

Review of: "How to burp an infant – a prospective comparative pilot study on four different methods"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

While this article is very easy to read and addresses an issue, which is not addressed in literature, its conduction leaves a lot to be desired.

The introduction is very short, and while it mentions other leading death causes in infants world wide, this leads to nowhere, leaving the question, why open the topics of dehydration and gastroenteritis to begging with.

Although the article is marked as a "Pilot study", it only includes twin girls, apparently the authors own children, which opens a debate on how objective is a parent in evaluating the successes of his own children. Also, having only two children cannot be regarded as representative. As the author mentions at the end of his article, larger cohorts including both sexes and all races is desirable.

Choosing a follow-up period between approx. 5 to 7 months is also questionable. Children do develop psychomotrically significantly at this age and the incidence of gastro-oesophageal reflux declines physiologically in a large number of children. Also, it is unclear, how a child of this age would be in a sitting position, it is unlikely that they were sitting unsupported at 5 months of age, so what kind of support did they have?

All, in all, as mentioned at the beginning, the article is very easy to read but its significance is, at best, dubious. As another reviewer mentioned, a short YouTube video might be best in place demonstrating various techniques, etc.