

Sulaymani pediatrics teaching hospital is the largest hospital for children in Sulaymani governorate. The average number of annual admission during the study period was 27547.8\*\*\*, and the main reasons for admission were diarrhea, ARI and neonatal problems. The turn over rate in the hospital is relatively rapid especially during late spring and summer months when the load on admission by diarrheal diseases is too high.

All deaths in infants and children from birth to 5year of age that occurred in the Sulaymani Pediatrics Teaching Hospital form 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2001 to 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2005 were included in this study.

The final causes of death as reported on case files and death certificates were analyzed according to the number of deaths by :age groups( first 28 days,>28 days-12month, >1year –

5year), body weight (<2.5kg, 2.5kg - 4kg, >4kg - 10kg and >10), gender of the died child, residency (rural, urban). The hospital files (case sheets) of the deceased individuals were reviewed and relied upon for the information's required in the above mentioned analysis.

Data entry and analysis was carried out by using SPSS software version 10, correlation between dependant variable ( causes of death) and variables such as :child age ,gender, residency, body weight and the month of the year, was assessed by using chi square test, P-value, the value <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

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\* Population and target per (PHC) 2007.

\*\* Department of birth registration.

\*\*\* Department of health statistic in hospital

## **Results**

This study was carried out from 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2001 to 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2005; during this period 137739 children were admitted to Sulaymani Pediatrics Teaching Hospital. Of the admitted cases 1455 have died, which accounted for 1.06% of total admitted cases (Table 1). Nine hundred (61.8%) were younger than 28 days i.e. neonate, 427(29.3%) were infants, while the remaining 128(8.9%) were children between >1- 5 years of age as shown in (Table 2).

The death number varied from one year to another, the maximum number of deaths occurred in 2001, which accounts for 342 of total deaths and (1.44%) of total admitted cases while the minimum numbers of deaths occurred during 2003 which accounts for 217 of total deaths and (0.61%) of total admitted cases( Table 1). This variation was statistically significant with a P- value (<0.05).

By far the commonest cause of death was prematurity in 501cases which accounts for (34.4%) of total death during this study.

Other main causes of death in different age groups were, diarrhea in 319 cases (21.9 %), respiratory diseases mainly pneumonia & bronchiolitis in 136 cases (9.3%), Cardiovascular diseases in 131 cases (9%), septicemia and meningitis in 129 (8.8%), birth asphyxia in 111 cases (7.6%), congenital anomalies in 66 case (4.5 %), and other causes apart from malignancy (trauma, poisoning, renal failure) account for 57 cases (3.9%). malignancy came at the bottom of list as a cause of death in 5 cases (0.34 %) of the total number of deaths (Figure 1).

(Table 3) present the causes of death by age group, three age groups were chosen: First 28 days (neonate), >28 days-12 month and >1year-5years. The highest percent of death