(23.5) | 100(30.8) | 171(27.2) |
|  3 – 4 times | 130(43) | 112(34.5) | 242(38.6) |
|  5 or more times | 61(20.2) | 62(19.1) | 123(19.6) |
| Frequency during night time |
|  0 | 2(0.7) | 2(0.3) | 4(0.5) | 0.73 |
|  1 – 2 times | 123(40.7) | 143(44) | 266(42.4) |
|  3 – 4 times | 86(28.5) | 89(27.4) | 175(27.9) |
|  5 or more times | 55(18.2) | 54(16.6) | 109(17.4) |
| Duration of each feed |
|  0-5 minutes | 36(11.9) | 64(19.7) | 100(15.9) | **0.01** |
|  6-10 minutes | 131(43.4) | 135(41.5) | 266(42.4) |
|  11-20 minutes | 62(20.5) | 65(20) | 127(20.3) |
|  More than 20 minutes | 37(12.3) | 24(7.4) | 61(9.7) |
| Feeding during the course of sleep |
|  At all bedtimes, including naps | 157(52) | 57(17.5) | 214(34.1) | **0.001** |
|  At all night bedtimes, but not naps | 78(25.8) | 119(36.6) | 197(31.4) |
|  All night bedtimes, occasional naps | 16(5.3) | 24(7.4) | 40(6.4) |
|  At all naps, but not night bedtimes | 1(0.3) | 0 | 1(0.2) |
|  At all naps and occasional night bedtimes | 0 | 1(0.3) | 1(0.1) |
|  Occasionally at bedtimes, including naps | 7(2) | 43(13.2) | 50(8) |
| Bottle Feeding (before introduction of solid food) |
| Distribution  |
|  Never practiced  | 263(87.1) | 291(89.5) | 554(88.4) | 0.34 |
|  Practiced | 39(12.9) | 34(10.5) | 73(11.6) |  |
| Duration |
|  < 5 months | 12(4) | 12(3.7) | 24(3.8) | 0.54 |
|  5 to 6 months | 12(4) | 13(4) | 25(4) |
|  > 6 months | 15(5) | 9(2.8) | 24(3.8) |
| Feeding during the course of sleep |
|  Absent | 2(0.7) | 13(4) | 15(2.4) | **0.001** |
|  Present | 37(12) | 21(6.5) | 58(9) |
| When is it practiced |
|  At all bedtimes, including naps | 25(8.3) | 11(3.4) | 36(5.7) | 0.17 |
|  At all night bedtimes, but not naps | 5(1.7) | 8(2.5) | 13(2.1) |
|  All night bedtimes, occasional naps | 3(1) | 2(0.6) | 5(0.8) |
|  At all naps, but not night bedtimes | 2(0.7) | 0 | 2(0.3) |
|  At all naps and occasional night bedtimes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Occasionally at bedtimes, including naps | 2(0.7) | 0 | 2(0.3) |
| Bottle Feeding (after introduction of solid food) |
| Distribution  |
|  Never practiced  | 96(31.8) | 186(57.2) | 282(45) | **0.001** |
|  Practiced | 206(68.2) | 139(42.8) | 345(55) |  |
| Duration |
|  < 5 months | 73(24.2) | 41(12.6) | 114(18.2) | **0.03** |
|  > 5 months < 10 months | 73(24.2) | 39(12) | 112(17.9) |
|  > 10 months < 25 months | 60(19.9) | 59(18.2) | 119(19) |
| When is it practiced |
|  Day  | 34(11.3) | 46(14.2) | 80(12.7) | **0.001** |
|  Night | 13(4.3) | 14(4.3) | 27(4.3) |
|  Both day and night | 159(52.6) | 79(24.3) | 238(37.9) |
| Frequency during day time |
|  0 | 16(5.3) | 11(3.4) | 27(4.3) | 0.37 |
|  1 – 2 times | 110(36.4) | 84(25.8) | 194(31) |
|  3 – 4 times | 67(22.2) | 40(12.3) | 107(17.1) |
|  5 or more times | 13(4.3) | 4(1.2) | 17(2.7) |
| Frequency during night time |
|  0 | 35(11.6) | 49(15.1) | 84(13.4) | **0.002** |
|  1 – 2 times | 132(43.7) | 74(22.8) | 206(32.8) |
|  3 – 4 times | 34(11.3) | 15(4.6) | 49(7.8) |
|  5 or more times | 5(1.6) | 1(0.3) | 6(0.9) |
| Duration of each feed |
|  0-5 minutes | 63(20.9) | 58(17.8) | 121(19.3) | 0.17 |
|  6-10 minutes | 112(37.1) | 63(19.4) | 175(27.9) |
|  11-20 minutes | 20(6.6) | 10(3.1) | 30(4.7) |
|  More than 20 minutes | 11(3.6) | 8(2.5) | 19(3) |
| Feeding during the course of sleep |
|  At all bedtimes, including naps | 63(20.9) | 5(1.5) | 68(10.8) | **0.001** |
|  At all night bedtimes, but not naps | 78(25.8) | 25(7.7) | 103(16.4) |
|  All night bedtimes, occasional naps | 9(3) | 2(0.6) | 11(1.7) |
|  At all naps, but not night bedtimes | 7(2.3) | 1(0.3) | 8(1.3) |
|  At all naps & occasional night bedtimes | 1(0.3) | 0 | 1(0.1) |
|  Occasionally at bedtimes, including naps | 12(4) | 16(4.9) | 28(4.5) |
| Content of Bottle Feed |
|  Fresh cow’s milk | 71(23.5) | 46(14.2) | 117(18.7) | 0.79 |
|  Processed cow’s milk | 127(42.1) | 73(22.5) | 200(31.8) | 0.12 |
|  Formula milk | 26(8.6) | 40(12.3) | 66(10.5) | **0.002** |
|  Breast milk | 0 | 1(0.3) | 1(0.001) |  |
|  Other | 1(0.3) | 0 | 1(0.001) |  |
| Type of sweetener |
|  Sugar | 129(42.7) | 51(15.7) | 180(28.7) | **0.001** |
|  Honey | 1(0.3) | 3(0.9) | 4(0.6) | 0.07 |
|  Brown sugar | 27(8.9) | 20(6.2) | 47(7.5) | 0.42 |
|  Dates syrup | 4(1.3) | 0 | 4(1.3) | 0.05 |
| When was the sweetener added |
|  Always | 159(52.6) | 73(22.4) | 232(37) | 0.74 |
|  During day | 1(0.3) | 0 | 1(0.2) |
|  During night | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Occasionally | 1(0.3) | 1(0.3) | 2(0.3) |
| Use of additives |
|  Absent | 164(54.3) | 126(38.7) | 290(46.3) | **0.006** |
|  Present | 42(13.9) | 13(4) | 55(8.8) |
| Type of additives |
|  Boost, Horlicks | 41(13.6) | 11(3.4) | 52(8.3) | 0.16 |
|  Any other | 1(0.3) | 2(0.6) | 3(0.5) |
| Time of additives |
|  Always | 3(1) | 0 | 3(0.5) | 0.45 |
|  During day | 33(10.9) | 9(2.7) | 42(6.7) |
|  During night | 2(0.7) | 1(0.3) | 3(0.5) |
|  Occasionally | 4(1.3) | 3(0.9) | 7(1.1) |
| Other Feeding Modes |
| Use of other feeding modes |
|  Absent | 126(41.7) | 121(37.2) | 247(39.4) | 0.25 |
|  Present | 176(58.3) | 204(62.8) | 380(60.7) |
| Mode of feed |
|  Sipper | 13(4.3) | 12(3.7) | 25(4) | 0.66 |
|  Paladai | 16(5.3) | 20(6.2) | 36(5.7) | 0.20 |
|  Tumbler/cup | 164(54.3) | 186(57.2) | 350(55.8) | 0.41 |
|  Tumbler with straw | 5(1.7) | 8(2.5) | 13(2.1) | 0.26 |
|  Any other | 4(1.3) | 12(3.7) | 16(2.5) | 0.48 |
| Duration |
|  <=6 months | 66(21.8) | 60(18.4) | 126(20.1) | 0.27 |
|  >7 months and <=15 months | 54(17.9) | 72(22.2) | 126(20.1) |
|  >14 months | 56(18.5) | 72(22.2) | 128(20.4) |
| Frequency during daytime |
|  0 | 45(14.9) | 42(12.9) | 87(13.9) | 0.43 |
|  1 – 2 times | 86(28.5) | 100(30.8) | 186(29.7) |
|  3 – 4 times | 32(10.6) | 46(14.2) | 78(12.4) |
|  5 or more times | 4(1.3) | 8(2.5) | 12(1.9) |
| Frequency during night time |
|  0 | 32(10.6) | 12(6.7) | 44(7) | 0.46 |
|  1 – 2 times | 15(5) | 6(1.8) | 21(3.3) |
|  3 – 4 times | 4(1.3) | 2(0.6) | 6(1) |
|  5 or more | 0 | 1(0.3) | 1(0.2) |
| Duration of each feed |
|  0-5 times | 7(2.3) | 14(4.3) | 21(3.3) | 0.08 |
|  6-10 times | 105(34.8) | 136(41.8) | 241(38.4) |
|  More than 10 minutes | 63(20.9) | 54(16.6) | 117(18.7) |
| Feeding during the course of sleep |
|  At all bedtimes, including naps | 12(4) | 3(0.9) | 15(2.4) | 0.45 |
|  At all night bedtimes, but not naps | 36(11.9) | 16(4.9) | 52(8.3) |
|  All night bedtimes, occasional naps | 3(1) | 0 | 3(0.5) |
|  At all naps, but not night bedtimes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  At all naps & occasional night bedtimes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Occasionally at bedtimes, including naps | 2((0.6) | 0 | 2(0.3) |
| Content of feeding mode |
|  Fresh cow’s milk | 62(20.5) | 79((24.3) | 141(22.5) | 0.94 |
|  Processed cow’s milk | 82((27.2) | 93(28.6) | 175(27.9) |
|  Formula milk | 1(0.3) | 1(0.3) | 2(0.3) |
|  Breast milk | 7(2.3) | 9(2.8) | 16(2.6) |
|  Other | 19(6.3) | 18(5.5) | 37(5.9) |
| Addition of sweetener  |
|  Absent | 3(1) | 4(1.2) | 7(1.1) | 0.85 |
|  Present | 173(57.3) | 200(61.5) | 373(59.5) |
| Type of sweetener  |
|  Sugar | 103(34.1) | 119(36.6) | 222(35.4) | 0.98 |
|  Honey | 59(19.5) | 66(20.3) | 125(19.9) |
|  Brown sugar | 1(0.3) | 2(0.2) | 3(0.5) |
|  Dates syrup | 5(1.7) | 6(1.8) | 11(1.8) |
|  Others | 5(1.7) | 7(2.2) | 12(1.9) |
| Tooth and Diet Construct |
| Type of solid food |
|  Biscuits | 12(4) | 3(0.9) | 15(2.4) | 0.79 |
|  Chocolates | 2(0.7) | 0 | 2(0.32) |
|  Banana | 7(2.3) | 1(0.3) | 8(1.28) |
|  Cereal | 3(1) | 1(0.3) | 4(0.64) |
|  Any other | 4(1.3) | 0 | 4(0.64) |

 *Abbreviations used in this table: \*n(%) – Frequency(percentage)*

 *\* Significance was set at p<0.05 using Pearson’s Chi square test*