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The effect of depression levels of the mothers with infants hospitalized in intensive care unit on maternal attachment

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Background: One of the important factors that prevent the infant from interacting with the mother is the hospitalization of infant. This situation preventing the development of a satisfactory relationship between the mother and the infant makes maternal-infant attachment process difficult and causes the mother to experience depression. This study was conducted to determine the effect of depression levels of mothers, having infants hospitalized in the neonatal intensive care unit, on maternal attachment.

Methods: Population of this descriptive study consisted of mothers having infants who were hospitalized in the neonatal intensive care unit of Inonu University, Turgut Ozal Medical Center. The sample consisted of 312 mothers calculated with 0.95 of representative power of population and effect size of 0.5 at confidence interval of 0.95 and errors of 0.05 with power analysis. Mothers were considered for the study by using random sampling method, one of the improbable sampling methods.

Results: The average age of mothers participating in the study was 29.31 ± 5.83 . Mean score of maternal attachment scale was 74.77 ± 33.75 , and mean score of Edinburgh depression scale was 15.22 ± 6.88 . It was determined that while maternal attachment was affected by the mode of delivery and the period of stay in the hospital, it was not affected by the variables like educational level, number of pregnancies and the presence of a helping person. Depression level was found to be affected by the mode of delivery but it was not affected by the educational level, number of pregnancies, the presence of the helping person and the duration of stay in the hospital. It is determined that there was a negative correlation between the maternal attachment and depression and as maternal attachment increased, the depression level decreased.

Conclusion: It can be concluded that mothers' depression levels affected the maternal attachment.

Biography

Kevser Isik was born in Gaziantep. I completed the training in Gaziantep. I graduated from Sutcu Imam University in 2010. I started graduate education in 2011 in Malatya Inonu University. I have been working as research assistant at the Faculty of Health Sciences at Inonu University Since 2013.

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