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Prediction of risk factors regarding diarrhea in children under five years old in Nineveh governorate	عنوان الرسالة
<p>Abstract</p> <p>The present study aimed to predicting the risk factors related to diarrhea in children younger than five years old. The case-control research design was employed. The sample consisted of (300)case study and (300)control children younger than five years old who had resided in Nineveh Governorate for at least three months . The study was done in three hospitals (Ibn-Al-Atheer, Al-Khansaa and Al Salam Teaching Hospitals), Data were collected from 1st December, 2010 to 1st March, 2011. The researcher interviewed fathers, mothers, relatives, or caregivers of the children using the questionnaire instrument. Content validity was determined by presenting the questionnaire to a panel of (17) experts. Data were analyzed by means of descriptive and analytical statistics (Chi-square, and multiple logistic regression analysis). The result of the Simple Linear Regression (SLR) showed that the reported mean duration of childhood diarrhea was higher among the children who were less than 1 years of age(60.3%), whose mothers were less than 30 years-of-age, Nearly half of the caregivers were mothers and (72.3%)of caregivers completed the elementary education, who caregivers not sought health care from a physician, provided them anti-motility medicines and gave them homemade medicine. The results of the study found that the children whose caregiver lived in the urban area have more chance to have diarrhea ,also ,the study showed that children who were bottle fed had similar chance to have diarrhea(52%) ,and children who lived in a family with low socioeconomic status had similar chance to have diarrhea (72%). An association was found between mean knowledge score of mothers and maternal age- on the average, for each one-year increase of maternal age there was an increase in maternal knowledge score by 0.1 unit. Overall, (69.7%) of the caregiver had poor information about diarrhea (prevent, management) .</p> <p>Based on the findings of this study, programs to increase mothers’ knowledge about childhood diarrheal management could include an educational role for more experienced older mothers with younger mothers in a management of this disease. Respected older mothers who were shown to be more effective in the management of childhood diarrheal diseases than younger mothers could be trained to teach and provide examples for the less experienced younger mothers.</p>	