

Table 4 Knowledge and practices of the women about breastfeeding (BF) according to age group

Variable	Age group (years)						Significance		
	≤ 20		21–30		31–40			≥ 41	
Total [No. (%)]	156 (4.6)		1076 (31.5)		1204 (35.3)		977 (28.6)		3413 (100)
Urban:rural	1.3:1		1.8:1		2:1		1.8:1		$\chi^2 = 7.8, P = 0.04$
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<i>Education</i> (n = 3406)	(n = 156)		(n = 1074)		(n = 1201)		(n = 975)		$\chi^2 = 528.5, P < 0.001$
Illiterate, informal and unknown	34	21.8	204	19.0	400	33.3	605	62.1	
Primary	96	61.5	611	56.9		40.5		24.4	
Intermediate	16	10.3	151	14.1		7.9		4.0	
Secondary and higher	10	6.4	108	10.1	219	18.2	93	9.5	
<i>When to start BF</i> (n = 3384)	(n = 153)		(n = 1065)		(n = 1198)		(n = 968)		$\chi^2 = 24.9, P = 0.003$
Immediately	111	72.5	772	72.5		74.2		72.4	
Within 24 h	19	12.4	166	15.6	154	12.9	144	14.9	
After 24 h	14	9.2	37	3.5	83	6.9	54	5.6	
Other	9	5.9	90	8.5		6.0		7.1	
<i>Wash hands before BF</i> (n = 3413)	(n = 156)		(n = 1076)		(n = 1204)		(n = 977)		$\chi^2 = 37.3, P < 0.001$
Yes	24	15.4	171	15.9	140	11.6	72	7.4	
No	132	84	905	84.1	1064	88.4	905	92	
<i>Knowledge of full exclusive BF</i> (n = 3413)	(n = 156)		(n = 1076)		(n = 1204)		(n = 977)		$\chi^2 = 10.4, P = 0.015$
Yes	52	33.3	428	39.8		39.4		34.0	
No	104	66.7	648	60.2		60.6		66.0	
<i>Correctly defined full exclusive BF</i> (n = 1286)	(n = 52)		(n = 428)		(n = 474)		(n = 332)		$\chi^2 = 11.0, P = 0.01$
Yes	18	34.6	171	40.0		47.5		37.0	
No	34	65.4	257	60.0		52.5		63.0	
<i>When to start supplements^a</i> (n = 3381)	(n = 153)		(n = 1069)		(n = 1193)		(n = 966)		$P = 13.6, P = 0.03$
0–3	14	9.2	138	12.9		13.6		13.9	
3.1–6	129	84.3	860	80.4		80.0		76.4	
≥ 6.1	10	6.5	71	6.6		6.5		9.7	

^aDon't know response was excluded.

Data were missing for some women for some variables.