ABSTRACT

Background. There is a strong association between type of feeding and development of immune system in infant. Human milk as the best nutrition, has several component for infant’s immunity, including lactoferrin, an iron binding protein belongs to the non-immune natural defences, which has capability to inhibit the growth of Candida albicans. Bovin lactoferrin is added by manufacture to formula milk, but its quality isn’t the same as human lactoferrin. Purpose. The aim of this study was to compare the growth of Candida albicans colony in infant with breast feeding and formula feeding. Method. Swab was done in dorsum of the tongue of 12 infants with breast feeding and 12 infants with formula feeding. It was grown on sabourroud solution and incubated at 37°C. After 2 days, it was grown on saborroud agar and incubated at 37°C. After 2 days, the presence of Candida albicans was identified with the characteristic of its colony. Result. There was no significant differences of the growth of Candida albicans colony in infant with breast feeding and formula feeding. Conclusion. The growth of Candida albicans’s colony in infant with breastfeeding and formula feedings was the same, and it was influenced by oral hygiene.

Keywords: infant, breast feeding, formula feeding, lactoferrin, Candida albicans