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Survival and predictors of mortality among severe acute malnourished under-five children admitted at Felege hiwot comprehensive specialized hospital, Ethiopia, 2020.

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Background: Malnutrition is still a global public health problem contributing for under-five morbidity and mortality. The case is similar in Ethiopia in which severe acute malnutrition (SAM) is the major contributor to mortality being an underlying cause for nearly 45% of under-five deaths. However, there is no recent evidence that shows the time to death and public health importance of oxygen saturation and chest in drawing in the study area. Therefore, estimated time to death and its predictors can provide an input for program planners and decision-makers.

Methods: A retrospective cohort study was conducted among 488 SAM under-five children admitted from January 2016 to December 2019. Participants were selected by using simple random sampling technique. Data were entered in to Epi-Data version 3.1 and exported to STATA version15 software for further analysis. The result was determined using Kaplan Meier, log-rank test and Cox-proportional hazard regression model was fitted to identify mortality predictors. P-value<0.05 was used to declare statistical significance

Results: Out of the total 488 randomly selected charts of children with SM, 476 records were included in the final analysis. A total of 54(11.34%) children died with an incidence rate of 9.1death /1000 person- days. Failed appetite test (AHR: 2.4; 95%CI: 1.26, 4.67), altered consciousness level at admission (AHR: 2.4; 95%CI: 1.08, 4.67), oxygen saturation below 90% (AHR: 3.3; 95%CI: 1.40, 7.87), edema (AHR 2.9; 95%CI: 1.45, 5.66) and HIV infection (AHR: 2.8; 95%CI: 1.24, 6.36) were predictors of mortality

Conclusion: The overall survival status of SAM children was low as compared to national sphere standards and previous studies. Predictors of mortality were oxygen saturation below 90%, altered consciousness, HIV infection, edema and failed appetite test. Early screening of complications, close follow up and regular monitoring of SAM children might improve child survival rate.

Biography

Mr. Amare has clinical expertise and currently lecture of pediatrics and child health nursing in Debre Tabor University and also working in pediatrics and neonatal ICU in his extra time. He was earned his MSc in Pediatrics and child health nursing before one year. He wants to be researcher in his field to improve the wellbeing of children and contribute scientific evidence to the global community.

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