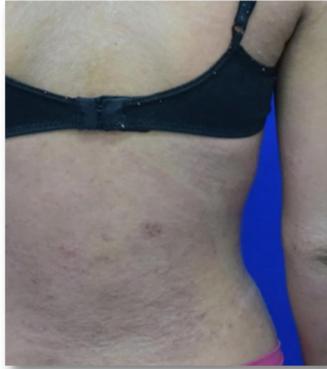


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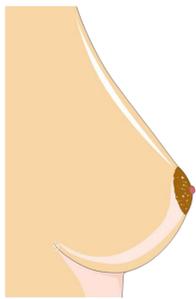
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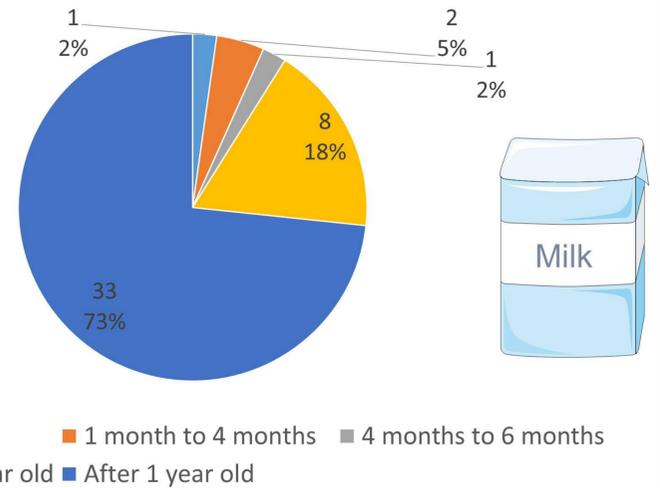
## INTRODUCTION

**ATOPIC DERMATITIS (AD)** is a chronic and relapsing skin disease; frequently observed in childhood and characterized by areas of eczema and intense itching. The disease has a multifactorial pathogenesis.



Exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) for the first 3 to 4 months decreases the cumulative incidence of eczema in the first 2 years of life. However, there are no short- or long-term advantages for exclusive breastfeeding beyond 3 to 4 months for prevention of atopic disease. There is lack of evidence that partially or extensively hydrolyzed formula prevents atopic disease in infants and children, even in those at high risk for allergic disease.

## Cow's milk introduction



It was noted that most patients (73%) started using regular cow's milk after 1 year of life, while 18% started between 6 and 12 months and 9% started before 6 months.

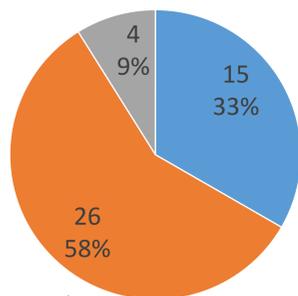
We found that 47% of the patients started using infant formula before 6 months of age, indicating that the most prevalent age for introducing infant formulas was probably from 4 months, which coincides with the end of the maternity leave under Brazilian laws. The end of the maternity leave may be an important cause of interruption in EBF before the child is 6 months old and the introduction of another type of milk. Also, we observed the introduction of regular cow's milk to feed children before 1-year-old, which can be attributed to cultural, educational, and economic factors and the lack of government support. It is worth mentioning that the Food Guide for Brazilian Children (2019) differs from the WHO recommendations and allows the use of pure cow's milk from 9 months of age onwards.

## OBJECTIVE

The objective of our research was to verify whether the duration of EBF and the introduction of other kinds of milk are correlated with the age of onset of AD symptoms in pediatric patients treated at the Clinical Hospital at Unicamp (Campinas/Brazil).

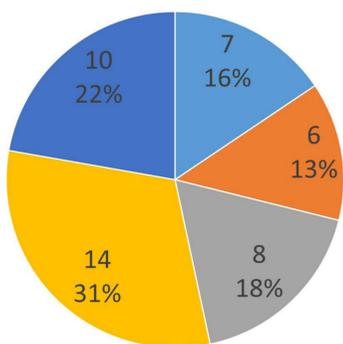
## RESULTS

### Duration of EBF



■ < 4 months  
■ 4 to 6 months  
■ Were not breastfed

### Infant formula introduction



■ Birth to 1 month ■ 1 to 4 months ■ 4 to 6 months  
■ 6 months to 1 year old ■ After 1 year old

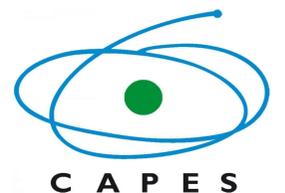
DURATION OF EBF	AGE OF AD ONSET SYMPTOMS			
	Since birth	1 month - 1 year old	1 year old - 6 years old	>6 years old
< 4 meses or were not breastfed	3*	6*	6*	3*
Between 4-6 months of life	5*	4*	11*	4*

\*p<0,05

## CONCLUSION

The duration of EBF in children with AD was above the Brazilian data for EBF; There was no correlation between the time of exclusive breastfeeding and the age of onset of AD development, even when the infant formula introduction happened earlier than the time recommended by the WHO.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT



\*Figures from smart.servier.com and by the author.