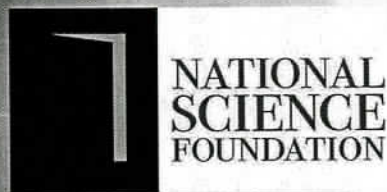


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Preterm birth and neuro development: comparison of cognitive, language and motor scales using Bayley Scale of toddler and infant development- III

S. Sasrubi^a, V. Arasaratnam^b, M. G. Sathiadass^c, R. Surenthirakumaran^d

^aFaculty of Graduate Studies, University of Jaffna, Kokuvil, Sri Lanka

^bDepartment of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna, Kokuvil, Sri Lanka

^cDepartment of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna, Kokuvil, Sri Lanka

^dDepartment of Community and Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna, Kokuvil, Sri Lanka

sasrubi@hotmail.co.uk

Preterm birth is one of the major determinants of neuro developmental outcomes and approximately 24,500 babies are born premature, annually in Sri Lanka. A longitudinal study was conducted to assess the developmental attainments of 170 preterm babies born between October 2015 to January 2017 in the Teaching Hospital of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. The neurodevelopment of the cohort of preterm babies was observed at 3, 6, 12 and 18 months of age. The mean composite scores at each assessment showed an average range using a cut-off score of 70, except cognitive and motor developments at 3 months which showed a low average. In paired assessment, the motor score significantly increased over 18 months, while cognitive score decreased from 6 (98.2 ± 10.0) to 12 (95.1 ± 6.9) & 18 (93.9 ± 6.6) months, and language score decreased from 6 (97.5 ± 11.9) to 12 (91.5 ± 8.0) months, and again increased at 18 months (93.9 ± 6.6). The variation of composite scores was statistically significant ($p < 0.005$) in each paired assessment, while the language domain did not have such a relationship between 12 and 3, 6, 18 months.