

**INTRODUCTION  
AND  
AIM OF THE WORK**

## INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK

Inspection of the colour of the newborn infant, is one of the most important aspects of the physical examination of the newborn especially looking for pallor , pallid cyanosis of shock, cyanosis or jaundice.(Avery , 1984) .

The normal term infant has a rosy, pink-red colour while the premature infant has a-deeper red colour of the skin ( Ziai 1983) .

Pallor or paleness is a common and worrying symptom to most parents. This complaint of pallor by the parents is based on, their interpretation of the colour of the skin almost invariably that of the face.(Wang, 1984) .

The skin colour is in part racially determined , but because of this rich subcutaneous vascular network, hemoglobin contributes substantially to this attribute .

Pallor is conditioned by the concentration of hemoglobin in the blood, the distribution and state of constriction or dilatation of the cutaneous blood vessels and

the presence or absence of edema ( Green, 1980).

Pallor of the skin of the newborn, may be due to either decreased circulating hemoglobin or intense cutaneous vasoconstriction. In any case, it is an alarming finding and requires prompt investigation. This is particularly important at birth , where rapid diagnosis and immediate resuscitation is required and may be life saving ( Black, 1972).

Pallor should be looked for, in the mucous membranes creases of the hyperextended palm of the hands and nail beds, as well as the skin ( Oski, 1982).

#### AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of this work is to study pallor in the newborn through the review of :-

- I - Pallor in Hematologic disorders.
  - II - Pallor in Asphyxia .
  - III - Pallor in neonatal infections and septicemia .
  - IV - Pallor of Miscellaneous causes .
  - V - Management of a newborn presenting with pallor .
-