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Thesis Title	Epidemiological characteristics of Under Five Children with Ventricular Septal Defects Attending Ibn- Nafees Teaching Hospital, Baghdad 2015			
Year	2015			
Abstract	<p>Globally at least eight of every 1,000 infants born each year have a heart defect, and as Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD) is the commonest among Congenital Heart Defect (CHD), this study aimed to assess the impact of VSD among CHD and its association with certain factors, and to assess the anthropometrical measures among children with CHD as well as assess nutritional state of their mothers. A hospital based cross sectional study on 349 under five children with CHD attending Ibn Al-Nafees Teaching Hospital were subjected to questionnaires prepared by the researcher. The nutritional status of under five children was assessed through an anthropometric measures (height and weight) and compared with z-score of CDC 2000, meanwhile 296 Mother's Body Mass Index (BMI) was assessed to point out an association with CHD and VSD.</p> <p>It was found that 54.7% of CHD were VSD, 29.2% were ASD and the combination of VSD and ASD was on the top of congenital heart malformation 61.4%.</p> <p>CHD had increase relation with Father's and Mother's education and indirect relation with Mother's age, also was higher (84.2%) among 20-39 years Mother and appear more often in children under one year 64.2%. The studied factors had</p>			

no obvious influence on VSD rather than other CHD. Nutritional status of the study sample showed that wasted children was almost three times over normal distribution which exhibit acuteness with no evidence on disease chronicity, as shown the study sample showed close frequency distribution regarding stunting and underweight. Mother's BMI exhibit a problem as 37.2% were overweight and 26.4% were obese. Interfamily marriage express 58.5% positivity and only 8.3% report positive family history. Anemia reported in 33% of Mothers and 30.4% address febrile illness during first trimester.

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This study observed no significant associations between VSD and other congenital heart defects in term of socio-demographic characteristic; residency, mother's age, child's age, Father's and Mother's education and consanguinity. Also no associations were found regarding family history, febrile illness, passive smoking, certain medication received, anemia and DM.