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| **The poorest infants are at increased risk of SIDS: Experience in Bogota, Colombia** |
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| **Introduction** The Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) known as the crib death, is the unexpected death of an infant under one year of age, apparently healthy and without a known cause; that usually occurs during sleep. Bearing in mind that exists a direct association between sudden deaths and risk factors demonstrated in different studies, there has been necessary to carry out important educational and preventive campaigns in order to decline the mortality of SIDS. According to vital statistics, in Colombia in 2010 the infant mortality rate was 12.76%. In Bogotá, by probable cases of SIDS in under one year children, according to ICD10 code, were 120 deaths of 372 occurred throughout the country. **Objectives**:  Determine the existence of health inequities in the case of SIDS in Bogota, Colombia  **Material and Methods** A descriptive cross-sectional study of 1,101 parents of babies born in Bogotá in the 12 months prior to the completion of the survey was conducted through a structured survey administered by telephone between September and November 2010, sampling was stratified, representative stratum, with a margin of error of 2.9% for p = 0.5 with 95% confidence. Data were Stata processed, used chi-square and t-test to determine statistical significance.  **Results** The results reflect the risk that the infants are exposed because erroneous practices associated with knowledge, recommendations given in a lot of cases, by health professionals and practice like cigarette smoking in home, consumption of alcohol by the mother, bed sharing, using pillows and positioning prone of the infant at bedtime. Using an expansion factor, with infant populations (less 1 year old) estimated in 119,679 in Bogota for 2010, it could mean that about 77,000 infants were lying sideways or prone at bedtime; 50,000 children slept in bed with another person and 10,800 were exposed to cigarette smoke. The study evidenced inequity between the richest and poorest people in Bogotá: there are significant differences between socioeconomic strata (p <0.05).  The highest socioeconomic status has greater knowledge and practices of "safe sleep" for example, position prone in which the infant sleeps (40.5% vs. 21.9%), and pacifier use (16,3% vs. 5%). And the percentage of children at risk is lower among the richest population: use of pillows (42.7% vs. 59.7%); bed sharing (19.4% vs. 59%), smoking mother (0.4% vs. 2.7%) and smoke exposure (3.1% vs. 12.5%).  **Conclusions** Colombia shows large inequalities among its population, which have been evidenced in this study. This survey shows statistically significant differences between safe sleep practices by socio economic status, with the higher strata that get more and better information, those who have more knowledge about SIDS and how to prevent and those closer to sleep practices insurance with their babies. It is possible that these differences in knowledge and practices are those that result in more deaths in lower strata and in infants with parents with less education. |
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