

Short-term Prognosis of Extremely Low-Birth-weight Infants
in the Division of Neonatology, Center for Maternal,
Fetal and Neonatal Medicine, Fukuoka University Hospital
(from 1991 to 2000)

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Abstract : We examined the short-term prognosis of extremely low-birth-weight infants (ELBWI) who were admitted to our NICU from 1991 through 2000. Ninety-one of 138 infants (65.9%) survived and were discharged from our unit. Only 9 percent of the infants who were born in the 22nd and 23rd gestational weeks survived, while 87% of those who were born in the 26th week or later survived. Survivors who were born in the 25th week or earlier showed abnormalities in their MRI findings, thus suggesting the presence of major handicaps. It is therefore necessary to substantially improve our medical treatment level for such immature infants.

Key words : Extremely Low-Birth-weight infants, Short-term Prognosis, NICU