# Thesis Title

**DIARRHEAL DISEASE AMONG CHILDREN FROM NINE TO TWENTY FOUR MONTHS OF AGE IN REGARD TO ROTA VIRUS VACCINATION IN SAMPLE FROM BAGHDAD / AL-RUSAFA**

## Year

2014

## Abstract

Background: Diarrheal disease is the second leading cause of death in children under 5 years old; therefore WHO recommended Rota virus vaccine to be included in the national immunization program.

Objective: The purpose of this study was to find out the characteristics of diarrhea after implementation of Rota virus vaccine and to demonstrate factors of diarrhea and its relation to immunization status of child.

Methodology: This cross-sectional study included 230 children attended PHC centers during period of four months (from the 1 of September to the 31 of December 2013) and diagnosed by general or family physician as case of acute gastroenteritis. Child with known cause of chronic diarrhea or bloody diarrhea was excluded. After the administration of questionnaire to the care takers of the children, examination of general condition to assess the degree of dehydration was performed. Demographic data of children, their parents, feeding pattern, diarrhea and related symptoms, degree of dehydration, past medical history, and vaccination status were evaluated. Statistical analysis was performed using chi-square test.

Results: This study found 53% of children had full doses of Rota virus vaccine, while 47% had not or incompletely vaccinated. Age of children 20-24 months, working
mothers, less previous diarrheal attacks, less admission to hospital due to diarrhea, less severity of dehydration were found to be significantly related to vaccination with Rota virus vaccine.

Conclusions: Rota virus vaccine had a significant role in decreasing the severity of dehydration, diarrheal attacks, and admissions to hospital due to diarrhea.