

**Maternal Practices in Care of their Infants  
at El-fayoum Governorate:  
An Assessment Study**

*Thesis*

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of Master  
Degree in Pediatric Nursing

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**LIST OF APPREVIATIONS**

<b>Abbreviations</b>	
<b>AAP</b>	American Academy of Pediatrics
<b>AAPD</b>	American Academy of Pediatrics Dentistry
<b>ADA</b>	American Dental Association
<b>ARE</b>	Arab Republic of Egypt
<b>AWHONN</b>	Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
<b>BCAMAB</b>	Baby Center Australia Medical Advisory Board
<b>BCG</b>	Bacillus Chalmette-Guerin
<b>BFHIUSA</b>	Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative in the United States of America
<b>CAPMS</b>	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>EMS</b>	Egypt Modern School
<b>IOM</b>	Institute of Medicine
<b>MCH</b>	Maternal and Child Health
<b>NICUS</b>	Nutrition Information Center University of Stellenbosch
<b>ORS</b>	Oral Rehydration Solution
<b>OTC</b>	Over the Counter
<b>PDCMU</b>	Pediatric Department China Medical University
<b>RCH</b>	Royal Children's Hospital
<b>SIDS</b>	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
<b>UMMC</b>	University of Maryland Medical Center
<b>USA</b>	United States of America
<b>USDA</b>	United States Department of Agriculture
<b>USDHHS</b>	United States Department of Health and Human Services
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WIC</b>	Women, Infants and Children

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GLOSSARY

**Advocating of mothers:**

Refers to pleading causes for and assisting mothers in making informed decision through informing them their rights and options and the consequences of those options about their infants' health care decisions and providing information about research experimental protocols and alternative treatments.

**Anticipatory Guidance:**

Anticipatory guidance is a common term in the field of general pediatrics. It refers to providing education to parents about what to expect, or anticipate, over the next few months or years with their infants. Recommendations are specific to a child's age at the time of a visit.

**Health Literacy:**

Health Literacy is defined as the cognitive and social skills which determine the motivation and ability of individuals to gain access to understand and use information in ways which promote and maintain good health.

**Infant's health promotion:**

Health promotion refers to activities that increase well-being and enhance wellness or health. These activities lead to actualization of positive health potential for all infants, even those with chronic or acute conditions. Health promotion is concerned with developing sets of strategies that seek to foster conditions that allow infants to be healthy and allow their mothers to make healthy choices.

**Maternal capacity building:**

Capacity building refers to strengthening the skills, competencies and abilities of mothers to achieve the maternity role towards their infants.

## Maternal Practices in Care of their Infants at El-Fayoum Governorate: An Assessment Study

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### *Abstract*

**Background:** Not all mothers are equipped with sufficient infant's care knowledge that may result in harmful infant's care practices. **Aim:** This study aimed to assess maternal practices in their infants' care at El-Fayoum Governorate. **Methods:** A descriptive study was conducted at five urban medical care centers and fifteen rural MCH care centers at El-Fayoum Governorate. The sample included 1580 mothers and their infants during their first year of life regardless their characteristics. Data were collected using an interviewing questionnaire (to assess mothers and their infants' characteristics as well as mothers' knowledge and reported practices in care of their infants) and checklists (to assess for the reported mothers' practices in infant's care related procedures). **Results:** Most of the studied mothers had unsatisfactory levels of knowledge (89.3%) & practices (82.0%) regarding their infants' care. Also, maternal practices were affected by their educational level, residency, their infants' ages and ranks. **Conclusion:** Maternal reported practices in their infants' care were unsatisfactory among most of the studied mothers and more unsatisfactory among illiterate & rural resided mothers, mothers having female & 6 ≤ 12 months old infants and mothers whose infants ranked the fourth and the fifth in their families. **Recommendations:** This study recommended emphasizing the importance of evaluating maternal practices in care of their infants and accordingly developing appropriate programs to enhance their practices.

**Key Words:** Infant Care, Maternal, Knowledge, Practices, Nursing.

***Introduction***  
***&***  
***Aim of the study***

