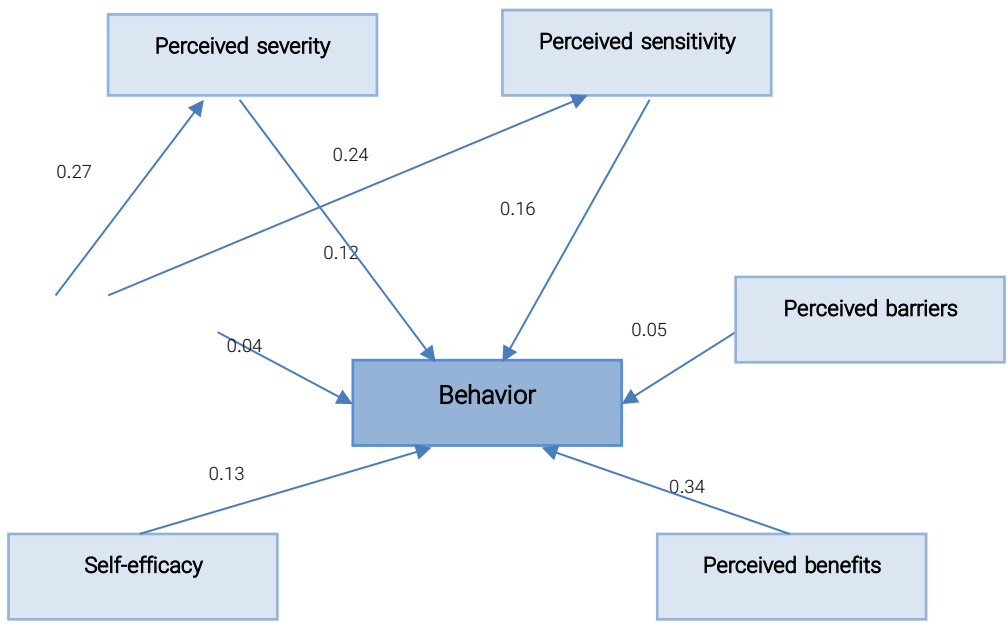**Table 1.** The mean scores of the mothers' preventive behavior, awareness, and constructs of the health belief model in studied subjects

Variables	Scores	Percent from the achievable score
Preventive behaviors from injury		
Mother's behavior regarding skin damage	7.89±1.16	87.67
Mother's behavior regarding falling	5.55±0.61	92.50
Mother's behavior regarding radiation damage to the infant	1.94±0.24	97.00
Mother's behavior regarding infant suffocation	2.91±0.33	97.00
In general	18.24±1.78	91.20
Health belief model constructs		
Perceived sensitivity	16.53±2.73	66.12
Perceived severity	24.78±4.18	82.60
Perceived benefits	21.88±3.04	87.52
Perceived barriers	14.97±4.54	74.85
Perceived self-efficacy	28.81±4.34	82.31
Cue to action	20.52±5.72	58.63
Awareness of care for premature infants	12.82±2.72	75.41

Table 2. Regression coefficients of demographic variables for studied mothers' behavior

Demographic variables	β coefficient	Standard error	Wald Test	p-value
Mother's education				
Illiterate	0.12	0.70	0.28	0.87
Elementary	-0.46	0.33	1.90	0.17
Secondary and high school	-1.00	0.30	11.63	0.001
University (Ref)	0	–	–	–
Father's education				
Illiterate	-1.48	0.78	3.59	0.06
Elementary	-0.33	0.36	0.83	0.37
Secondary and high school	0.29	0.31	0.85	0.36
University (Ref)	0	–	–	–
Mother's job				
Housewife	-0.17	0.32	0.28	0.60
Employed (Ref)	0	–	–	–
Father's job				
Employee	-0.50	0.30	2.77	0.10
Manual worker	-0.60	0.26	5.55	0.02
Farmer	0.40	0.28	2.00	0.16
Non-governmental (Ref)	0	–	–	–
Newborn gender				
Girl	-0.46	0.16	8.22	0.001
Boy (Ref)	0	–	–	–
Place of residence				
Urban	-0.06	0.22	0.08	0.78
Rural	0	–	–	–
The number of previous preterm infants				
None	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.99
One (Ref)	0	–	–	–
History of stillbirth				
Yes	-0.01	0.18	0.00	0.96
No (Ref)	0	–	–	–
History of abortion				
Yes	0.50	0.28	3.9	0.08
No (Ref)	0	–	–	–
Mother's age	0.06	0.02	5.99	0.01
Father's age	0.001	0.27	0.01	0.92
Number of previous children	0.45	0.13	12.46	0.001
Birth weight	6.99×10^{-5}	0.00	0.22	0.64

Figure 1. Standardized regression coefficients in the path model

Table 3. Direct, indirect and overall regression coefficients of the constructs of the health belief model on the behavior of the studied mothers

Paths	Non-standardized regression coefficient	Standard regression coefficient	Standard error	Critical section	p-value
Direct effects					
Cue to action →perceived sensitivity	0.13	0.27	0.02	5.38	0.001
Cue to action →perceived severity	0.18	0.24	0.04	4.84	0.001
Cue to action →behavior	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.79	0.430
Perceived self-efficacy →behavior	0.05	0.13	0.02	2.58	0.010
Perceived benefits →behavior	0.20	0.34	0.03	6.10	0.001
Perceived barriers →behavior	0.02	0.05	0.02	1.20	0.230
Perceived sensitivity →behavior	0.08	0.12	0.04	2.9	0.035
Perceived severity →behavior	0.07	16/0.	0.02	2.80	0.005
Indirect effects					
Cue to action →behavior	0.02	0.07	0.02	–	0.010
Overall effects					
Cue to action →behavior	0.03	0.09	0.02	–	0.040