

## **ASSESSMENT OF CORD BLOOD GASES, POSTNATAL STATE OF INFANTS AND LACTATION OF CESAREAN SECTION NATURALLY DELIVERING MOTHERS**

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In recent years the number of cesarean sections has been rapidly increasing. One of the reasons behind this is the fact that the scope of recommendations on these operations is still widening. The purpose of the paper has been to present a comparative analysis of the state of infants after the planned Cesarean sections and natural labors on the basis of the Apgar scores, analysis of the results of cord blood gases - pH, pCO<sub>2</sub>, and pO<sub>2</sub>. It has also served the purpose of analyzing the course of lactation at patients who gave birth naturally in comparison with the patients who had cesarean sections. Conclusions Outcomes of the postnatal state of infants based on Apgar scores were statistically significantly higher for the infants delivered naturally in comparison with the infants delivered by elective cesarean sections. O<sub>2</sub> partial pressure in the cord blood of infants delivered naturally was also significantly higher. Compared to mothers who delivered their babies naturally, it takes longer for women to begin breastfeeding after cesarean section and they bottle-feed their babies more often than women who had natural childbirth. The way of ending the pregnancy has significant influence on adaptive abilities of infants to live outside mother's womb.