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INSULIN-LIKE GROWTH FACTOR-1 AND INSULIN-LIKE GROWTH FACTOR BINDING PROTEIN-3 LEVELS IN HUMAN MILK AND PROLONGED JAUNDICE

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Maternal milk plays an important role in the development of the late onset breast milk jaundice (BMJ), possibly due to its unique characteristics. The aim of this study was to investigate whether there is a relationship between IGF-1 and IGFBP-3 levels in the milk of nursing mothers and BMJ. Breast milk samples were collected from breast-feeding mothers of healthy fullterm neonates, 40 with BMJ and 40 without jaundice. Milk samples were taken between the second and the fourth postpartum week. Milk IGF-I and IGFBP-3 levels were measured by a solid-phase, enzyme-labeled chemiluminescent immunometric assay (CLIA). There were no statistically significant differences between the study groups in terms of milk IGF-1 and IGFBP-3 levels. Although IGF-1 in human milk plays an important role in fetal or postnatal intestinal development, we did not find any correlation between IGF-1 and IGFBP-3 levels in the milk of nursing mothers and BMJ.

In conclusion, the milk concentrations of IGF-1 and IGFBP-3 seem not to be correlated with prolonged jaundice.