
Transcutaneous bitirubinometry and spread of skin gaundice in newborns

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Neonatal hyperbilirubinemia is a common problem in newborns. Clinical jaundice is detected in 25 to 50% of full term newborns and igher percentage of premature newborne. Approximately 6-8% of all babies develop a serum bilirubin level greater than 15mg/dl. The traditional metods of serum bilirin estimation were found to be invasive, inaccurate, time consuming with lots of interlaboratory variability, more over it carries the necessity for laboratory analysis. We obtained transcutaneous bilirubinometry readings using icterometer in 52 eygyptian newborns wit jaundice from benha university hospital their ages ranged from 2 to 10 dats, non of the infants undergone exchange transfusion or received phototeraph. At the same time of TCB readings, a venous blood sample was taken for estimation of total serum bilirubin level by the nodified diazo metod. The result were compared and it was found that there is a significant linear relationship between TCB& TSB, with a coefficient of correlation of 0.65 and the P value 0.2.