

## عنوان مقاله:

Factors Affecting the Growth Impairment in Children Less than 6 Years: A Longitudinal Study Using Transfer and Marginal Transfer Models

## محل انتشار:

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## خلاصه مقاله:

Background: Childhood has coincided with a rapid growth and development and growth impairment (GI) of this period lead to lifelong problems. Thus, this study aimed to evaluate the factors affecting the growth impairment of children under 6 years of age in West Azerbaijan Province, Iran. Methods: This prospective-longitudinal study was conducted on 1070 neonates from the cities and urban health centers in the West Azerbaijan province, Iran. Studied neonates were randomly selected in a two-stage cluster sampling. During a 6-year follow-up, children's characteristics of growth (height, weight) and development (walking, speaking and teething age) were measured and recorded. Data were collected by R statistical software and analyzed by using the transfer and marginal transfer models. Results: The results of the models' fitting showed that the main effect of the maternal educational level [elementary ( $p = 0.007$ ) and high school ( $p = 0.003$ )], child's gender ( $p < 0.001$ ), child's health care ( $p < 0.001$ ), the first age of the teething ( $p = 0.031$ ) and walking ( $p = 0.021$ ) had significant effect on GI. Conclusion: The research results showed that with increasing the age of teething, the odds ratio of the GI decreases. Also, every one-month increase in walking age was associated with decreasing odds ratio of GI. Moreover, the present study revealed that some demographic factors have a significant effect on children's GI. Early detection of the factors affecting child GI and primary prevention of its adverse effects is recommended.

## کلمات کلیدی:

Child growth impairment, growth and development, transfer model, marginal transfer model

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