

# Review of: "Delayed vs Early Umbilical Cord Clamping in 100 Preterm Infants: an RCT from Bhavnagar, Gujarat"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

This study aims to determine the hematological effects of delayed cord clamping compared to early cord clamping in preterm neonates. The effects of delayed cord clamping have been widely studied and there is a significant amount of literature on the subject. In the introduction the authors do not make the argument on how the aims of their study will fill a knowledge gap on the subject or if there are unanswered questions from previous studies.

The following are specific comments on the manuscript;

1. In the introduction the authors state the following "delayed umbilical cord clamping (DCC) is not practiced widely in full-term and preterm infants" - is this statement based on published survey data of the practice, which if it is the data/articles should be cited.
2. The flow chart presented in figure 3 is confusing, it should clearly state the flow of patients approached, those excluded (& why), number of patients in each group, and the number included in the final analysis
3. There is no description in the methods section of the statistical analysis used to analyze the data
4. Dietary habits (being vegetarian) was included in the baseline characteristics, but there are other factors that influence the risk of anemia in the infant. For example, socioeconomic status, level of education. These are factors that should be considered in the study population
5. Flow charts 2 and 3 basically contain similar information, so not necessary
6. The word "expired" is usually not used in scientific literature to refer to death. I would suggest this term not be used
7. The discussion section of the manuscript should start with the comments on the principal findings of the study