

## Asociación entre lactancia materna prolongada y riesgo cariogénico en lactantes. Revisión de la literatura.

### Association between prolonged breastfeeding and cariogenic risk in infants. Literature review.

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#### RESUMEN

**Objetivo:** Establecer la relación entre lactancia materna prolongada (LMP) y riesgo cariogénico en lactantes.

**Materiales y métodos:** Búsqueda en bases de datos PubMed, Embase, Scopus y Web of Science (WOS) utilizando los términos “breastfeeding”, “breast milk”, “prolonged”, “dental caries”, “risk”, “prevalence”. Sin restricción de idioma, los criterios de selección fueron: artículos referentes a lactancia materna y CTI, texto completo y de los últimos 5 años.

**Resultados:** La búsqueda arrojó 133 publicaciones (46 Embase, 34 PubMed, 13 WOS, 40 Scopus). Luego de eliminar duplicados, 12 cumplieron los criterios de selección propuestos y 121 fueron excluidas. De los artículos analizados, 4 refirieron el amamantamiento como factor protector ante caries hasta los 12 meses; por otra parte, 4 atribuyen mayor riesgo de CTI al amamantar por sobre el año de vida, 2 por sobre los 18 meses y 3 por sobre los 24 meses. Finalmente, 5 artículos fueron poco concluyentes debido a variables de confusión.

**Conclusión:** Las publicaciones analizadas describen la lactancia materna como factor protector frente a caries hasta el año de vida. Posterior a los 24 meses se considera prolongada y la evidencia indica que es difícil establecer la lactancia materna como factor protector o agente cariogénico debido a la multiplicidad de factores implicados en la enfermedad de caries, por lo que es fundamental más investigación.

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## ABSTRACT

**Objective:** To assess the association between prolonged breastfeeding (PBF) and cariogenic risk in infants.

**Material and Methods:** PubMed, Embase, Scopus, and Web of Science (WOS) databases were employed selecting the terms "Breastfeeding", "breast milk", "prolonged", "dental caries", "risk", "prevalence". Without language restriction, the selection criteria were: articles referring to breastfeeding and early childhood caries (ECC), full text, and from the last 5 years.

**Results:** The search yielded 133 publications (46 Embase, 34 PubMed, 13 WOS, 40 Scopus). After eliminating duplicates, 12 met the proposed selection criteria, while 121 were excluded. Of all articles analyzed, four referred to breastfeeding as a protective factor against caries when prolonged up to 12 months; On the other hand, four attributed a higher risk of ECC to breastfeeding extended for over one year of life, two for over 18 months, and three for over 24 months. Finally, five articles were inconclusive due to confounding variables.

**Conclusion:** The analyzed publications describe breastfeeding up to one year of life as a protective factor against caries. Over 24 months, it is considered prolonged; The evidence indicates that it is difficult to establish breastfeeding as a protective factor or cariogenic agent due to the multiplicity of factors involved in caries disease, which is why more research is essential.

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