

**FREQUENCY OF PREMATURE BABIES OCCURRED MOTHERS
RESIDENTS IN PATOS DE MINAS DURING 2009 – 2013.**

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Introduction: In recent years, has been registered an increase in number of premature births and low birth weight and are considered premature infants born less than 37 weeks gestational age and low birth weight, those born with 2,500g or less. Prematurity was considered one of the most serious causes of child mortality due to the immaturity of the organs of newborns, making it difficult to extrauterine adaptation. **Objective:** To identify the frequency of preterm infants occurred to mothers living in the city of Patos de Minas from 2009 to 2013 according to the weeks of gestation mother and birth weight of the child. **Material and Methods:** Data collection was performed by searching for documents based on the form DN / MS (declaration of live births) in the Department of Epidemiological Surveillance of the archives of the Municipal Health Department. **Results and discussion:** The newborns of low weight in the period 2009-2013 in Patos de Minas, were found 479 premature infants born with 2.499g or less. Of these, 374 were born between 32 and 36 weeks and 68 between 28 and 31 weeks. Prematurity and low birth weight may be related to the mother's anxiety during pregnancy, negatively affecting the endocrine changes may also influence risk behavior for pregnant women, such as smoking, poor diet and gain weight expropriated. However, the low weight can be related to the delay of intrauterine growth. One strategy to reduce or even eliminate the risk factors that may occur during pregnancy is the prenatal care, since it allows an early diagnosis and treatment of complications. The lack of such basic and routine procedures in prenatal care increases the neonatal mortality rate. **Conclusion:** It is believed that the analysis of the frequency of premature infants, as well as knowledge of indices related to one of the main causes of prematurity, may contribute to the reduction of premature births and the improvement of care for pregnant women.

Keywords: premature infants, mortality, birth.