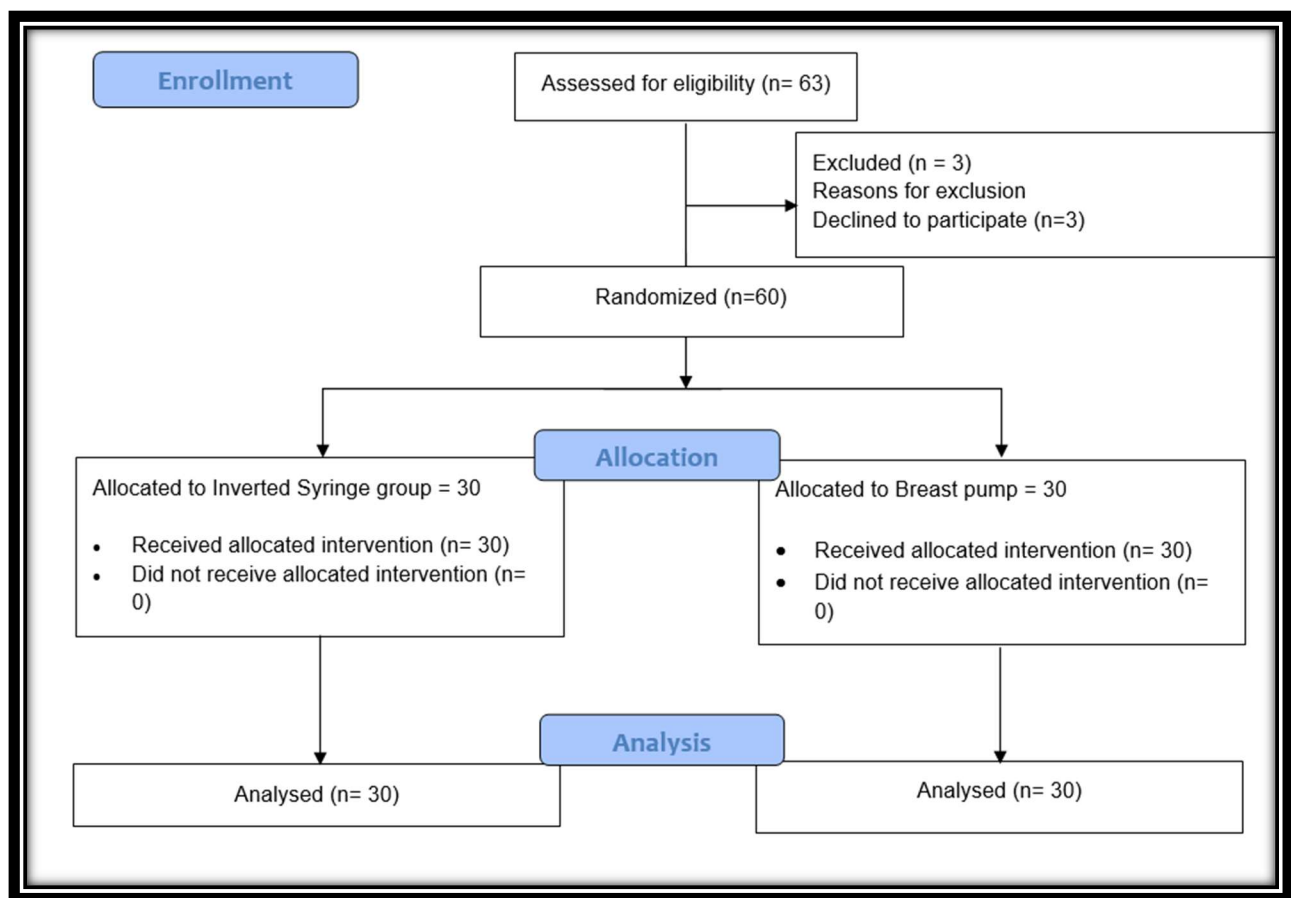


## Summary of results

The primary outcome of establishment of breastfeeding by day 3 postnatal period was achieved in 18 (60%) mothers in syringe group vs. 17 (56.67%) in the breast pump group, with no statistically significant difference ( $p=0.793$ ).

In the first 2 days the pain score differences were not statistically significant, but on day 3, 28 (93.99%) mothers in the electric breast pump group had no/mild pain compared to 22 (73.33%) mothers in the syringe usage group. This difference was statistically significant ( $p= 0.038$ ).

## Participant Flow



## Baseline characteristics

Baseline characteristics	Group A (n= 30)	Group B (n=30)	n=60
Age of mothers (years)*	25.6 (4.3)	24.9 (3)	25.2 (3.7)
Mode of delivery†			
Vaginal delivery			
	6 (20)	11 (36.67)	17 (28.3)
LSCS** (Emergency)	16 (53.33)	15 (50)	31 (51.7)
LSCS (Elective)	8 (26.67)	4 (13.33)	12 (20)
Gestational weeks at birth*	38.4 (1.2)	38.3 (1.7)	38.3 (1.5)
Grade of inverted nipple†			
Grade 1	7 (23.33)	6 (20)	13 (21.7)
Grade 2	21 (70)	22 (73.33)	43 (71.7)
Grade 3	2 (6.67)	2 (6.67)	4 (6.6)
*Expressed as Mean (Standard deviation)			
†Expressed as n (%)			
**LSCS: Lower segment cesarean section			

## Outcome measures

Table.1. Comparison of outcome variables between the two groups.

Outcome variable*	Group A (Syringe group) (n=30)	Group B (Breast Pump group) (n=30)	p-value
Establishment of breastfeeding by day 3	18 (60)	17 (56.67)	0.793
Severe pain† on day 1	13 (43.33)	8 (26.67)	0.176
Severe pain† on day 2	10 (33.33)	5 (16.67)	0.136
Severe pain† on day 3	6 (20)	1 (3.33)	0.044
*n(%)			
† Severe pain on visual analogue scale defined as score $\geq 5$			

Table.2. Pain profile of lactating mothers using syringing vs. electric breast pump on first 3 days of postnatal period.

Day of postnatal period	Severity of pain*	Group A (n=30)	Group B (n=30)	p-value
1	No or mild pain	14 (46.67)	15 (50)	0.796
	Moderate to severe pain	16 (53.33)	15 (50)	
2	No or mild pain	15 (50)	21 (70)	0.114
	Moderate to severe pain	15 (50)	9 (30)	
3	No or mild pain	22 (73.33)	28 (93.33)	0.038
	Moderate to severe pain	8 (26.67)	2 (6.67)	
*n (%)				

Table.3. Multivariable logistic regression analysis for establishment of breastfeeding by day 3 for association with maternal age, gestational age at birth and the grade of inverted nipple.

Independent variable	Odds ratio	95% CI	p-value
Age of mother	1.1	0.94-1.28	0.215
Completed gestational age	1.35	0.93-1.97	0.116
Grade of inverted nipple	0.745	0.25-2.19	0.593