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**LINKAGE BETWEEN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE FAMILY AND  
PRIMARY ALLERGY PREVENTION IN INFANT FEEDING IN COUNTY HAJDU-BIHAR,  
HUNGARY**

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Background Primary allergy prevention in infant feeding may be affected by social-economic status (SES) of the family.

Methods: A questionnaire based cross sectional epidemiological study was performed in Hajdú-Bihar County, Hungary among 0-6 months old healthy infants (n=3076). 22.3% (n=686) of infants belonged to very good SES group, 38.2% (n=1174) to good, 21.0% (n=647) to bad and 14.9% (n=457) to very bad SES group. Multiple logistic regression was used for statistical analysis.

Results: The rate of exclusive breast-feeding was the highest in the very good SES category (69,8%), and was followed by the very bad SES category (62,4%). The breast-feeding rate was the lowest in the middle classes (good SES: 60,7%, bad SES: 57,7%). The socio-economic status of the families showed close correlation with the use of hydrolysed formulae. Compared with the very good SES category, where the use of these special formulae was the most common, it was gradually lower in lower SES categories. In comparison with the very good SES group, the adjusted Odds Ratio (OR) for good SES category was 0.53, (95% CI: 0.32-0.90), for bad SES category OR= 0.31 (95% CI: 0.17-0.56), and for very bad SES category OR=0.06 (95% CI: 0.02-0.23).

Conclusions: The exclusive breast feeding need to be propagated especially in the middle SES categories. The use of hydrolysed formulae is very poor in the low SES categories. Declared principles of primary allergy prevention do not attain to all children, and affected by the SES of the family.

