

Introduction:

Researchers, especially in recent year, have documented diverse and compelling advantages to infant, mother, families, and society from breast-feeding. They established that human milk is uniquely superior for infant feeding and is species specific, in addition to its unique immunological, growth and development benefit. they also suggested that benefit attributable to breast feeding may persist past infancy (*Fullan et al., 2003*) the breast fed infant is considered as the reference or the normative model against which all other alternative feeding methods must be measured with regards to growth, health, development and all other short and long-term outcome (*Hediger et al., 2001*) moreover, human milk is being used increasingly to feed premature infant, as the high bioavailability of its nutrients coupled with its immunoprotective factor render it unique for them (*Do Nascimento and Issler, 2003*) unfortunately recent trends of modern life-style have raised obstacles to successful lactation, including the choice or the need to work outside home, as well as infant illness requiring separation from the mother. The need fore women to find alternatives to infant suckling in order to maintain breast milk production has increased (*Li et al., 2003; Smith et al., 2003*).

When it is not possible for an infant to breast feed in the post neonatal, expressed breast milk fresh or frozen may provide both nutritional and immunological benefits in such away, it could be utilized for hospitalized infant and can be fed to babies whose employed mothers are kept away from

them for 8 hours or more (*Netshandama, 2002*). The importance of investigating the effects of storage of breast milk on the concentration of its nutrients is essential for the well being of infant. It is important to appreciate that once milk is collected, stored, frozen. And thawed, it may undergo qualitative alterations that render it significantly different from milk obtained by an infant during normal suckling (*Arnold, 1993*).

Aim of the work:

The aim of this work is to study the effect of storage of breast milk on its different chemical constituents, namely total proteins , total fats, minerals, such as iron, calcium, zinc, vitamin D. The goal is to encourage and promote breastfeeding in the community, by removing one of the main obstacles that may hinder its initiation and maintenance .