

**Premature Babies Home Care : The Application Of
Web Causation Epidemiological Model to
Prevent Premature Complications**

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of
Doctorate in Nursing Science Degree
(Community Health Nursing)

By

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**Faculty of Nursing
Ain Shams University
2012**

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SUMMARY

Introduction

Premature birth is associated with substantial excess childhood mortality and morbidity and therefore represents an important public health problem worldwide. It increases the risk of death and long term disability which are impacting families, communities, and health care services.. Premature babies have higher risks of complications in the body systems such as, nervous, respiratory, cardiovascular, digestive, and muscoskeletal systems (*Actorlitvak et al. 2009*).

The application of web causation epidemiological model to prevent the complications of premature babies, through the integration of the two parts of the causality model **cause and effect**. *Causes* of premature complications or health risks include immature organs as lung, heart, liver, or systems, as the respiratory, digestive, cardiovascular, nervous systems, and generally low immunity. The *effect* of premature complications include, problems related to breathing, feeding, regulating body temperature, jaundice. and other long-term neurodevelopmental problems. Recognition of multiple causes provides many points of intervention, prevention, health promotion, and treatment (*Campbell & Lees, 2003; Bellinger et al, 2006*).

Home health care for premature babies aims to support families and individuals to avoid premature admission to an institutional health setting, by providing appropriate services and maintaining or restoring physically

impaired babies to optimal functional potential, also providing support and follow up services for them. So, the preventive program will be able to improve mothers' knowledge, practices related to premature home care, to prevent premature complications (*Georgieff, 2009*).

The mother should limit her baby's exposure to germs, because he/she is more susceptible to infections. She has to closely monitor her baby's weight gain, pulse, temperature, and apply hygienic care and give proper feeding to her premature baby. This will allow mothers to be prepared for any complications. So the preventive program was able to improve mothers' knowledge, practices related to premature home care, to prevent premature complications (*Fenster, et al, 2009*).