

**“Management Strategies to prevent Hypernatremic Dehydration in Breastfed Neonates” an article by Dr Bijal Shrivastava was published in Indian Paediatrics.**

**OBJECTIVE:**

A study was undertaken to assess the incidence of hypernatremic dehydration in exclusively breast fed babies and to reduce its incidence by implementing early interventional protocol

**METHODS:** From Jan 2009 to Dec 2010, hypernatremic cases were identified. In Dec 2010, a 5 step interventional protocol educating parents and medical staff was established. It included antenatal breast feeding counselling, proper feeding techniques, identifying early signs of dehydration in babies such as more than 10 % weight loss, less than 6 – 7 times urine and stool frequency from day 5 of birth and then introducing formula feeds for these babies and starting galactogogues for mother. Then the numbers of HD cases after this protocol implemented were noted till June 2012.

**RESULTS:**

HD cases reduced from 14 to 2 after protocol was implemented

**CONCLUSION:**

Our study strongly suggests that incidence of HD cases can be significantly reduced by this protocol.