

Growth of adequate and small for gestational age very low birth weight infants

Crecimiento en dos años de niños de muy bajo peso de nacimiento, adecuados y pequeños para la edad gestacional

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Height, weight and head circumference growth patterns were recorded to 284 very low birth weight infants, 164 adequate (AGE) and 120 small (SGE) for gestational age, coming from medium-Sow income families and followed up along the first two years of life at Santiago, Chile, in order to identify early hints of future growth and nutritional states. The AGE infants had lower gestational age (28.92 ± 1.5 vs. 31.86 ± 2.0 weeks, $p < 0.05$) and longer time under mechanical ventilation (5.01 ± 9.33 vs. 1.73 ± 4.84 days, $p < 0.05$) and oxygen therapy [15.2 ± 21.8 vs. 6.72 ± 14.18 days, $p < 0.05$) than SGE. At 18 months of corrected age 5.2% of AGE and 15.4% of SGE infants had Z score for weight under -2 by NHCS standards. Both AGE and SGE infants showed higher weight Z scores, out of proportion to height increase, in the first six postnatal months. Thereafter proportional increases of weight and height Z scores were observed. SGE infants showed a catch up type of growth, which was also earlier (fi