23 August 1988

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agree to obtain approval of the Ethical Review Committee for any changes olving the rights and welfare of subjects before making such change.

Principal Investigator

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any particular procedure Yes No

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(PTO)

SECTION I: RESEARCH PROTOCOL

1. Title

Trial of coconut oil based comminuted chicken meat diet in persistent diarrhoea in children - a metabolic balance study.

2. Principal Investigator

: Dr. P. K. Bardhan

3. Co-investigators : Dr. Akramuzzaman

Dr. N.H. Alam Dr. R. Haider

4. Consultants

: Dr. D. Mahalanabis

(Project Co-ordinator)

Dr. A. N. Alam

Dr. Christine Wanke

5. Expected starting date

: As soon as approval is recieved.

6. Expected completion date

: 18 months after starting.

7. Total project requirement : US \$ 81740.00

8. Source of fund

9. Scientific Division

This protocol has been approved by the Clinical Sciences

Division.

Signature of Division Head :

Dealuris

10. Abstract summary:

Persistent diarrhoea is increasingly being recognised as a difficult clinical situation both from pathophysiological and management point of views. Malabsorption of nutrients causing severe nutritional deficit seen in persistent diarrhoea is mostly related to functional derangements of the gastrointestinal tract. The most important aspect of clinical management in persistent diarrhoea is dietary manipulation. In a metabolic balance study, a diet based on coconut oil which is a rich source of medium chain triglycerides, will be compared with an isocaloric similar diet based upon soyabean oil. Fifty children aged 3-12 months and suffering from diarrhoea for more than 2 weeks will be randomly assigned into the two dietary groups. Clinical response and coefficients of nutrient absorption will be recorded, related to the functional derangements as identified by various laboratory investigations, and then compared between the two dietary groups. Subjects will be followed up for 2 months to monitor prognosis and also to ensure appropriate dietary management at home. Data generated is expected to be

useful towards identification of more appropriate and alternative well as to provide insights into the pathomechanism. 11. Reviews:	diets	a
Research Review Committee		
Ethical Review Committee	,	

Director

SECTION: RESEARCH PROTOCOL

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Objective

- (a) The major objective of this study is to compare the impact of a modified chicken-based diet containing either coconut oil or soyabean oil as the source of dietary fat upon nutrient absorption and clinical course in children suffering from persistent diarrhoea.
- (b) In addition, the study will examine the likely underlying functional derangements associated with the intestinal malabsorption present in persistent diarrhoea, as assessed by investigative tests, and will correlate them with the efficiency of absorption of nutrients.

2. Background

Diarrhoea is one of the major causes of infant and childhood morbidity and mortality worldwide. In most infants and children, the symptoms of acute diarrhoea resolve over the course of a few days and with the advent of effective oral rehydration fluids, the management of such cases has become easier. However, in a small proportion of patients the diarrhoea persists and becomes protracted. Persistent diarrhoea has been defined as more than four liquid stools per day for longer than 2 weeks which may, but not necessarily, be associated with growth faltering. The defination of chronic diarrhoea is more controversial. Some experts find this term appropriate when the infant or child has had diarrhoea for 1 month or more 1.

Studies from different parts of the world have shown considerable variance in the incidence of and multi-factorial association with persistent diarrhoea 2,3,4,5,6,7 . Based on active surveillance data, an estimate of 5-20% incidence world wide of persistent diarrhoea has been made 8 .

Post-infectious diarrhoea is probably the commonest cause of prolonged diarrhoea in the developing countries, but much remains to be understood

about the progression of the disease and prologation of diarrhoea 9. Many consequences of an episode of of acute diarrhoea, such as morphological alterations of the intestinal mucosa, disaccharidase defficiency and breach of the mucosal barriers are factors that may trigger clinical consequences such as intolerances to dietary ingredients and small bowel bacterial overgrowth, which in turn may favor prolongation of diarrhoea with delayed recovery and deterioration of nutritional status 10. Studies on the microbial aetiology of persistent diarrhoea have shown different proportions of bacterial and viral pathogens isolated from stool, most of which are also capable of producing acute diarrhoea 11. Also, a broad spectrum of functional disturbances occuring in persistent diarrhoea has been noted, and it appears that the pathogenesis of this syndrome is multifactorial. However it seems that whatever is the primary assult to the intestinal tract, small intestinal mucosal injury highlights the pathophysiology 1. Depending upon the severity of the mucosal damage, changes occur in the digestive, secretory. absorptive and reabsorptive capacities of macro- and micro-nutrients. Two of the most important absorptive problems are carbohydrate and fat malabsorption 11 . The malabsorption of carbohydrates depends upon the extent of the injury to the brush border of the enterocytes, disaccharides being affected more than the monosaccharides. Malahsorption of carbohydrates not only affects net energy absorption, but also stool volume. Unabsorbed carbohydrates, especially mono- and di-saccharides, exerts an intraluminal osmotic force drawing water into the intestinal lumen, thus worsening diarrhoea 11. Availabilty of unabsorbed crbohydrate substrates inside the intestinal lumen also encourage development of bacterial overgrowth.

Malabsorption of dietary fat is specially important because of its major contribution to dietary energy. Steatorrhoea may also cause defficiencies of the fat soluble vitamins, and may contribute to the severity of diarrhoea because bacterial metabolites of unabsorbed fat are capable of stimulating intestinal secretion. Fat malabsorption occuring in persistent diarrhoea has been documented in several studies 10,12,13,14,15, and can be detected in as many as 92% of children suffering from prolonged diarrhoea 16. A just concluded study conducted in the ICDDR, B has also confirmed it, where significant fat malabsorption was noted in children suffering from persistent diarrhoea, when compared to normal controls 17.

Among the various steps involved in digestion, absorption and assimilation of fat in intact gut, quantitatively the more important factors are 18 -

- a) pancreatic juice : containing lipase, necessary for fat hydrolysis,
- b) bile : containing conjugated bile salts, necessary for micelle formation, and
- c) intact intestinal mucosa for transmucosal transport .

Among these factors, it is generally accepted that some degree of intestinal mucosal damage can be noted in prolonged diarrhoea, and the severity of the absorptive dysfunction is probably related to the extent of damage to the mucosal integrity 1,19. However, studies conducted on children suffering from chronic diarrhoea in Indonesia suggested that mucosal damage, as judged by histological examination of biopsy samples, cannot always be detected 20. It has also been reported that the severity of the small intestinal mucosal injury is not correlated with the clinical course of children suffering from chronic diarrhoea 21.

Fat malabsorption may also occur due to defective micellar solubilisation with diminished intraluminal bile salt concentration, - in some chronic diarrhoeal situations this may happen due to bile salt malabsorption in the entero-hepatic circulation, probably secondary to ileal dysfunction 15,22. This may also occur in the presence of bacterial overgrowth in the proximal small intestine leading to the formation of free and secondary bile acids because of bacterial deconjugation of bile salts, as has been suggested to occur in malnourished children suffering from diarrhoea²³. Various studies has reported—the detection of bacterial overgrowth in the jejunum of children suffering from prolonged diarrhoea 24,25,26 . One study has also found that some children suffering from chronic diarrhoea have had their upper jejunum colonised with ETEC and \mathtt{EPEC}^{27} . However, recent studies have raised questions on the role of intestinal microflora on the pathogenesis of persistent diarrhoea. The results from a peruvian study suggests that the change that occurs in the intestinal microbial flora in persistent diarrhoea is more in the nature of qualitative change rather than quantitative 11.

Pancreatic insufficiency has been observed in several malabsorptive

disorders associated with mucosal injury and diarrhoeas such as sprues 28 . In coeliac disease, pancreatic enzyme output was observed to be insufficient, despite apparently normal pancreas 29 , and later it was found that this happens because the nomal pancreas was inadequately stimulated due to diminished release of secretin and cholecystokinin, the two hormones responsible for pancreatic enzyme output as well as biliary output through gall bladder contraction 30,31 . Afterward, it became clear that the mucosal damage also disrupts the endocrine cells present in the proximal small intestinal mucosa, producing this defect 32 . Secondary pancreatic insufficiency leading to protein malabsorption has also been suggested to play a possible role in infantile intractable diarrhoea 33 .

Majority of the reports examining the role of different factors upon the intestinal absorptive dysfunction as noted in the chronic diarrhoea syndromes are from the developed countries, where the clinical spectrum is somewhat different than that commonly encountered in the developing countries. The few reports from the developing countries studying intestinal functions in persistent diarrhoea are generally limited to documentation of the nature of dysfunction, without examining the underlying derangement. Knowledge on this aspect will not only help to make clinical interventions more effective, but more importantly will allow to design appropriate diets on a more rational basis.

Whatever the cause and mechanism of persistent diarrhoea, the long term consequences are inadequate nutrition, and impaired growth and organ development. Management of persistent diarrhoea, from the practical point of view, is generally based upon dietary manipulation 12, which has drastically reduced the case fatality rate 34. Diets free from cow's milk, soyabean or complex carbohydrates are successfully used 35. Among the different selective diets of such types, chicken meat based diet called comminuted chicken' diet is most widely and successfully used, including at the ICDDR, B. The properties of such a diet is the absence of lactose, sucrose, milk- or soya-protein, and complex carbohydrates, which are frequently malabsorbed in persistent diarrhoea. Fat is provided in the form of vegetable oils as butter fat causes significantly less intake and absorption 36.

The digestion, absorption and transport of fats are dependent upon the type of fatty acid attached to the glycerol in the triglyceride molecule. The usual dietary fats are predominantly long chain triglycerides (LCT), i.e., the triglycerides containing fatty acid molecules with chain lengths of 14 carbon atoms or above. The LCTs are fully dependent upon complex biochemical and physiochemical reactions for their assimilation. However, medium chain triglycerides (MCT), i.e., the triglycerides containing fatty acid molecules with chain lengths varying from 6 to 12 carbon atoms, are far less dependent upon these pathways for their assimilation. A comparison is provided below 37.

MCT

LCT

			•
1.	Intraluminal hydrolysis	Rapid & more	Slow, incomplete
		complete	
2	Water solubility	Bile salts	Bile salts & micellar
		not required	formation required
3	Mucosal uptake	Can enter intestinal	Prior hydrolysis
		cells without prior	and micellar
		hydrolysis	formation necessary
4	Penetration through	More efficient	Inefficient
	diseased mucosal surface		
5.	Intracellular metabolism	MCFA (medium chain	LCFA (long chain
	•	fatty acid)	fatty acid)
		formation,	formation, re-
		re-esterification or	esterification and
		lipoprotein synthesis	lipoprotein synthesis
		not necessary	necessary
6.	Transport	Independent of lymph-	Dependent upon
	,	atics, - transported	lymphatics, -
		in portal vein	chylomicron transport

Recently it became known that MCTs can be absorbed significantly even from the stomach 38 . It is apparent that MCTs are readily absorbed and assimilated under various conditions, and in addition, it has been demonstrated that MCT therapy results in decreased fecal loss of water and electrolytes 39a,39b,40 . The present indications for MCT therapy include

tropical sprue, non-tropical sprue, small intestinal bacterial overgrowth, pancreatic insufficiency, cystic fibrosis, intestinal resection, hepatic cirrhosis, biliary cirrhosis, biliary atresia, beta-lipoprotein deficiency, and many other conditions in MCTs are also used in intractable diarrhoeas. In an informal trial in the ICDDR, B, substitution of soyabean oil by coconut oil (>50% MCTs) in 28 children suffering from persistent diarrhoea was accompanied by a >20% reduction of duration of diarrhoea in the reasons may be that the abnormal intestinal mucosa leading to secondary pancreatic insufficiency and/or bile salt malabsorption, causes malabsorption of LCTs, which can be bypassed by the MCTs present in cocoanut oil. (Comparison between the fatty acid composition of these two oils are provided in the appendix.)

Based on these observations and reports, the present study proposes to perform a study where the following two points relating to the malabsorption of fats seen in persistent diarrhoea in children will be addressed -

- A. Whether partial substitution of dietary LCTs by MCTs (contained in coconut oil) produces improvements in nutrient absorption, recovery of intestinal functions, and clinical course; and
- B. What are the underlying functional defects responsible for the malabsorption of fat, and the relative contribution of the different factors in producing this dysfunction.

3. Rationale

Bangladesh is a highly endemic area for diarrhoeal diseases and persistent diarrhoea is becoming more recognised as a serious problem. The clinical management of persistent diarrhoea is not easy, and is based mainly upon dietary intervention and manipulation. This clinical condition is associated with marked malabsorption of nutrients, particularly fat. The underlying pathomechanism is not yet clearly understood. Observations in ICDDR, B hospital indicates that substitution of dietary LCTs by MCTs helps in clinical recovery of patients suffering from persistent diarrhoea. If found effective, it may be usefully applied in the dietary management. In addition, the study may provide useful information on the pathomechanism of nutrient malabsorption, so that other therapeutic interventions could be considered. This study will help to make a more rational approach in

formulating an appropriate dietary and clinical management scheme which will reduce malabsorption of nutrients and the associated risks in persistent diarrhoea in children.

B. SPECIFIC AIMS

- 1. To estimate and compare fat, carbohydrate and protein absorption during persistent diarrhoea from the defined diets.
- 2. To assess and compare the impact of the specific diets on the clinical course of the disease.
- 3. To determine intestinal and pancreatic functions during the diarrhoeal state, and correlate them with nutrient absorptive capacity during the same state.

C. METHODS OF PROCEDURE

Selection criteria:

Age: 3-12 months

Sex: Only male children

Duration of diarrhoea: > 2 weeks but < 6 weeks

Diarrhoea with acute onset

Exclusion criteria

- 1. Stool volume of less than 40 g/kg body wt. during the first 24 hours of admission (baseline observation period).
- 2. Presence of complications such as high fever (>38°C), severe infections, electrolyte imbalance, altered level of consciousness, and presence of organisms such as cholera or shigella in stool requiring antibiotics.
- 3. Clinically apparent severe degree of marasmus (wt for age <55% of NCHS

median wt) or Kwashiorkar.

4. Patients who have recieved antibiotics within the previous 72 hours.

Informed consent will be obtained from the parents/legal guardian before inclusion into the study.

Detailed clinical history will be obtained and a thorough physical examination will be performed including anthropometric measurements (recumbent length, body weight, mid-arm circumference and triceps skinfold thickness). Vital signs will be recorded every 8 hours. Round the clock routine clinical care will be provided, and regular assessment of patients condition will be monitored and recorded.

General management

All hydration including initial hydration will be made by I.V. solutions during the entire study period. During the first 24 hours (baseline observation period), baseline data on stool output, vomitus, food intake, and requirement of I.V. fluids will be obtained, and stool output rate will be calculated. The diet during this period will be half strength milk formula. Breastfeeding will be continued and its intake will be measured.

The eligible patients will be randomly assigned to one of the two dietary groups. In the next 24 h, the patient will receive the study diet (pre-balance period). The oral intake will be restricted upto 200 ml/kg.d. All feed will be given hourly.

Investigations (Routinely performed for persistent diarrhoea patients at ICDDR,B)

- 1. Blood for CBC, electrolytes, albumin
- 2. Stool for M/E, Sudan III, helminths and parasites by formal ether concentration, and cryptosporidium
- 3. Stool for pH and reducing substances, electrolytes and osmolality.

- 4. Stool for C/S Campy., Cholera, Shigella, Salmonella and ELISA for Rotavirus. E. coli colonies will be saved and tested for ETEC, EPEC and EAEC; Klebsiella strains will be saved for further evaluation.
- 5. * Small intestinal intubation for collection of small intestinal fluid for quantitative microbiology and microscopy (for G.lamblia, cryptosporidium and S.stercoralis).
- 6. * Lactose breath hydrogen test: for detecting lactose malabsorption.
- 7. Urine] if required X-ray]
 Blood C/S]

Special investigations

- 1. * Urinary BT-PABA test : as a non-invasive method of estimating pancreatic function.
- 2. * Determination of Plasma secretin and Cholecystokinin (CCK): to see whether the release of these two hormones (necessary for normal pancreatic function) from the intestinal mucosa, in response to food stimulation, is diminished.
- 3. * Intestinal permeability test: as measured by differential absorption/
 excretion of lactulose and mannitol after a
 test dose. This non-invasive method is used to
 assess intestinal function. This test will be
 performed on admission, and after 7 days to
 assess change in intestinal function.

(The indication, method, and interpretation of the investigative tests marked [*] are described in the appendix).

Balance study

The study diet will be continued, as started on 2nd day. The amount of diet provided to each patient will be 200 ml/kg/24 hour. At the 48th hour of admission, the first marker as charcoal tablet will be given. A 2nd charcoal marker will be given after 72 h at the same time of first marker. Time of appearance of first marker in stool will be taken as 0 h.

Collection of stool and urine will be started with the appearance of the first marker until 2nd marker comes out. 5 ml of acetic acid will be given in the collecting buckets. 72 h dietary intake will be measured and recorded. All vomitus will be collected in the same way. These samples will be kept at -20°C. Aliquotes of stool samples from homogenized 72 h collection will be taken and analysed for fat 43, nitrogen 44, and carbohydrates by subtracting those from total energy. Total energy content will be determined by calorimetry 45. Dietary and breast milk contents for fat, CHO and N will also be analysed. Total urinary N₂ excretion/daily will be determined.

Composition of diets/1

	Diet A	<u>Diet</u> E		
Ground chicken meat	150.0 g	150.0 g		
Glucose	20.0 g	20.0 g		
Coconut oil	35.0 g	-		
Soyabean oil	-	35.2 g		
NaC1	1.0 g	1.0 g		
Calcium lactate	0.5 g	0.5 g		
MgCl ₂	0.2 g	0.2 g		
H ₂ 0 upto	1.0 1	1.0.1		
Energy kcal/100 ml	50	50		
Osmolality	220	220		

As elemental diets have been shown to cause micro-nutrient defficency in patients suffering from prolonged sickness, a commercially prepared metabolite mixture containing multivitamins and essential minerals will be given to all patients daily for two weeks.

A disadvantage of using MCTs for longtime is the risk of developing

essential fatty acid (EPA) defficiency. To reduce this risk, safflower oil, a rich source of EFAs, will be apllied topically during the period the patients are on study diets.

After recovery from diarrhoea, a transitional diet (half strength rice suzi) will be tried, and if tolerated, the patients will be sent home on this diet.

Use of antibiotics: Patients from whom cholera, shigella or salmonella are isolated on admission (stool culture reports will be available by 48 hours, i.e. before balance period starts) will be transferred from the study and treated with appropriate antibiotics. Patients having E.histolytica (haematogenous form) will not be included in the study and will be treated accordingly. Patients from whom G. lamblia or E. histolytica (cyst form) is isolated, or who have small intestinal bacterial overgrowth as found after culture of jejunal aspirate, will be treated with specific antimicrobials after the study period is finished. Only penicillin, which has got minimal effect upon enteric pathogens, may be used for mild infections during the study period.

Management of patients who failed on study diets: Antibiotics, if indicated as described above, will be given. Management of those patients who fail to respond will be tried by more dietary manipulation through elimination of different dietary components and maintaining parenteral hydration and nutrient support.

Transfer from study: Any child developing sepsis, convulsion, enterocolitis, pnemonia, or any other serious condition will be immediatly transferred to the intensive care unit, and will be excluded from the study. Data upto the point of transfer or deviated course for intervention will be considered in analysis.

Follow up: To monitor the patients' prognosis and also to ensure proper dieatery management, a weekly follow-up for first 2 weeks and then bi-weekly for another 6 weeks will be made. The patients' parents will be asked to come to the hospital for the follow-up check-ups. 6 weeks after discharge, trial with cow's milk test feed will be given during follow-up

visit and the patient observed for 6 hours. A repeat breath H₂ test will be performed at the same time. If tolerated, then transition to normal milk-based home will be advised, otherwise milk-free diet will be continued.

Definations:

- 1. Diarrhoea passage of 4 or more liquid motions within 24 hours.
- 2. Persistent diarrhoea diarrhoea persisting for more than 2 weeks following an episode of acute diarrhoea.
- 3. Cessation of diarrhoea passage of soft stool or formed stool, and no liquid stool in 48 hours.
- 4. Dietary failure patients in whom diarrhoea does not stop by 7 days after starting study diet.

STATISTICAL CALCULATION

Calculation of sample size

Expecting the mean duration of diarrhoea with coconut oil based formula to be 3.75 days and that of soya oil based formula to be 4.91 days 42 , the sample size is calculated based upon the formula 46 .

$$\frac{2\sigma^{2}(Z_{\alpha/2} + Z_{\beta})^{2}}{\delta^{2}} \times (f+3)/(f+1)$$

Wheere σ^2 = pooled variance

δ = difference between the means

and f = degrees of freedom

With the confidence limit of 95% and power of 80%, $(Z_{\alpha/2} + Z_{\beta})^2 = 7.9$. Substituting the values, the calculated sample size is

$$\frac{2 \times 1.31^{2} \times 7.9}{1.15^{2}} \times 29/27 = 22$$

or 44 patients for both groups.

With anticipation of refusals and dropouts, a total of 50 patients will be enrolled into the study.

Data analysis

All data generated from the study will be entered into a microcomputer and appropriate statistical tests will be performed. The two study groups will be compared on admission and pre-randomisation data to assess their comparabality. The response variables will be compared after evaluating the distribution so that appropriate tests could be applied. Chi-squared test, Student's 't' test, Mann-Whitney's 'U' test, Wilcoxon's Rank/Sum test and multiple regression analysis (keeping co-efficients of absorption of nutrients as the dependent variable) will be considered.

Response Variables

- 1. Coefficient of absorption of fat, protein and carbohydrate.
- 2. Stool output (g/kg/24 hrs) over the study period
- 3. Duration of diarrhoea.
- 4. Weight gain (or loss) by day 7
- 5. Amount of I.V. needed (a proxy indicator of diarrhoeal severity)
- 6. Improvement in intestinal function as measured by intestinal mucosal permeabitlity test
- 7. Proportion of success in each dietary group
- 8. Growth rate and morbidity during follow up

Other variables

- 1. Stool pathogens isolated
- 2. Presence/absence of small bowel bacterial overgrowth.
- 3. Presence/absence of lactose malabsorption.
- 4. Exocrine pancreatic sufficiency/insufficiency.
- Plasma secretin and CCK level.

Summary of the schedule of investigations and procedures

Day 1

- : Stool tests microscopy
 - culture
 - pH and reducing substances
 - electrolytes and osmolality
- : Intestinal permeability test
- : Nutritional anthropometry
- : Baseline observation period starts

Day 2

- : Breath hydrogen test (after 4 hour fast) with a test meal containing lactose
- : Urinary BT-PABA excretion test Bentiromide will be given alongwith the lactose test meal
- : Blood tests routine (CBC. electrolytes, albumin)
 - determination of plasma levels of secretin and CCK (before and 1/2 hour after lactose test meal)
- : Baseline observation period ends, Pre-balance period starts

Day 3

- : Duodenal intubation for microscopy and culture (after 4 hour fast)
- : Pre-balance period ends, Metabolic balance period starts

Day 6

: Metabolic Balance period ends

Day 8

- : Intestinal permeability test
- : Nutrition anthropometry
- : Summary assessment of improvement

APPENDIX

<u>Duodenal intubation</u> 25,47

Small bowel bacterial overgrowth has extensive, deleterious effects on intestinal digestive and absorptive functions and on the integrity of the small intestinal mucosa, thus contributing to the diarrhoea and malabsorption in protracted diarrhoea. Diagnosis of bacterial overgrowth is made through qualitative and quantitative bacterial culture of small intestinal contents collected by intubation.

Procedure: Intubation of the duodenum will be carried out with a sterile polyethylene tube (diameter 1.5 mm) with a small mercury-filted tip. test will be performed after 4 hour of fasting in the morning. To facilitate the procedure the children will be premedicated 1 hour before intubation with syp. Phenergan 5 ml and syp. Motilon 5 ml. The tube will be introduced per orally. The passage of the tube through stomach and pylorus into the duodenum will be facilitated by changing the position of the child from left to right side and vice versa. The final position of the tip of the tube will be confirmed by checking the pH of aspirate, it is usually above 6.5. The first sample will be examined microscopically for parasites, particularly G. lamblia, cryptosporidium, and S. stercoralis, and then the next portion will be used for aerobic culture. Dilution of the duodenal juice to the strength of 1:100 and 1:10,000 will be immediately made and each will be plated into Blood agar, Chocolate agar and Mackonkeys agar media for quantitative counts. The organisms isolated will be identified upto genus and if possible upto species level. E. coli isolated will be tested for production of enterotoxins, enteropathogenicity, and enteroadherence. Total bacterial count of 105/ml or more will be accepted as indicative of bacterial overgrowth.

Lactose breath H2 test 48,49

Secondary sugar intolerance has been found to be associated with a significant proportion of children suffering from chronic diarrhoea, lactose intolerance being the commonest. Breath hydrogen test is a highly efficient test for detecting sugar malabsorption, and is non-invasive, simple, and

relatively easy to perform and interpret. This test was found to be very useful in management of diarrhoeal illness in children by predicting clinical response to dietary change.

<u>Procedure</u>: All expired breath samples will be collected by allowing the child to breathe through a face mask (paediatric size) and a two-way valve into a rubber anaesthesia bag. After a 4 hour fast (sips of plain water will be allowed), a fasting breath sample, for determining baseline $\rm H^2$ value, will be collected. Then lactose (2 g/kg) will be given to the child and there after intermittent breath samples will be collected every 30 minutes for 3 hours. A portion of the collected sample will be aspirated from the collection bag into a plastic syringe, and $\rm H_2$ concentration in ppm will be determined with a gas chromatograph, after comparing with a commercial standard of 97 ppm $\rm H_2$ in air. A rise in $\rm H_2$ concentration of 20 ppm over baseline will be considered as indicative of lactose malabsorption.

Permeability test 50,51,52

This is a simple, reliable and non-invasive technique to assess small intestinal mucosal integrity. This method is based upon the estimation of differential sugar absorption where two probe molecules - a monosaccharide and a disaccharide are orally adminstered simultaneously, and urinary recovery of each molecule determined. In diseases of small intestine the recovery of the monosaccharide is reduced, whereas that of the intact disaccharide is increased. Expression of the result as a ratio of disaccharide/monosaccharide urinary recovery seperates between normal and abnormal situations.

Procedure: Permeability tests will be performed on the day of admission and after 7 days. Patients will be offered a freshly prepared drink containing 5 g lactulose with 0.5 g lactose (Duphalac 7.5 ml) and 1 g mannitol in 20 ml of 1% chloroform water. No fasting is necessary, rather breastfeeding and fluid intake will be encouraged. Urine will be collected for 5 hours into uribags. One drop of 20% chlorhexidine gluconate will be added to each bag before collection. Urine volume will be measured and

recorded. Lactulose and mannitol will be measured using an automated enzyme assay system utilising Kobaz-Bio. Results will be expressed as lactulose/mannitol excretion ratio. Normal values are available from ongoing studies in ICDDR.B.

Urinary BT-PABA test 53,54

This non-invasive test is a widely utilised method to assess and evaluate pancreatic exocrine function, and relies upon intraluminal hydrolysis of an orally adminstered compound N-benzoyl-1-tyrosyl p-aminobenzoic acid (Bentiromide). This compound is selectectively cleaved by pancreatic chymotrypsin releasing free PABA which is then absorbed, conjugated in liver and excreted in urine. Recovery of PABA from a timed urine collection, when expressed as a fraction of the total PABA given, gives an indirect indication of pancreatic chymotrypsin activity and hence pancreatic exocrine function.

<u>Procedure</u>: After a 4-hour fast, a pretest urine specimen will be obtained in order to determine the presence of interfering substances. Bentiromide 15 mg/kg together with p-amino salicylic acid (PAS) will be given in a drink to the patient together with the lactose test meal. A six hour urine collection will be made by collecting urine in uribags. The 6 hour urine volume will be measured and a 20 ml aliquoat will be obtained and analysed by high pressure liquid chromatography³⁵. The results will be expressed as the PABA-excretion index (PEI) derived by dividing urinary recovery of PABA by urinary recovery of PAS. The normal value is 4-60, with the median of 19. This test will be repeated after 2 months on selected patients on their follow-up visits to determine the normal value of Bangladeshi children.

Plasma secretin and cholecystokinin

Plasma levels of these two pancreatotrophic enteric hormones will be determined by specific radioimmunoassay methods. Blood sample (2 ml) will

be obtained at the time of blood drawing for routine tests and another 2 ml half hour after the lactose meal. Blood samples will be collected in ice-chilled EDTA-tubes. Plasma will be separated as early as possible and stored at -20° C until assayed. RIA will be done in the lab of Prof. Gyr in Basel, Switzerland. Basal levels of these two hormones as well as the magnitude of release of these hormones after meal will be determined. Normal ranges for Bangladeshi children will be determined from blood samples obtained from nondiarrhoeal age metched children from Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

Fatty acid composition of coconut and soyabean oils

	Coconut	<u>011</u>	Soyabean	<u>0il</u>
Total fat	99.0	%	98.6	%
Caprylic acid	7.6	%		
Capric acid	5.7	%	· 	
Lauric acid	44.7	%	_	
Myristic acid	17.1	*	-	
Palmitic acid	8.6	%	9.4	X
Stearic acid	2.4	%	3.3	%
Palmitoleic acid	-		0.5	%
Oleic acid	6.7	%	21.7	%
Linoleic acid	1.4	*	52.8	*
Linolenic acid	_		7.5	%

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Consent form - Coconut Oil Study

Your child is suffering from chronic diarrhoea. ICDDR, B is carrying out a study to evaluate the effect of adding coconut oil to a special diet for your child in the treatment of chronic diarrhoea. If you agree to enrol your child in this study, the following tests will be carried out, which are routine examinations for the management of chronic diarrhoea.

On the day of admission stool will be examined for microscopy and culture. On the next day, after four hours of fasting, a breath test over three hours will be done before and after giving milk feed to assess the ability of your child in tolerating milk. At the same time 2 ml of blood will be drawn from a vein for determining blood cells, haematocrit, electrolytes and glucose.

Next morning, again after 4 hours of fasting, your child will be intubated by passing a thin plastic tube through mouth into the small intestine, and intestinal juice will be collected and examined for the presence of parasites, worms and bacterias.

Besides, the follwing special tests will be done -

- a) On the day of admission, a mixture containing lactulose and mannitol, ehich are harmless drugs, will be given to your child to drink, and then we will collect urine to see what amount of these drugs have come out with urine. This will help us to assess the damage of the small intestine.
- b) Likewise, on the second day, Bentiromide syrup will be given to your child to drink, and urine will be collected to detrmine the amount of this drug in urine. We will also collect 4 ml of blood, alongwith the routine blood tests, to check levels of two hormones secretin and cholecystokinin. By these tests, we will assess the digestive functions of the pancreas.

During this procedures which are safe, your child will recieve a glucose containing intravenous fluid, which will be continued until the study is over.

Careful records of total intake of foods and outputs of stool and urine will be kept. Your child will also recieve the standard diet for chronic diarrhoea containing either soyabean oil or coconut oil according to a previously decided schedule. In addition, a vitamin-mineral mixture will be given daily to your child.

After discharge, follow-up assessments will be done when you will bring your child every two weeks for two months.

If at any time you wish to withdraw your patient from the study, you are free to do so without any obligation, and we will still take care of your child. If the above conditions are acceptable to you, please sign or give your thumb impression below.

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Signature	of the	investigator	Signature/thumb parent/guardian		of the
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Consent form - coconut oil study

Non-diarrhoeal patients from Dhaka Shishu Hospital

ICDDR,B is carrying out a study to evaluate if the functions of the intestine and pancreas are normal in young children suffering from chronic diarrhoea. For this purpose we are checking the blood levels of two hormones called secretin and cholecystokinin which are necessary to maintain normal pancreatic function. To determine the normal blood levels of these two hormones, this test will be carried out in children who are not suffering from diarrhoea or any other gastro-intestinal disease.

If you agree to enrol your child in this study, then an additional 4 ml of blood, alongwith the routine blood tests, will be collected from your child to determine the levels of the two hormones. This will not cause any harm to your child.

You are fre to refuse without any obligation, and your child will still recieve the care he needs.

If you agree, then please sign or put your thumb impression below.

Siganture of investigator	Signature/thumb impression of the parent/guardian				
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Budget code:	18 months after starting Completion date:

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Reviewed by Budget & Finance

DIVISION NAME: CLINICAL SCIENCES DIVISION

PROTOCL/BRANCH NAME: COMPARATIVE TRIAL OF COCONUTE OIL

MAKE OF P. 1./BRANCH HEAD/DIVISION HEAD:

DR.P.K.BARDHAN

BUDGETCODE:

STARTING DATE: 1.9.1988

PROTOCOL NO:

COMPLETION DATE:

DONOR NAME:

GRANT AMOUNT:

	EXPENSE CATEGORY						
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Add: .B. New Recruitments (Source: Page 4)	7	70.8	19064.4		11446.8
C. Staff allocated from other area (Source: Page 5)	2	, .	4731		2838
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(i) Sub Total	9	76.8	23795.4		14284.8
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D. Separations (Source: Page 6)	. 0	0	0		
E. Staff allocated to other area (Source: Page 7)	0	0	0		
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A/C Code	item Description	1 Amount (One year)	+	(6 months)
3701	Drugs (used for medicationin the hespitals and field stations)	350		150
3702	Glassmare (bottle, beaker, cylinder, petridish, aluminium smal, slides stopper, tube etc.)	80		20
3703	Hospital Supplies (bandage, gauge blade, bowl, catheter, cotton, needle syringe, solution, leukoplast, towel etc.)	. 150		100
3704	Stationery and Office Supplies (Battery, book register, binders, files, pencil, fastener, paper, ribbon, stapler etc.)	350		150
3705	Chemicals and Media (Acid, reagent dextrose, sodium, bactoagar etc.)	100		50
3706	Materials for Uniform (Cloth, button etc required for making uniforms)			
3707	Fuel, Oil and Lubricants (Diesel, sobil, petrol, kerosene etc.)			
37 <b>08</b>	LaboratoSry Supplies (Aluminium foil, bag blade, brush, cap, container, 1-ray etc.)	150		50
3709	Housekeeping SUpplies (Aerosal, battery, wiping cloth, duster, lock and key etc.)			
3710	•			
3811	Tools and Spares (Automobile spares, tyres, tubes, battery, stores required for maintenance services etc.)		•	*
3712		500		250
	Sub Total	1680		770
3713	Freight and other charges (Add-30% to above sub total)	504		231
	TOTAL	2184	+	1001
				•

A/C Code	Item Description	\$ Amount (One year)	+	(6 months)
3600	Repairs and Maintenance (Maintenance and repairs of vehicles, equipments, furniture and building)	75		25
3900	Rent, communication and utilities (Postage, telephone, telegram, electricity etc.)	190		<b>50</b>
4100	Bank charges	·		
4200	Legal and Professional Expenses (Professional membership fee, legal fee, audit fee etc.)			
4300	Printing and Publication (Printing of forms, books, journals, reprints etc.)	200	•	100
4400	Hospitality and Doantion (Guest house accommodation, donations, hospital food, lunch, refreshment etc.)			·
4500	Service Charges (porter, labour, washing, lawindry and other misc. expenditure)			_
4500	Staff Development and Training (Training course fee, training materials, stipend, scholarship, subsistance paid to the staff)			
	TOTAL	375		175

Item Description	Manufacturer	No.of Cost+Freight Units & Amount (One year	i er)	+ (	6 months)
1.6AS CHROMATOGRAPH 2.METABOLIC BED 3.FACE MASK & BREATHING BAG 4.FILE CABINATE 5.DEEP FREEZER 6.		1 3000 2 1000 3 200 1 150			Nil
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