

Relationship between hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm neonates

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1 **Relationship between hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular**
2 **hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm neonates**

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21 **Abstract**

22 **Background and Objectives**

23 For identifying important risk factors that contribute to intra-ventricular hemorrhage (IVH) and
24 hypernatremia in early postnatal life of preterm neonates of extremely low birth weight, with
25 gestational age (GA) matching appropriately and with birth body weight (BBW)

26 **Material and Methods**

27 The study has been designed to evaluate extremely preterm neonates with $GA \leq 26$ weeks and
28 $BBW \leq 1000$ g, admitted to different hospitals during the 8 years. The data has been collected
29 every month from 1990-2019

30 **Results**

31 The regression results indicated a significant relationship between sodium serum level and IVH,
32 hypernatremia in extremely preterm neonates. Hypernatremia and fluctuations are related to
33 sodium that seems to be associated with early severe IVH among preterm neonates It is found that
34 hypernatremia is a major risk factor for IVH in extremely preterm neonates. It is explored that the
35 incidence of hypernatremia in extremely preterm neonates preterm neonates along with other
36 contributing factors. It is recommended for future research to find other contributing factors to
37 examine this research in further details.

38 **Conclusion**

39 There found some factors significantly affect resuscitation, vaginal delivery, hemoglobin, male
40 sex, level of high sodium serum, fluctuation of serum sodium, and platelet counts are also
41 associated within f severe IVH and hypernatremia. The study concludes, a significant positive
42 relationship between hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm

43 neonates along with other contributing factors. However, further research is required to explore a
44 causal relationship between IVH and hypernatremia in extremely preterm neonates.

45 **Keywords:** hypernatremia, Intra-ventricular, preterm neonates, resuscitation, serum sodium

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62 **Background**

63 Intra-ventricular hemorrhage (IVH) is observed quite often neonatal morbidity among
64 extraordinarily premature preterm neonates. It leads to adverse sequelae on the development of
65 neurons. Therefore, during the last decade, the incidence has been declined but still, IVH is
66 considered a highly significant risk factor for morbidity and mortality among extraordinarily
67 premature preterm neonates. The literature revealed that approximately 90% of cases, IVH, have
68 been occurred during first three days of postnatal. However, it is evident that the gestational age
69 (GA), in this incident is inversely associated with birth body weight (BBW). Therefore may risk
70 factors are associated with males related to IVH, as male gender, as membranes can be ruptured
71 at a premature stage, delivery method, postnatal resuscitation, onset sepsis at a very early stage,
72 hypoxemia, syndrome of respiratory distress, pneumothorax, hyper, and hypocarbia [1].
73 Furthermore, it was reported that IVHs were observed to be very more common among preterm
74 neonates with hypernatremia. The previous literature, therefore, explored insufficient evidence
75 about the appropriate matching controls for BBW and GA, thus was simply investigated that the
76 population carry high risk but the outcomes might be confounded by both the variables, However,
77 the case-control study has been conducted to minimize the effects of GA and BBW as well as the
78 potential risk factors have been determined for severe IVH. Intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) is
79 considered as the most important element that caused mortality along with the developmental
80 impairment during long run in preterm neonates. The definite neurologic sequelae frequency is,
81 therefore, directly concerned with the IVH severity. Chorioamnionitis (CA) is also a common risk
82 factor in the disease of prematurity for the white matter, however, the association of
83 intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) to preterm neonates is still controversial and it is not yet
84 systematically reviewed with empirical investigation. However, comprehensive literature is

85 available that has been conducted by using PubMed/MEDLINE and EMBASE after 2017. This
86 literature includes the investigation regarding preterm neonates. It is reported that the primary data
87 has been used to measure the association between IVH, hypernatremia, and preterm neonates. It
88 is found that in the previous literature the random-effects model was extensively used for odds
89 ratios (OR) calculation at 95% confidence intervals. We have observed that 1,284 relevant studies
90 have been found in literature, out of these 85 has met the inclusion criteria i-e 46,244 preterm
91 neonates with 13,432 cases of hypernatremia [2]. The Meta-analysis was also conducted in
92 literature and found a significant association between hypernatremia with all IVH grades and
93 preterm neonates with CI 1.61–2.19 and OR 1.88, 95%, therefore, with 1–2 IVH grades at CI
94 1.22–2.34 and OR 1.69, 95%, and with 3–4 IVH grades at CI 1.42–1.85 and OR 1.62, 95%.
95 However, both histological CA and clinical were also significantly associated with increased risk
96 in the development of IVH in extremely preterm neonates [3–5]. Contrary to this, the funisitis
97 presence has not been increased IVH risk as compared to CA but in the absence of funisitis, CI
98 0.89–1.67 and OR 1.22, 95% was observed.[6] Moreover, this meta-analysis had confirmed the
99 initial findings have exposed preterm neonates with CA have lower gestational age (GA 1.20
100 weeks) with the lower birth weight i-e BW; MD –55 g these preterm neonates not significantly
101 exposed to CA. However, multiple regression analyses do not demonstrate proper association
102 between the IVH and hypoxemia in lower GA and BW of the preterm infant [7]. The grade 1/2
103 IVH is compared with the neurosensory impairment at the highest, observed at almost doubled in
104 number i-e severe-grade is grade 3/4 of IVH. According to the classification of Papile, severe grade
105 IVH, as a critical incident, was estimated at the level of approximately 6 to 16%, whereas in the
106 large cohort of preterm network of preterm neonates with birth weight < 1,500 g.it is an unfortunate
107 incident to find severe IVH in extremely preterm neonates, however, the results are largely

108 remained the same over a decade, though many efforts have been made for avoiding or minimizing
109 the IVH perinatal risk factors. Many of previous research have proposed several IVH perinatal risk
110 factors also including the following: gestational age (GA) low birth weight gender, absence of
111 antenatal steroids, intrauterine infection, mode of delivery, hyper apnea, hypoxemia, pulmonary
112 hemorrhage, respiratory distress syndrome (RDS), pneumothorax, bicarbonate infusion, and
113 metabolic acidosis [8–12].

114 The IVH pathogenesis is multifactorial; it includes, broadly, the germinal fragility matrix
115 vasculature, blood flow fluctuation in cerebral, and platelet and coagulation disturbances.
116 However, the association between tracraniel hemorrhage and hypernatremic dehydration has been
117 well-defined among pediatric patients and newborn preterm neonates. However, it is uncertain that
118 the early fluid change or level of serum sodium would affect the severe IVH occurrence in preterm
119 neonates. Therefore, a few studies revealed a possible association between IVH and
120 hypernatremia; it is also observed that the cause and effect relationship in high sodium intake and
121 preterm neonates has remained unclear. The purpose of this study is to examine and investigate
122 the association between severe IVH and concentration of serum sodium as well as the impact of
123 sodium intake in the early days of extremely preterm with low birth weight preterm neonates [13–
124 15].

125 **Methodology**

126 **Objectives**

- 127 • To explore hypernatremia as a risk factor for IVH in extremely preterm neonates
- 128 • To investigate the incidence of hypernatremia in extremely preterm neonates' preterm
129 neonates along with other contributing factors.

130 **Mathematical model and variables:**

131 The relationship is examined by applying OLS regression with DV: Sodium Serum level in
132 preterm neonates/neonates. IV: IVH (Intra-ventricular hemorrhage), Birth weight, Sex/ gender, the
133 Sugar level of preterm neonates as a proxy of hypernatremia test excess water in the body.

134 **Sodium Serum level in preterm neonates/neonates**

135
$$= \alpha + \beta_1 \text{IVH} + \beta_2 \text{BW} + \beta_3 \text{Sex} + \beta_4 \text{SL} + \beta_5 \text{HYP} + \epsilon_t$$

136 **Sodium Serum: Sodium:** it is a vital source for muscle function and nerves. The body keeps
137 balanced sodium with a variety of mechanisms. The Sodium level in preterm neonates is
138 determined by food and drink of mother. However, high level of sodium cause increase in blood
139 pressure resulted in Intra-ventricular hemorrhage of neonates [16]

140 **Intra-ventricular hemorrhage:** it is also describes as “intraventricular bleeding” bleeding into
141 ventricular system of brain. Moreover, cerebrospinal fluid is produced as well as circulated
142 through subarachnoid space and physical trauma has been observed as hemorrhaging in stroke.
143 The important factors include: Fluctuation in flow of cerebral blood flow (related to blood
144 pressure) , \uparrow flow of cerebral blood due to hypercarbia, \uparrow pressure of cerebral venous with
145 pneumothorax and asphyxial heart failure, reperfusion and hypotension and coagulation
146 abnormalities.

147 **Birth weight:** The average birth weight of babies is 3.5 kilograms (7.7 lb), it is also considered
148 as normal to be between 2.5 kilograms (5.5 lb) and 4.5 kilograms (9.9 lb) in Europe , however,
149 the research found it different in other countries [17].

150 **Gender:** many previous studies found that male neonates are more sensitive towards
151 hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage [19].

152 **Sugar level:** the sugar level (very low or very high) leads to hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular
153 hemorrhage in preterm neonates [20].

154 The output of the regression model will be discussed according to DV and IV , P value (<5%)
155 along with the graphical representation done in SPSS [21–23].

156 This study is conducted in the “neonatal intensive care unit” (NICU), the data has been collected
157 from the NICU databases of USA. These databases recorded the medical information of preterm
158 neonates from admission till discharge from January 1990 to December 2019 of preterm neonates
159 of a GA p26 weeks, having BBW p1000 g, and were diagnosed with IVH with both grades III and
160 IV. The pediatric neurologist used to perform the Routine cranial ultrasound within first 3 days of
161 life in the NICU. However, the grading of IVH has been made according to the system of Papile
162 classification,⁷andgrades, grade III or IV, while it is defined that IVH is severe.[24–26] The
163 preterm neonates with brain malformations are excluded from this study, moreover, the
164 orcongenital anomalies of dysmorphic features have suggested the chromosomal abnormalities,
165 metabolic disorders, and genetic syndromes. The study has been designed to evaluate extremely
166 preterm neonates with $GA \leq 26$ weeks and $BBW \leq 1000$ g, admitted to different hospitals for 8
167 years. The data has been collected every month. The preterm neonates, the cohort of 347, out of
168 these, 36 preterm neonates i-e 10.7% had suffered from severe IVH i-e grades III and IV. [27–29]
169 We have selected the control group of preterm neonates (36) without IVH and hypernatremia,
170 closely matched for the GA (± 1 week) with body weight (± 100 g). The effect of sodium serum
171 intake for the extremely preterm neonates has been investigated. A regression analysis was applied
172 to identify risk factors found in preterm neonates for severe IVH and hypernatremia. However,
173 GA of IVH and hypernatremia was 24.6 ± 1 week with BW 764.4 ± 118.5 g, and 24.8 ± 0.9 weeks
174 with 771.5 ± 125.9 g, respectively.

175 Considering (X1, Y1) both points near the upper right of the data collected. The observed value of
 176 an independent variable is X1(sodium serum) and the observed value is described as Y1, for IVH,
 177 BW, Sex, SL, HYP as dependent variables respectively. The regression line has been used to
 178 predict the dependent variable value, the value \hat{Y}_1 has been predicted. These dependent variables
 179 were obtained by putting X1, X2, X3, X4, and X5 in the equation, and

$$\hat{Y}_1 = a + bX_1 + bX_2 + bX_3 + bX_4 + bX_5 \quad (1)$$

180 The error of prediction for Sodium Serum level in preterm neonates/neonates is given by:

$$\alpha + \beta_1 \text{IVH} + \beta_2 \text{BW} + \beta_3 \text{Sex} + \beta_4 \text{SL} + \beta_5 \text{HYP} + \epsilon_t \quad (2)$$

$$X_1 \text{ is } Y_1 - \hat{Y} \quad (3)$$

181 By entering X1, in the given equation, the value of X, it is possible to make it close to the predicted
 182 value of sodium serum (dependent variable), however, there found some error in this prediction.
 183 The least-squares regression line has the aim to minimize the error of prediction. The error of
 184 prediction is associated with X1 as:

$$\epsilon_1 = Y_1 - \hat{Y} \quad (4)$$

185 This point lies between X2 and Y2 with a considerable distance from the regression line is
 186 considered as a prediction of error.

$$Y_2 - \hat{Y} \quad (5)$$

187 When $X = X_2$, the serum sodium's observed value, Y is Y2 then predicted value of

$$Y \text{ is } \hat{Y} = a + bX_2 = \hat{Y} \quad (6)$$

188 The error in predicting term is associated with

$$\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2 \quad (7)$$

189 A similar error term for prediction would be obtained from observation at different data points, so
 190 there could be several possible lines that could be drawn. All of these points have been associated
 191 with some set of errors to predict Y values. Moreover, these lines could be fitted with the points
 192 of the scatter diagram better than do other lines. Therefore, the better fitting lines contain the
 193 smaller errors for predicting the lines. However, one of the regression model objectives is to find
 194 the points on the line best fitted to all. To find the regression line, the statisticians usually used the
 195 least-squares criterion. This criterion contains certain attempts for minimizing the sum of the
 196 squares from the errors to predict. This minimization has produced the line to fit the best of all
 197 observed points. [30–33]

198 **The least-squares criterion would be written in the algebraic form as: n observed points =**
 199 **(X_i, Y_i),**

200 **where i = 1, 2, . . . , n.**

201 Considering a line that has been drawn for each observed value of X, however, a predicted Y value
 202 = \hat{Y} has to be obtained by putting the value of X in the equation to the line. These predicted values
 203 of Y will differ from the observed values of Y. to each of the ith observation the difference found
 204 between observed and predicted value i-e written

205 **$e_i = Y_i - \hat{Y}_i$.**

206 The criterion to determine the line fitted to the point best positive and negative errors that have
 207 been canceled out so $\sum_{i=1}^n e_i = 0$.

208 The squares of error terms, $e_i^2 = (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$, the sum of the squares of errors,

209 **$\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$**

210 The line of least square regression is a straight line with minimum possible values of error for this
 211 sum. It can also be defined mathematically moreover, there is only one regression line to satisfy
 212 the criterion $\sum e_i = 0$, which has produced Minimum $\sum e_i^2$. It is being shown that with algebra
 213 and calculus that this occurs when a and b found the values as:

$$a = \bar{Y} - b\bar{X} \quad b = \frac{\sum (X_i - \bar{X})(Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2} \quad (8)$$

214 This intercept a and slope b are the statistics that produce the line that fits the points the best. All
 215 other possible lines result in larger values for the sums of the squares of the errors of prediction, $\sum e_i^2$.
 216 The values of a and b can be computed as shown in the above formulas, but computationally
 217 it is more straightforward to use the formulas that were developed when determining the
 218 correlation coefficient. In Section 11.4.3, the values SXX and SXY were used. These were defined
 219 as $SXX = \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2 / n$ $SXY = \sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y) / n$ These expressions can be calculated
 220 from the observed values of X and Y in the same manner as in Section 11.4.3. Based on these
 221 expressions, the slope and intercept can be shown to equal

$$b = \frac{SXY}{SXX} \quad a = \bar{Y} - b\bar{X} \quad (9)$$

222 Table 1 Summary of Simple Regression Analyses for Variables Predicting: hypernatremia & Intra-
 223 ventricular hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm neonates (n = 24)

Variable	α	IVH	β	BW	B	Sex	β	SL	β prob.
Sodium serum	0.08	0.0546	0.625	0.0252	0.764	0.063	0.023	0.0533	0.754 0.01
Mode of Delivery	0.01	0.0643	0.162	0.0265	0.345	0.0564	0.643	0.0345	0.445 0.00
Hemoglobin fluctuations	0.02	0.0085	0.233	0.01514	0.543	0.0568	0.754	0.0424	0.865 0.00
Gestational age	0.1	0.097	0.821	0.01754	0.875	0.0854	0.054	0.0754	0.754 0.01
Respiratory issues	0.05	0.076	0.514	0.0161	0.446	0.0235	0.035	0.0981	0.045 0.00

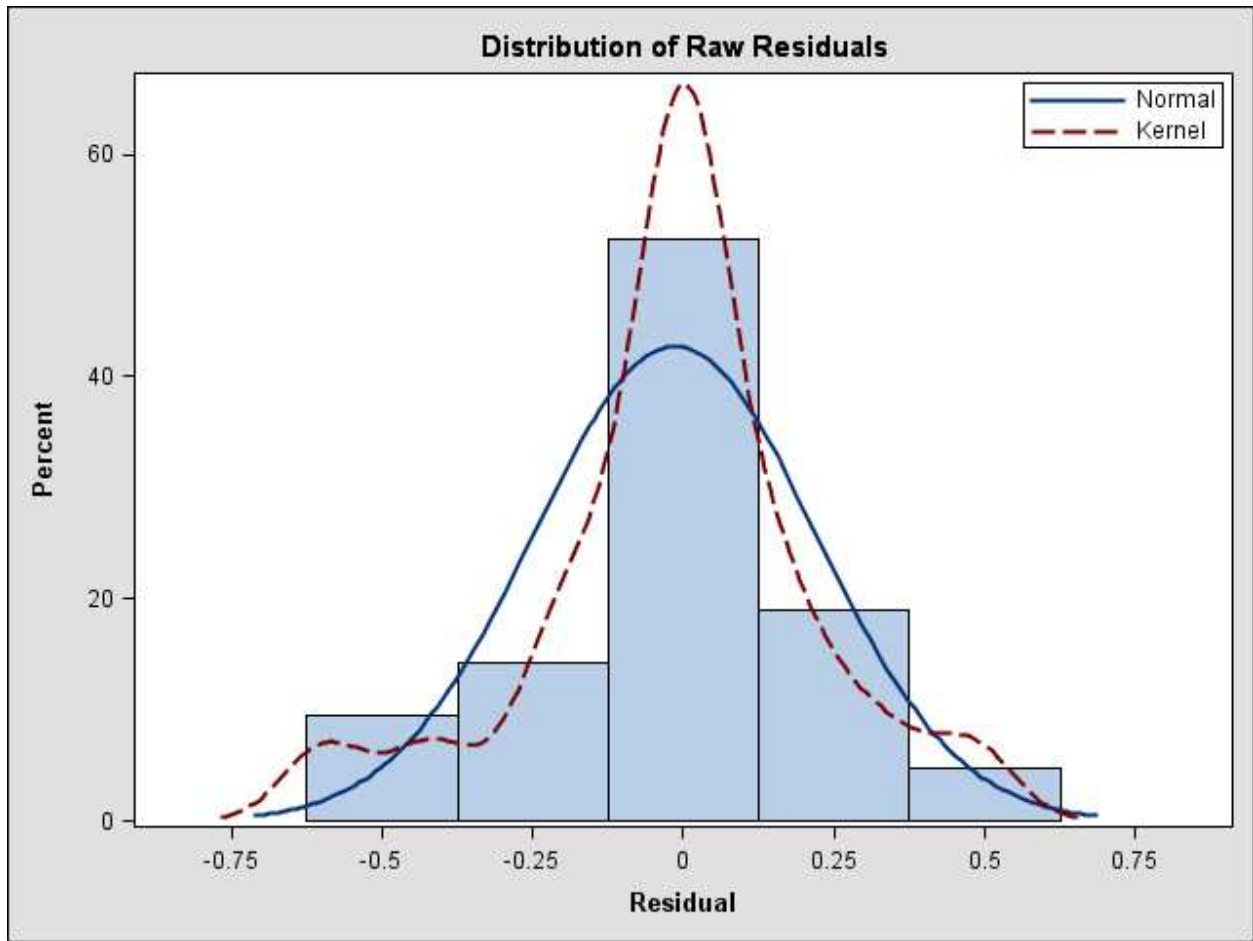
Coefficients

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	16.807	2.934		5.727	.000
Ss	1.143	.097	.731	11.773	.000

224 Table 2 Residuals Statistics

	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Predicted Value	37.3721	68.2202	50.6179	7.13031	123
Residual	-15.93980	20.34524	.00000	6.66186	123
Std. Predicted Value	-1.858	2.469	.000	1.000	123
Std. Residual	-2.383	3.041	.000	.996	123

225



226

ANOVA

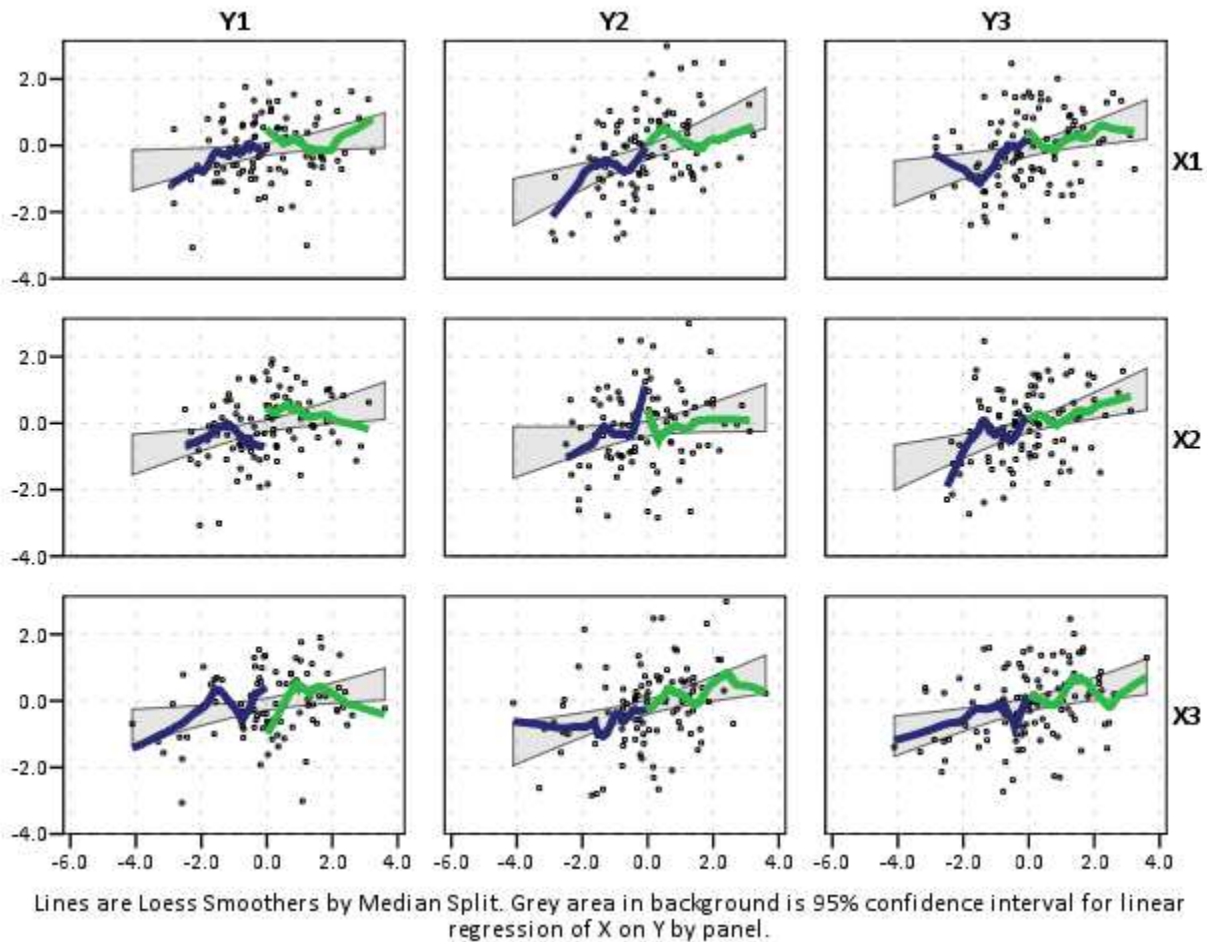
Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	6202.633	1	6202.633	138.615	.000 ^b
	Residual	5414.408	121	44.747		
	Total	11617.041	122			

227

228

229 Intraventricular hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm neonates

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Disagree	10	8.1	8.1	8.1
	Somewhat agree	49	39.5	39.5	47.6
	Neither agree nor disagree	12	9.7	9.7	57.3
	Agree	46	37.1	37.1	94.4
	Strongly Agree	7	5.6	5.6	100.0
	Total	124	100.0	100.0	



231

232 Results

233 The results of regression analysis with the $p < 0.05$, shows that there is a significant relationship
 234 between sodium serum and mode of delivery, Sodium serum, Hemoglobin fluctuations,
 235 Gestational age, and Respiratory issues. A survey has been conducted in the hospitals having
 236 nurseries to treat the preterm neonates, the neonatologists took part in the survey, it is found that a
 237 high rate of “agree” and “strongly agree” was reported to find the relationship between
 238 hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm neonates. The same
 239 was plotted and found significant values of coefficient and residuals. The residuals are randomly
 240 plotted as it the condition of a linear regression.

241 **Conclusion and Discussion**

242 Hyponatremia is found quite often among preterm neonates. However, the major cause of
243 hyponatremia in preterm neonates is dehydration rather than excessive intake of sodium.[34–36].
244 The study has been designed to evaluate extremely preterm neonates with GA \leq 26 weeks and
245 BW \leq 1000 g, admitted to different hospitals during the 30 years. The data has been collected
246 every month from 1990-2019. It is found that hyponatremia is a major risk factor for IVH in
247 extremely preterm neonates.

248 The majority of hyponatremia in preterm neonates is caused by dehydration rather than excess
249 sodium intake.^{9–12} In preterm neonates with a GA $<$ 26 weeks, insensible water loss could be as
250 high as 200ml/kg per day; besides, early diuresis and negative water balance can lead to isotonic
251 dehydration of the extracellular fluid compartment and subsequent postnatal weight loss during
252 the first few days of life. An initial loss of 10 to 15% of body weight is common among very low
253 birth weight preterm neonates, but serum sodium concentrations remain within the normal range.
254 Using a case-matched design, the GA and BW were controlled in the current study. The net BW
255 loss was less than 10% of the BW in both groups, and there was no difference in the amount of
256 fluid and scale of BW change during the first 3 postnatal days. Taken together, the phenomenon
257 of hyponatremia in the severe IVH group could not be explained solely by dehydration.
258 Hyponatremia is related to a high mortality rate in patients with subarachnoid hemorrhage.
259 Intracerebral hemorrhage results in the destruction of the hypothalamic nuclei, a reduction in the
260 secretion of antidiuretic hormones, and hyponatremia; hence, hyponatremia in preterm neonates
261 with severe IVH may be the result of severe brain damage. Contrary to this, hyponatremia had
262 been shown a cause of brain shrinkage.[37–39]It is resultant of vascular rupture along with cerebral
263 bleeding and IVH. In response to brain shrinkage induced by hyponatremia, the human brain

264 initiates an adaptive response to form radiogenic osmoles that increase intracellular sodium that
265 has been concentrated and restored lost water. However, this phenomenon raised the susceptibility
266 of the brain towards hemorrhage and cellular edema. It is also explored and has been reported that
267 the change in the level of serum sodium within 13meql has a significant association with the
268 development of the outcomes of impaired function after adjusting for GA besides, hospitalization
269 characteristics of neonatal and perinatal. This study has explored the change in the level of serum
270 sodium levels in 13meql associated with severe IVH, consistent with the results of previous
271 researches. [24–26] Similar to the previous research, our results indicate that males' preterm
272 neonates have an increased risk of developing severe IVH. There found a gender orientation
273 regarding hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage. The male preterm neonates have a
274 higher cerebral flow of blood with a high rate of blood pressure incidents that change the results
275 of norepinephrine, deregulation of and serotonin levels associated with sodium serum, a shred of
276 evidence was found in an animal study (examination). The contributing factors to reperfusion
277 injuries and hypo perfusion in premature babies have been discussed. It is also augmented that by
278 rupturing involution germinal matrix vessels would lead to IVH. The frequent fluctuations in
279 hemoglobin level are also found to have an association with severe IVH explored in our study. A
280 lower level of hematocrit during the first 24h of an infant's life is highly correlated with increased
281 incidents of IVH. Moreover, anemia has an increased flow of cerebral blood that leads to
282 hemorrhage. Furthermore, some of the research found that IVH is associated with vaginal
283 delivery; however, it is controversial to say as the evidences found in favor and contrast. Moreover,
284 it is found that vaginal delivery is a risk factor for severe IVH. We have found that there is a
285 significant relationship between hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage in very &

286 extremely preterm neonates. The mode of delivery, Sodium serum, Hemoglobin fluctuations,
287 Gestational age, and Respiratory issues are the significant

288 To address the objectives of this study, it is found that hypernatremia is a major risk factor for IVH
289 in extremely preterm neonates. It is explored that the incidence of hypernatremia in extremely
290 preterm neonates' preterm neonates along with other contributing factors. It is recommended for
291 future research to find other contributing factors to examine this research in further detail.[3–5,
292 40–44]

293 **Implications**

294 This study contributes to literature by providing a new combination of variables affecting
295 hypernatremia & Intra-ventricular hemorrhage in very & extremely preterm neonates. This study
296 consists of handsome data set so the results are considered as generalizable.

297 **Declarations**

298 **Ethics approval and consent to participate**

299 “Not applicable”

300 **Consent for publication**

301 “Not applicable”

302 **Availability of data and materials**

303 Not applicable

304 **Competing interests**

305 "The authors declare that they have no competing interests".

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308 **Authors' contributions**

309 Main author is MHMZ. HJ and AQN helped in collection of data. Also, VN, MY and MHM, and
310 AM are co-authors and also contributed in data collection. JL helped in the research proposal and
311 also provided guidance throughout the research.

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Figures

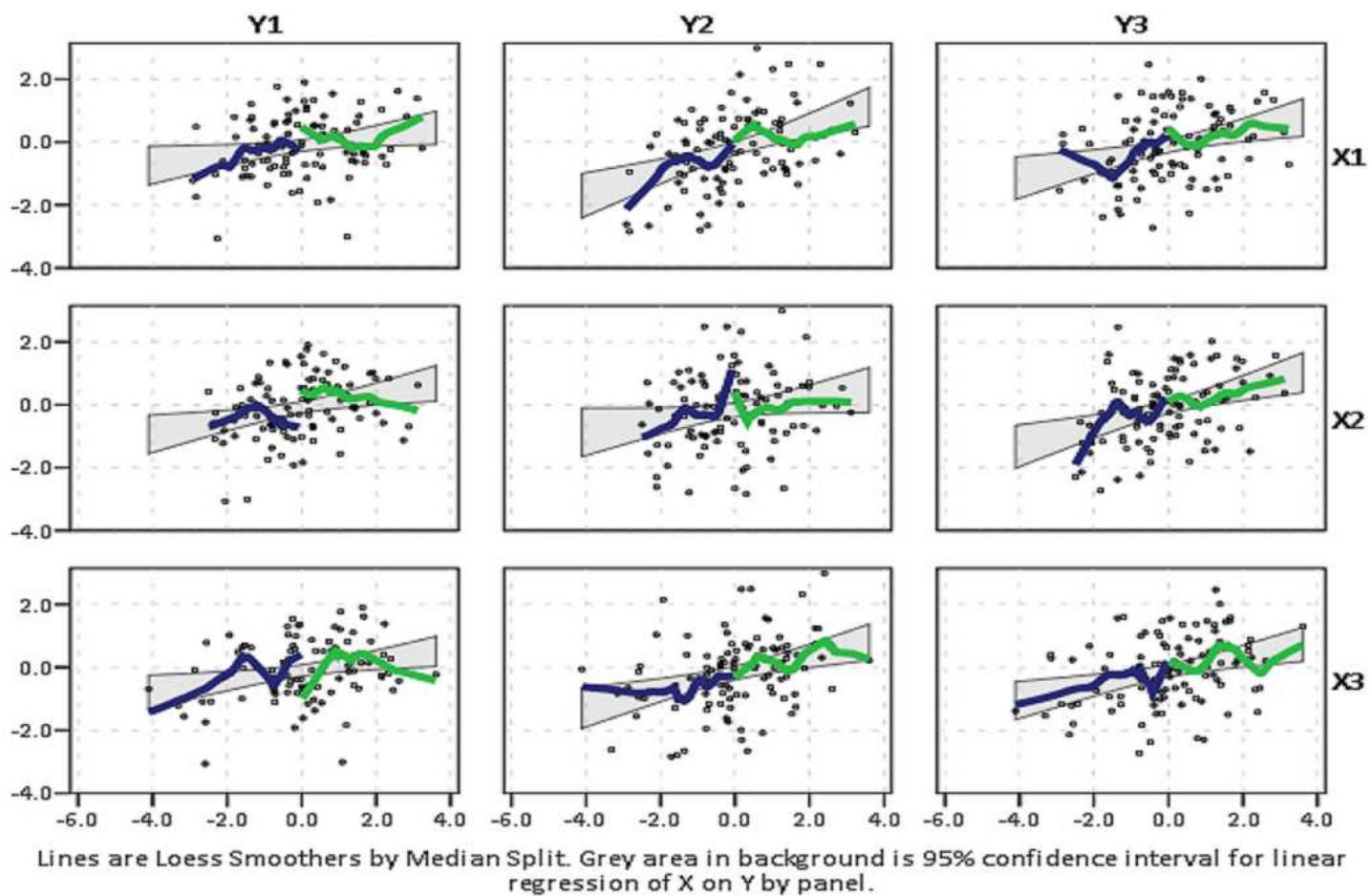


Figure 1

Lines are Loess Smoothers by Median Split. Grey area in background is 95% confidence interval for linear regression of X on Y by panel.

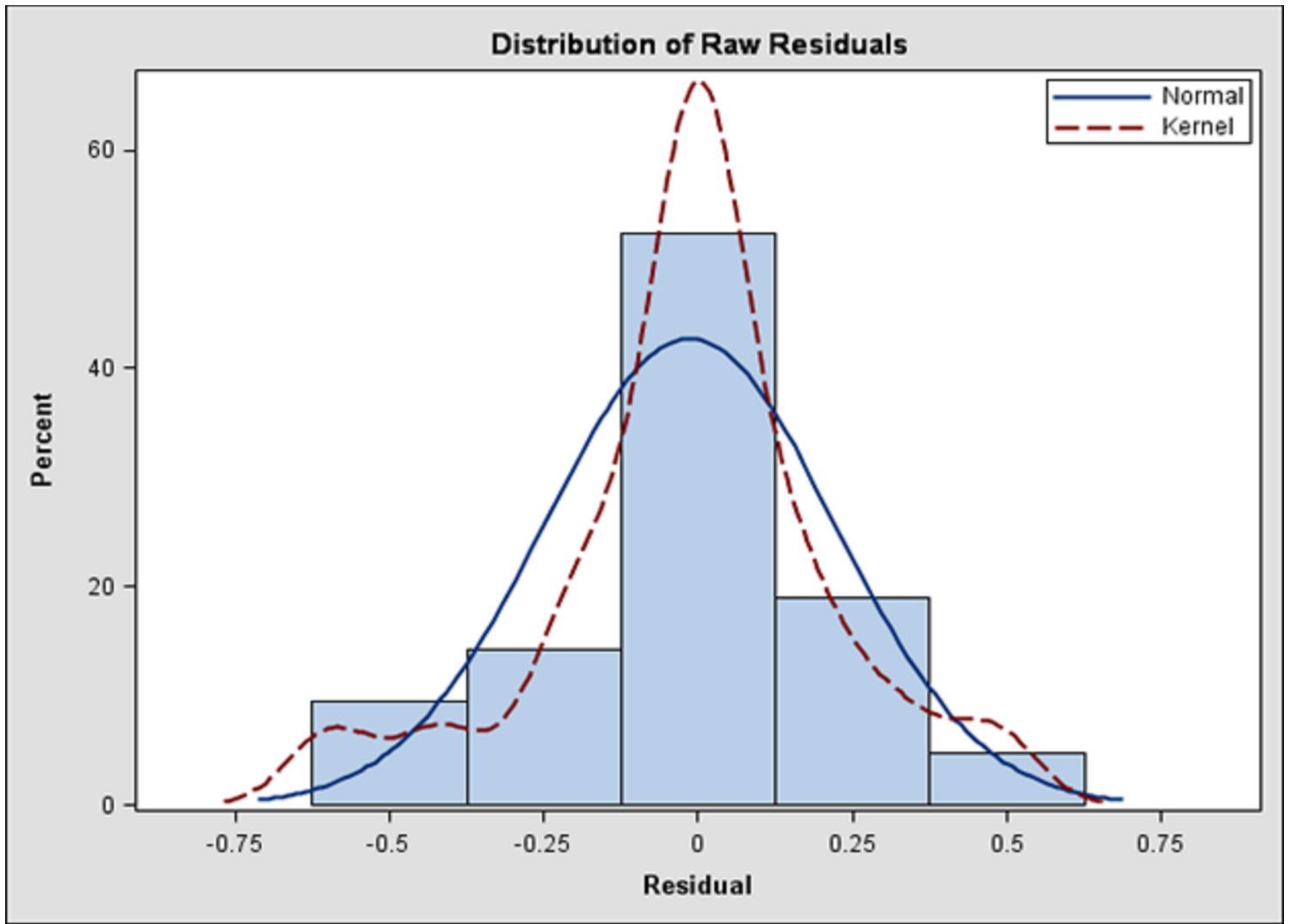


Figure 2

Distribution of Raw Residuals