

**Title: Effective factors in practice birth attendance about initiate breastfeeding, Tabriz, 1997**

**Author: Navideh Hamlimi**

**Adviser: S. valizahed**

**Code: 53**

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**Introduction:** Breast-feeding is an excellent start in infant's life as it prevents from 7 million death among children in worldwide. World health organization (WHO) has considered breast-feeding as a human right recently. Breast-feeding should be started after birth as soon as possible. In order to obtain well-being of children by a basic nutrition and prevent malnutrition as well as neonatal mortality and morbidity. Therefore birth attendance practice is very important.

**Methods:** This research is a descriptive study. Subjects were 100 of medical and midwifery students of Tabriz University of Medical Science and Azad University who were training in delivery room. The data gathering tools were an interview from for collecting demographic characteristics, knowledge and attitude factors, and an observation from for recording the characteristics of practice of birth attendance.

**Results:** The results indicated that 92% of subjects had dissatisfactory practice, 79% Moderate knowledge and 80% with negative attitude towards breast-feeding.

Also, a reasonable statistical correlation was found between knowledge and attitude with practice ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** Results suggested that practice of birth attendees were dissatisfactory towards starting breast-feeding. Thus, results of this research would be of great help for health authorities for application of promotion practice and change knowledge, attitude of birth attendance and for performance of the further research.

**Key words:** First breast feeding, Birth attendance, Practice, effective factors in practice of birth attendance