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The Effect of Parental Consanguinity and Inbreeding on The Anthropometric Measurements of the Newborn Babies Revisited

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ABSTRACT The present paper deals with the effects of parental consanguinity and inbreeding on the anthropometric measurements of 4,941 newborn babies studied in 1978-79 and 1445 newborn babies studied in 1998-99, i.e. after a gap of 20 years, at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Inbreeding caused significant diminution of all anthropometric measurements recorded (weight, height, chest girth, calf girth, head girth, head length) except head breadth in the earlier study, but in the present study, there is no inbreeding depression on any of the anthropometric measurements. Plausible reasons for the presence and absence of inbreeding depression in the earlier and present studies are discussed.

[Home](#)

[Back](#)
