

NUTRITION IN THE INFANT

Problems and Practical Procedures

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PREFACE

The infant is particularly vulnerable to the effects of malnutrition, with long-term consequences for tissue maturation and intellectual impairment. In addition, malnutrition increases the susceptibility to infections and post-operative recovery is compromised. Traditionally, some practical aspects of nutritional disorders have been placed in the third world context, such as repeated episodes of diarrhoea, tropical infections; precipitated by changes in agricultural proficiency, social cohesion or civil conflict. However, malnutrition may also arise as a consequence of organ pathologies, metabolic derangement, operational stress as well as overt nutrient deficiencies. These need to be diagnosed either in the general population setting, or in the individual.

After diagnosis, the appropriate therapeutic regimen needs to be instigated which may take the form of specific formulations or more subjective treatment protocols such as educational strategies. In the book Nutrition in The Infant: Practice and Procedures all these facets of nutrition and nutritional therapy are covered in a precise and practical way. The book includes the latest developments in diagnostic procedures and nutritional support. The authors are International experts in their field and the book is recommended for all those involved or interested in infant nutrition.

Victor R Preedy March 2001