differences lead to a different movement pattern of the affected arm. The effect of the OBPP on the level of activity and participation seems to be of no importance. The children with an OBPP do not stay behind with children of their age in physical and social activities.

**Conclusions** Children with a conservative treated OBPP have persisting restrictions specially on the level of body functions and structure. Despite these restrictions there is no relevant effect shown on the activity and participation level. Using the mobility tests we think there is a relation between position of the scapula and the joint mobility.

**SMOKING AND OTHER PRE-GESTATIONAL RISK FACTORS FOR SPONTANEOUS PRETERM BIRTH**

**Background and Aims** To investigate pre-gestational risk factors for spontaneous preterm birth and the role of smoking and its cumulative effects on prematurity.

**Methods** A case-control study analyzed all births (2,198) occurring in a tertiary maternity hospital between April 2002 and July 2004. Spontaneous preterm births of single and live newborns without malformations were selected as cases. Controls were all the term births of live and single newborns without malformations during the same period. Three outcomes were studied: all preterm births (<37 weeks), less than 35 weeks and less than 32 weeks of gestational age. Logistic regression was used to obtain the independent effect of pre-gestational risk factors.

**Results** Maternal age of less than 20 years, low schooling, low maternal pre-gestational body mass index and smoking showed significant, independent association with spontaneous preterm birth for the three outcomes. For all these risk factors, excepting maternal smoking, odds ratios increased with decreasing gestational age at birth and this trend was significant for low maternal age and low pre-gestational body mass index.

**Conclusions** The cumulative effects of smoking calls for the need to encourage smoking cessation among pregnant women, especially those who are underweight and in the older age groups, because of the increased risk of delivering premature babies.

**VITAMIN D LEVELS IN NEAR TERM INFANTS**

**Background and Aims** Based on the fact that the whole-body bone mineral content increases between 32–33 wk and 40–41 wk gestation (5.0 fold increase), near-term infants are thus at higher risk for low levels of vitamin D. Our aim was to measure 25-hydroxyvitamin D [25(OH) D] concentrations in the cord blood of near term infants born at KFAH in Jeddah Saudi Arabia.

**Methods** This was a prospective study carried out from August 1st 2011 to January 31st 2012. A total of 153 near term babies with gestational ages 34 to 36+6 weeks were included. The results were classified as: Deficient (25(OH) D <37.5 nmol/L), Insufficient (25(OH) D 37.5–75 nmol/L) or Sufficient (25(OH) D >75 nmol/L).

**Results** The measured 25(OH) D levels ranged between 3–91 nmol/L with a mean of 26±13.94 nmol/L. The values were classified as deficient in 134 babies (88.2%) and insufficient in 16 babies (10.5%), while only two babies (1.3%) had sufficient levels of vitamin D in their cord blood. We ran correlation studies between 25(OH) D levels, birth weight (BW), gestational age (GA) and admission to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), there was a weak correlation between 25 (OH) D levels and birth weight (r value of 0.172 (p<0.05) but no correlation was found with GA or NICU admission.

**Conclusion** We observed a high prevalence of significant hypovitaminosis D among near term infants and a weak correlation with lower birth weight, the magnitude of which warrants identification and intervention.

**BIRTH AND DISCHARGE WEIGHT OF INFANTS WITH BIRTH WEIGHT LESS THAN 1000 G**

**Background and Aims** Despite sweeping progress in the area of neonatology it is impossible to create artificial environment which would provide the same development conditions as mother’s womb. Correct subsequent development of a child is dependant on intrauterine growth. Premature delivery hampers not only the development of internal organs but also weight gain. Aim of the project is to compare birth and discharge weight of infants with ELBW in order to analyse their weight gain.

**Methods** Data was gathered from 81 infants of weight less than 1000 g hospitalised in Neonatology and Infant Intensive Care Centre at the Medical University of Warsaw. Employing growth charts to compare birth and discharge weight of infants with ELBW. Assessing the influence of pregnancy length and sex of the infant on its weight gain.

**Results** The 81 infants were divided into 3 groups. Group 1 with 22 infants (27.2%) whose weight-for-age score was the same for both birth and discharge weight. Group 2 with 53 infants (70.4%) for which weight-for-age score lowered after birth. Group 3 with 6 infants (2.4%) for which weight-for-age score increased. A statistically significant correlation was discovered between pregnancy length and weight gain rate in groups 1 and 2. No correlation was found between sex of the infant and its gain weight in any of the groups.

**Conclusions** For infants with ELBW postnatal weight gain does not match intrauterine growth. An important factor hampering postnatal weight gain is pregnancy length. The lower intrauterine age the slower weight gain rate.

**THE MANAGEMENT OF CENTRAL DIABETES INSIPIDUS IN NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT: EXPERIENCE OF EIGHT CASES**

**Background and Aims** Neonatal central diabetes insipidus (DI) is extremely rare and etiology has not been documented extensively. Asphyxia, intraventricular hemorrhage, severe infections, and central nervous system abnormalities have been associated with central DI in neonatal intensive care units (NICU). Desamino-8-D-arginine vasopressin (DDAVP) has been in clinical use for the treatment of central DI. DDAVP preparations are available for intranasal, oral, subcutaneous and intravenous administration. There is not clear data for the management and used DDAVP form for the central DI in neonates. In this article, we presented eight cases with different etiology of...