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| **Title of Research Presentation****A Correlational study examining factors influencing fathers’ involvement in their partners’ breastfeeding process** |
| **Background/Objectives**Fathers’ involvement in their partners’ breastfeeding process has been identified as an important predictor in maternal breastfeeding outcomes. Although the benefits of fathers' involvement have been well documented, limited studies have been conducted to explore factors that influence their involvement. The objective of this study was to examine the factors influencing fathers’ involvement in their partners' breastfeeding process.**Methods**This was a quantitative descriptive correlational study**.** A total of151 fathers were recruited from obstetrics wards of a tertiary public hospital in Singapore in 2016. Two sets of questionnaires were used to collect data: (1) The first set was administered upon recruitment after childbirth before their partners’ hospital discharge, which examined fathers’ knowledge regarding breastfeeding and involvement, attitudes towards breastfeeding and involvement as well as marital relationship. (2) Two weeks later, the second set was administered, which examined fathers’ perceived improvement of knowledge and attitudes, perception on the subjective norms surrounding their involvement, perceived behaviour control for their involvement and fathers’ breastfeeding involvement. Descriptive statistics and multiple linear regression were used to analyse the data using IBM SPSS 24.0.**Results**Fathers’ involvement yielded a mean score of 126.58 over 160. Five factors that significantly influenced fathers’ breastfeeding involvement were fathers’ knowledge regarding breastfeeding and their involvement, marital relationship, perceived improvement of knowledge and attitudes at two weeks after childbirth, perceived approval of significant others in their breastfeeding involvement and perceived behaviour control for their breastfeeding involvement.**Discussion**The study provided evidence on the significant factors that influenced fathers’ involvement in their partners’ breastfeeding process, which can be used to guide healthcare professionals in providing appropriate interventions to facilitate fathers’ involvement. Future studies should develop comprehensive and advocative programs that involve the extended family to achieve optimal breastfeeding outcomes, reaping greater health benefits for mothers and infants. **Keywords**Breastfeeding, Fathers, Involvement, Postpartum |