

Vitamin B₁₂ (vit B₁₂) deficiency treatment in infants and its prevention

To the Editor,

Taşkesen¹ and his colleagues' interesting paper supports Koç et al.'s² findings that infantile vit B₁₂ deficiency is not rare in that region (southeast Turkey) because of maternal vit B₁₂ insufficiency or deficiency.

Vit B₁₂ was given in divided doses for the first two weeks and then monthly to these infants. Since vit B₁₂ toxicity has not been reported and the half-life is more than 350 days, why was it not administered as 1 mg (1 ml) at once and the same dose to the mothers?

Since vit B₁₂ is cheap and about 72% of pregnant women in that region have vit B₁₂ deficiency, it would be logical to inject 1 mg of this vitamin (1 ml) in all pregnant women for the prevention of infantile vitamin B₁₂ deficiency in southeast Anatolia.

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REFERENCES

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