

The objective of this study was to investigate the maternal newborn - attachment behavior during two - hour period after delivery. Two hundred mothers who delivered from June 1989 to December 1991 birth at Siriraj Hospital were randomly assigned to investigate. The data were collected through the maternal - newborn attachment behavior observation tool.

The study sample was classified into two groups according to number of delivery, planning for pregnancy, gestational age, the fulfillment of newborn's sex, complications of labour and analgesic drug use during labour. The difference in the score of maternal newborn attachment (MNA) between the two groups was analysed by using t - test. The results could be summarized as follows :

1. The MNA scores of the primipara mothers were significantly higher than those of the multipara mothers at $p < .05$
2. The MNA scores of the mothers who had planned pregnancy were statistical significantly higher than those who did not have planned pregnancy at $p < .05$
3. The MNA scores of the 38 - 42 wks gestational age mothers were statistical significantly higher than those of the below 38 wks gestational age mothers at $p < .05$
4. The MNA scores of the mothers who fulfilled with the newborn's sex were statistical significantly higher than those of the mothers who didnot fulfill with the newborn's sex at $p < .0005$

5. The MNA scores of the mothers with and with out complication of labour had no statistical difference.

6. The MNA score of the mothers who received and did not receive analgesic drugs during labour had no statistical difference.

The researcher would like to suggest that nurses should realize the importance of MNA promotion during the two - hour period after birth and give this opportunity to all mothers, especially those with unplanned pregnancies and multiparax, to form mother - newborn attachment which will benefit both the role of mother and infants growth and development.