

Editorial on Infant Mortality

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INTRODUCTION

Infant mortality is described as the death of a child under the age of one. The infant mortality rate (IMR), which is the likelihood of children under the age of one year dying per 1000 live births, is used to calculate the death toll. Since the infant mortality rate only includes children under the age of five, the under-five mortality rate, also known as the child mortality rate, is also an important statistic. Since the infant mortality rate only considers children under the age of one year.

Causes

Infant mortality is caused by a variety of factors that result in death. Environmental and social obstacles obstruct access to basic medical services, contributing to the infant mortality rates; 99% of infant deaths occur in developing countries, with 86% of these deaths caused by diseases, premature births, childbirth complications, perinatal asphyxia, and birth injuries.

Low birth weight, sudden infant death syndrome, malnutrition, congenital malformations, infectious disorders, and low income for health care, including neglected tropical diseases, are all causes of infant mortality and deaths connected to medical conditions.

Premature birth

Premature birth, also known as preterm birth (PTB), is characterized as a birth that occurs before 37 weeks of pregnancy. It is further

divided into three categories: extremely preterm birth (less than 28 weeks gestation), very preterm birth (between 28 and 32 weeks gestation), and moderate to late PTB (occurring from 32 through 36 weeks gestation). The risk of infant mortality rises as the gestational age decreases.

Sudden infant death syndrome

Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) is a disorder in which an infant dies suddenly while sleeping. No one has been able to find out what causes this disease, even after a detailed autopsy. In Western countries, this disease is more prevalent.

Low birth weight

Low birth weight is commonly a direct cause of infant mortality, resulting from other medical problems such as preterm birth, inadequate maternal nutritional status, lack of prenatal care, maternal illness during pregnancy, and unsanitary home conditions. The two most significant predictors of an infant's chances of survival and overall health are gestational age and birth weight.

Prevention and outcomes

Health professionals, governments, and non-governmental organizations have mobilized to develop institutions, services, and strategies to improve health outcomes around the world in order to minimize child mortality rates.

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