

THE INFLUENCE OF SOME SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS ON THE NEW BORN BABY FROM THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA. COMPARATIVE ASPECTS

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The factors which can influence the normal development of the baby, as early as the intrauterine period, are: the age of the mother at birth, her alimentation during pregnancy, mother's vices, and her socio-professional status. As the socio-economic environment of the mother during pregnancy represents the basis for a harmonious development of the baby, this aspect was and is still approached by numerous researchers. An unfit alimentation exposes most mothers and babies to anemia and other deficiencies. Together with the complex of socio-economic factors, this has a direct and/or indirect influence on the development of the child. The results obtained show that, in Kishinev, the medium age at birth for mothers is 24.88 years. Primipar women with ages below 18 years come from a disadvantaged social environment. The highest birth rate was registered for disadvantaged mothers, as well as the highest ratio of premature children. Intellectuals record the lowest percentage of premature babies. Out of a total of 3,704 births, 180 are premature, of which 55% are male babies and approximately 44% are female babies. The Kishinev series registers average values superior to the Iasi ones, for both weight and stature, in both sexes, although the weight differences are insignificant. On the contrary, for the thoracic and cephalic perimeters, the new born babies from the Kishinev series register medium values inferior to those specific to the Iasi series. The height-weight ratio, represented by the Rohrer index, is 2.44 u.i. for the Kishinev newborns and 2.56 u.i for the Iasi newborns. The differences between the two series can be the result of the influences of some unfavorable socio-economical factors, but also of the structure of mothers batch from the view point of education, profession or age.

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, between January and September 2008, the birth rate recorded was of 10.7 ‰; the infantile mortality rate – 12.1 ‰; the rate of maternal mortality – 16.2 ‰. Out of the total number of live-born children, the maximum percentage is attained for mothers belonging to the age 20-24 years age group (39.3%), followed by the 25-29 (28.0%), 30-34 (14.0%) and 16-19 years group (12.8%). The other groups registered values below 10%. The distribution of the living newborns according to their rank is the following: first child – 52.8%; second child – 33.1%; third child – 9.4%; fourth or more – 4.7% [11].

Multiple investigations on the nutrition state of the pregnant women and of the children, performed in the last decade in the Republic of Moldova by the Ministry of Health, in cooperation with and supported by UNICEF, highlighted several problems, such as: the prevalence of anemia and deficiencies in women at fertile age, at pregnant women and at children younger than 5 years. The high frequency of morbid states and of various disfunctions recorded in children, adolescents and pregnant women especially, generated by the lack of certain microelements and vitamins, is