

POSTER: PREVALENCE OF DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS OVER 24 MONTHS IN EXTREMELY, VERY AND MODERATE/LATE PRETERM INFANTS

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Objective: To describe motor, cognitive, and language development from 4 to 24 months of corrected age, and to compare the prevalence of delay in extremely, very, and moderate/late preterm infants. **Methods:** Infants ($n=186$) were followed from 4 to 24 months of corrected age by a follow-up clinic in southern Brazil. Participants were according to gestational age at birth: extremely preterm (gestational age less than 28 weeks), very preterm (gestational age between 28 and 32 weeks), and moderate/late preterm infants (gestational age between 32 and 37 weeks). Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development-III was used to assessing the development. **Results:** In the extremely preterm group, the highest prevalence of cognitive delay was at 8 months (41.4%), language at 24 months (58.8%), and motor at 12 months (67.9%). In the very preterm, the highest prevalence of cognitive delay was at 24 months (33.3%), language at 4 months (49.2%), and motor at 8 months (57.4%). Moreover, in the moderate/late preterm group, the highest prevalence of cognitive delay occurred at 18 months (25%), language at 24 months (50%), and motor at 8 months (40%). A significant difference in cognitive performance was observed between groups at 12 months of age ($p = 0.035$) in extremely and very preterm. The same groups presented a significant difference in language at 8 months ($p = 0.029$). The prevalence of motor delay in extremely preterm was significantly lower than very preterm at 4 months ($p = 0.013$) and 12 months. The prevalence of motor delay in extremely preterm was higher than the moderate/late preterm ($p = 0.007$). **Implications:** The child born extremely, very, or moderate/late preterm shows developmental delay at some point during the first 24 months of life. Extremely preterm infants had a higher prevalence of developmental delay than other groups of preterm infants, evidencing to be the group with more meaningful impairments and greater need for long-term follow-up. **Discussion:** These results broaden previous studies showing that the relationship between motor and language development is already present in the first months of life. Further analysis (in progress) will allow us to enlighten the relationship between postural and motor milestones considered and specific gestures and communicative behaviors controlling sociodemographic variables.