The presentation will highlight some of the recent clinical data from leading clinicians In chelation therapy from several parts of the world and the lessons that can be learned from their experience and work for the benefit to optimize the treatment of thalassemia major patients in our population.

21) Contamination of baby milk "The Chinese story"

Mohammed Jawad Musmar, Ph.D,R.Ph, *Dean, College of Pharmacy, An-Najah National University*

Infant formula industry is an 8-10 billion dollar per year business. Across the globe, huge advertising budgets are spent to convince women that it is better and more convenient to bottle feed their babies.

Advantages of breast milk over formula milk have been extensively studied, however in this paper issues of contamination will be explored.

Although mother milk may contain more dioxins, PCB,s,and organochlorine pesticides than infant formula, health concerns for milk formula may include the risk of contaminated water, potential contaminants in bottles and nipples, and contaminants in the formula itself.

In most parts of the world, water is polluted with microorganisms, chlorine byproducts, weed killers, insecticides, solvents, lead ,and arsenic.

Formula itself may have contaminants introduced in the manufacturing process such as broken glass fragments, Salmonella, fungal toxins that may cause cancer. Again metals like Aluminum, manganese, cadmium had been detected.

The list also includes high level of plant derived estrogens or genetically modified organisms, antibiotic residues, diesel fuel from trucks and several pollutants from packing.

Is the plastic baby bottle safe? which type of plastic is safe? Is bottled water safe?

Most recent issue of infant formula safety is that "Chinese baby milk formula is contaminated with melamine". What is melamine and why milk is contaminated? What other baby food products imported may be contaminated? Can we test our products for pollutants including melamine?

The presentation will cover all issues related to milk formula safety.

22) Blood lead level among school children, a developed method for blood lead measurement

Ahed H. Zyoud, *Department of Chemistry, An-Najah National. University*

Abstract

Lead and it's compounds are used as additives to several products such as gasoline and paints. Lead has a toxic effect especially on brain and nervous system. Almost no published work has been found providing information about blood lead levels in children of Palestine. And thus the present work was carried out.

An improved (ASV/HDME) method for determination of lead in whole blood by anodic stripping voltametry (ASV) using hanging dropped mercary electrode "HDME" has been developed with a special reagent at An-Najah N, University laboratory.

A total of 518 sample from 10^{th} grade students of Jenin district, the samples have been analyzed using the mentioned improved method>

The geometric mean of blood levels was 87.75 µg/L, a variation in the geometric mean of blood lead level was noticed with respect to students place of residence;(Camp student 119.43 µg/L), (City students 92.41µg/L), (Yammon village students 77.65 µg/L). also a variation appeared with respect to

school location, and the highest mean 185.71 µg/L was found in Al-Sallam males school which located near a heavy traffic movement and near an industrial area. In each sample statistic was carried out to se if there was any correlation between blood lead levels and lead risk factors. Factor that found to affect blood lead levels are; gasoline stations, paints workshops, highway' incinerators and quarries. Kidney colic joint pain, R. T. disorder and C. V. disorder appears with increasing blood lead level. Also blood lead level was higher in persons using tea and flour from local mills, and increased in persoms with lower parents education and income level.

23) The Incidence of Skin Infections and Infestations between children in Palestine

Presenter: Dr. Hisham Arda, M.D.Consultant dermatologist, *Nablus*

Abstract

Skin diseases are common in general practice in Palestine but there is no data available about that.

In a study by Dr.Adnan Kamal and H.Arda on 23583 Dermatology patients seen 1972 – 1979 the infective group formed 36 % , Dermatophytes 12 % and Tinea capitis (T.C.) 4.2 % .

In a study by H.Arda 1978 at primary schools in some villages , Refugee camps and the city of Nablus for the diagnosis and treatment of T.C. which showed an incidence of 15 % , 3 % and 2 % respectively . All patients were treated and the same schools were seen on two occasions 1979 and 1996 to see that T.C. was dramatically reduced .

A mass campaign treatment program was carried out 1983 – 85 , in which a total of 101852 school children below the age of 14 were examined all over the West Bank for T.C. , of them 3347 children were found to have T.C. (3.3 %) . In Jenin Governorate the highest rate of infection was found 7.2 % and in Jericho the lowest 0.6 % .

Recently we looked for skin infections and infestations between all Dermatology patients seen during 2000 – 2007 with results showing high frequency of all these conditions in children .

In the treatment of T.C. we are using griseofulvin F.P. in a dose of 10 – 15 mg / Kg weight for 6 – 8 weeks with very good response and rare complications.

In scabies we use lindaine and permethrin as one application for 8 hours and all members of house hold should be treated at the same time.

In Impetigo we insist always at the use of systemic and local antibiotics for rapid relief of symptoms.

In warts we use treatment according to the site of lesion and age of the patient.

24) Obstacles of optimum care for diabetic children in Palestine

Dr. Intisar Alem, M.B.BCH,MPH, *Director of Research and Chronic Disease Surveillance Department /MOH/ West Bank/ Palestine*

Abstract

Type 1 diabetes is one of the most frequent chronic diseases in childhood. According to Palestinian MOH, there are 1342 registered patients following up for type I diabetes in the West Bank PHC's, which makes 6.5% of all diabetics following up at these clinics; about 20% of those patients are from Hebron, and 18% from Jenin.

The incidence rate (The number of new patients per100000 diagnosed as type I diabetes in these clinics for the year 2007) was 2.1M and 2.0 F for the age group 0-4,9.7M,7.3F for the age group 5-14. It is noticeable that incidence increases with age and is higher in males than females.