

Timely Infant Immunisation in a Developing Nation: Jordanian Case Study

Ayman Bani Salameh AL-Zaytoonah University of Jordan-Jordan Email: allafyaa@yahoo.com.au Loai Abu Sharour AL-Zaytoonah University of Jordan-Jordan Email: luay_shahrour@yahoo.com Khaled Suleiman AL-Zaytoonah University of Jordan-Jordan Email: khaledsuleiman@yahoo.com Suhair AL-Ghabeesh AL-Zaytoonah University of Jordan-Jordan Email: suhair-althabeesh@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Introduction: To discover reasons for and prevalence of late infant immunisations, hypotheses were tested on: timeliness of immunisation, parental education and lateness, infant gender and delay, family position, and employment status, to prevent future tardiness. **Method:** Quantitative survey of 108 parents with 49 male and 59 female infants in Amman, at two public Health centres. **Results:** Most fathers and three mothers were employed. The higher the level of education the less vaccination delay; no delay existed for male first children or for first children generally. Employment status was irrelevant and delay reasons were unhelpful in future prevention. **Discussion:** Key factors were education and health clinic provision. Higher father participation, male and first child immunisation timeliness were culturally based. Clinical implications demonstrated nurse advice importance in reducing lateness, stressing threat to infants by unvaccinated siblings. Jordanian lateness prevalence (45.37%) rate; quantified reasons for lateness; and demonstrated cultural contrasts were significant findings. **Keywords-** Infant, immunization