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# Health and Safety Risk Analysis in the Fertilizer Industry

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## Abstract

**Background:** There are high risks and potential hazards in the process of making Zwavelzuur Kalium (ZK) fertilizer. The risk varies according to the chemical used in the process. Identification of potential hazards and risks is required periodically to control the risks

**Objectives:** To identify the potential hazards and risks in the process of making ZK fertilizer and to control the risk

**Methodology:** This study is an observational study to observe the process of making ZK fertilizer and to conduct occupational health and safety risk management

**Results:** There are various hazards can occur in ZK production including chemical hazards such as hazardous, toxic, reactive, irritant, and corrosive as well as physical or mechanical hazards which include altitude, machinery, equipment, noise, and temperature

**Conclusion:** The highest risk assessment results on ZK production are in the reactor unit, which causes the risk of explosion. Risk control refers to the principle of the control hierarchy

**Keyword:** fertilizer, risk, potential hazard, safety, and health risk management

## Introduction

The production of ZK fertilizer is through several stages, which are quite long: raw material preparation, reaction process, cooling and neutralization, bagging, scrubber, or absorber.

ZK fertilizer produces with raw material is 98% liquid Sulfuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ ) and Potassium chloride (KCl) powders. The raw material is mixed in a reactor and heated in a furnace that operates at  $500^{\circ}C$ . The reaction from mixing the two raw materials is  $2KCl + H_2SO_4 \rightarrow K_2SO_4 + 2HCl$ . So the product from the mixing of raw materials is  $K_2SO_4$  or ZK fertilizer, and the by-product is liquid hydrochloric acid (HCl).

The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemical (GHS) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) classify sulfuric acid in transport pictograms as class 8 hazardous substances, corrosive. The definition of corrosive is where the chemical causes damage to the wound to the skin tissue with an exposure time of fewer than 4 hours, or the chemical can cause corrosion in equipment either steel or aluminum with an

area of more than 6.25 mm per year at  $55^{\circ}C$ .

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the International Agency for Research on Cancer, has concluded that there is sufficient evidence that fog-containing sulfuric acid exposure is carcinogenic in humans<sup>1</sup>.

Another raw material in making ZK fertilizer is Potassium chloride (KCl) in the form of white powder. These chemicals are classified as health hazards with code number 1 by NFPA 704, which means that KCl can irritate, even with minor injuries. In the process, KCl move through a bucket elevator and conveyor belt to the reactor mixing between raw materials.

ZK fertilizer that comes out of the furnace with a temperature of  $300^{\circ}C$  will be cooled by jet ejector cooler to  $50^{\circ}C$  by contacting ZK with water. ZK fertilizer is then transported by bucket elevator and entered in the sieving stage (screener) separate between oversize and on size products. Oversized products will be included in the crusher to be mash into products that are on size.  $K_2SO_4$  or ZK fertilizer has the same danger as Potassium

chloride (KCl), which irritates.

ZK products which are on size will be neutralized to produce ZK, which is free acid with the supporting material, namely Sodium carbonate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ).  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  has the same danger as KCl and  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$  that is irritating. NFPA 704 classifies it into health hazards with code number 2, prolonged and repeated exposure can cause residual injury.

Furthermore, the finished ZK fertilizer will store in a silo before being packaged in a bagging unit. Semi-automatic packaging equipment is used where workers simply place the bag under the scales and handle the bag during sewing. Surely there are dangers in the packaging area where workers can be exposed to ZK dust or expose to the worker's body parts.

The side product of the ZK Plant is Hydrochloric acid (HCl), which is liquid and colorless and has a pungent odor typical of hydrochloric acid. Chloride acid has the same classification as sulfuric acid, according to GHS, which include in Transport Information Class 8 (corrosive). NFPA 704 also classifies the same health hazard between hydrochloric acid and sulfuric acid, plus the special code for hydrochloric acid, corrosive.

HCl coming out of the furnace will be cool by graphite cooler, which will change the original temperature of  $400^\circ\text{C}$  to  $50^\circ\text{C}$  by contacting HCl with water before the HCl enters the scrubber. Scrubber sulfuric trace removal has the function of capturing a mixture of HCl gas and  $\text{SO}_3$  exhaust gas from the reactor. After that, the HCl that enters the absorber will be absorbed again by the gas to get HCl liquid. Pumps are used to pump water into the scrubber, which will be used to absorb HCl vapor. HCl scrubber reabsorbs the HCl gas fume before releasing it into the atmosphere. The absorber reabsorbs HCl, which still escapes. HCl concentrations of 33-40% are collected in HCl containers before the product pump into a distribution vehicle.

The chemical properties of the raw materials and the products produced have each hazard characteristics that can threaten the safety and health of the workforce, so it needs to consider properly. Appropriate identification and control with the existing hazards will give good results too.

Risk management is a coordinated activity to direct and control an organization in managing risks<sup>2</sup>. OHS risk management is an effort to manage OHS risk

to prevent unwanted accidents in a comprehensive, planned, and structured manner in a good system. OHS risk management is related to hazards and risks that exist in the workplace that can cause losses for companies<sup>3</sup>.

According to AS/NZS 4360 Risk Management Standard, risk management is the culture, process, and structures direct towards the effective management of potential opportunities and adverse effects<sup>4</sup>.

The first step in the risk management process is to identify workplace hazards or places that are likely to suffer damage<sup>5</sup>.

Hazards identification is a process that can be done to recognize all situations or events that have the potential to cause workplace accidents and diseases that may arise in the workplace<sup>6</sup>.

Risk is a possibility of an accident or loss at a certain period of time or a certain operating cycle while the level of risk is a multiplication between the frequency and frequency (consequence) of an event that can cause loss, accident, or injury and illness that may arise from exposure to a hazard in the workplace<sup>7</sup>.

Risk assessment is part of the activities of the risk management process, which includes the entire process of analyzing risks in the form of activities using information that is available systematically to determine the level of frequency an event might occur and the impact or influence that will arise, while risk evaluation is a process that used to determine the priorities used by risk management by comparing the level of a risk with standards, targets or other criteria predetermined by management<sup>8</sup>.

The steps for conducting a risk assessment are<sup>6</sup>: estimates of the frequency or frequency of accidents or occupational illnesses, estimate the severity of the accident, determining the level of risk using a risk matrix. After determining the level of risk, the risk priority scale must make for each potential hazard identified to prepare a risk control plan.

Risk control must be implemented to reduce risk to acceptable limits based on applicable rules, regulations, and standards. In introducing a risk control tool, one must consider whether the risk control tool is applicable and can provide benefits to each workplace

The hierarchy of risk control sequentially starts from elimination, substitution, engineering control,

administrative control, and personal protective equipment.

## Material and Method

Data collection at the time of this research was carried out by two methods, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data such as preliminary observations about the general condition of the company, observation regarding hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control in the production area, and interviews with relevant workforce such as employees in the safety department and safety officer in the production area

Secondary data collection is a general description of the company and data on Occupational Safety and Health. A literature study was also carried out to complete the standard implementation of the identification of potential risk hazards.

## Findings

Health and Safety Risk Management start from the identification of potential hazards and risks, which are then assessed to determine the control plan that is appropriate to the level of risk that has been obtaining. The author divides the dangerous areas in making ZK fertilizer into six areas which are discussed in detail one by one as follows

### Reactor Unit

Risks that occur from natural gas and diesel fuel are burning or exploding. The risk of explosion certainly has a greater impact than burning. Determining the scale of the measurement of the impact of the risk of explosion is 5 (catastrophic), that is, the impact is very significant or very large on labor or humans (death). But for the opportunity is determined by a scale of 1 (rare) because the possibility of occurrence is very slight or rare (0-1 times occur every year).

The risk level is high, which means that control must be carried out to the ALARP stage or as low as possible. Control that can do is to regularly check the vacuum of the burner chamber or hallway, check line leakage, and administratively perform safety permits correctly.

Determining the scale of the measurement of the impact of fire is 3 (moderate), the moderate impact on labor or humans (injury and unable to work). The probability of a fire occurring in this unit is impossible (2), which is the likelihood that it will be small or

occasional. The level of risk is the medium and efforts that make at Petrochemicals in addition to equipment maintenance efforts are the availability of fire hydrants, and fire extinguisher is also carried out to cope if a fire occurs.

The risk of inhalation of  $H_2SO_4$  vapor occurs in workers who clean or repair  $H_2SO_4$  tanks. The danger from these chemical vapors is corrosive to the respiratory tract, which is characterized by coughing and shortness of breath. Corrosive effects can also occur in the nasal passages with epistaxis or nosebleeds if workers expose for prolonged, repeated or high concentrations.

Workers can also be inhaled  $H_2SO_4$  vapor when opening the storage tanks, and the worker does not use the mask correctly. Petrochemical has provided masks to every worker, which is a chemical cartridge that can clean gases or vapors by flowing air containing toxic gases or vapors through the cartridge.

Control efforts that can do are the availability of exhaust ventilation to keep the concentration of exposure below the threshold. The provision of eyewash and safety shower in the work area contained  $H_2SO_4$ . Other efforts are the use of masks that are correct and appropriate and training of employees for the first countermeasures if there is a risk in the area.

The risk of splashing or splashing of  $H_2SO_4$  can occur in workers working in the area around the tank and leaking piping. This risk has a more immediate effect because it hits the limb directly and can cause burns. For this reason, the first control effort is to carry out routine maintenance of all equipment used to avoid leakage. If a spill occurs, the spill can neutral with a solution of soda or lime before being doused with water.

The process of transporting KCl using bucket elevators and conveyor belts has the risk that workers can be inhaled by KCl dust, exposed to the skin, and exposed to the eye. The control effort that can do is to make engineering efforts by closing the belt conveyor area and providing local exhaust ventilation to keep KCl dust exposure below the threshold. The area must also equip with an eyewash or safety shower. Besides that, another effort is the use of dust counter correctly and correctly. Other risks related to safety are also present in this process including being sandwiched into a conveyor belt. Control efforts that can do are the installation of safety on the tool.



The next process is the reaction between raw materials in the reactor that has the risk of heat, burning, or explosion. Controlling efforts that can do is to check the burner chamber or hall routinely, pre-start a safety review must be carried out, and check the feed ingredients to avoid the inclusion of flammable materials into the reactor. Also, fire protection systems, such as fire hydrants and fire extinguishers, must provide. Related to drinking water also must be considered for workers in the furnace area to avoid destruction and heat stroke.

### **Ejector Refrigerator**

The risk that can occur in this unit is the temperature of heat produced by  $K_2SO_4$  coming out of the furnace with a temperature of  $500^{\circ}C$ . Transporting that must do is routine maintenance of ships or pipelines that transport  $K_2SO_4$  before entering the refrigeration unit. The risk of noise can also occur due to engine noise. Repairing with a personal protection device such as earmuffs must be done besides caring for the engine to reduce approval. Petrochemical has implemented this regulation in which every area with more than 25 dB approval is given a safety sign for mandatory use of earmuffs, and every worker equips with the PPE.

### **Screening and Crusher**

At this stage, the most visible risk is the presence of ZK dust due to machines that are not completely closed. Potassium sulfate has the same dangerous properties as potassium chloride, which causes minor irritation. The control is including the availability of exhaust ventilation in the area to keep the air concentration below the threshold value. So, workers must give dust masks, and their use must be appropriate and correct.

### **Neutralizer**

At this stage, there is a process that produces a supporting material, namely sodium carbonate or potassium carbonate, to produce acid-free ZK products. The addition of this product also has advantages caused by dust due to its powder form. The dust of these two chemicals contains properties with potassium chloride or potassium chloride, which cause health effects in the form of minor irritations. Although the impact caused is quite small, of course, repairs must be made to protect workers from dust.

### **Silo and Bagging Units**

ZK fertilizer that has become a finished product

is then stored in a silo or temporary tank before the packaging process is carried out. The danger in this area is due to using opened tanks or ZK products coming out of the tank for the packaging process. The packaging process uses a semi-automatic packaging unit that still uses workers to install the machine sewing process. The main danger that arises is that workers can be sewn at any time if the worker is too slow or not concentrating on the work. The control that can do is shift work and rest 10 minutes every 1 hour to work for freelancers

### **Graphite Cooler, Scrubbing System and HCl Tank**

Hydrochloric acid has special properties with sulfuric acid, which functions as a corrosive, so controlling what to do is the same as controlling sulfuric acid chemicals. Workers can be inhaled HCL vapor, which will release into the air in a scrubbing system. Workers can also get the splash or splash hydrochloric acid during the process of loading and unloading into the transport truck. Work at heights that are at risk Workers above if they do not use appropriate protective equipment that is utilizing the entire body.

Providing education related to the hazards that exist in each production process is needed so that workers know the dangers and that there are. If the worker understands, there will be more vigilance from the worker. Training against the use of personal protective equipment must also carry out so workers can use it properly and appropriately.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the identification of hazards that have been carried out, then a risk analysis is carried out using the risk matrix. Petrochemical refers to the Australian Standards / New Zealand Standards 4360 qualitative risk analysis techniques. The risk assessment determines by determining the risk impact criteria and risk opportunities on a scale of 1-5. The highest risk assessment results on ZK production are in the reactor unit, which causes the risk of explosion.

Risk control refers to the principle of the control hierarchy, starting from elimination, substitution, engineering, administration, and personal protective equipment.

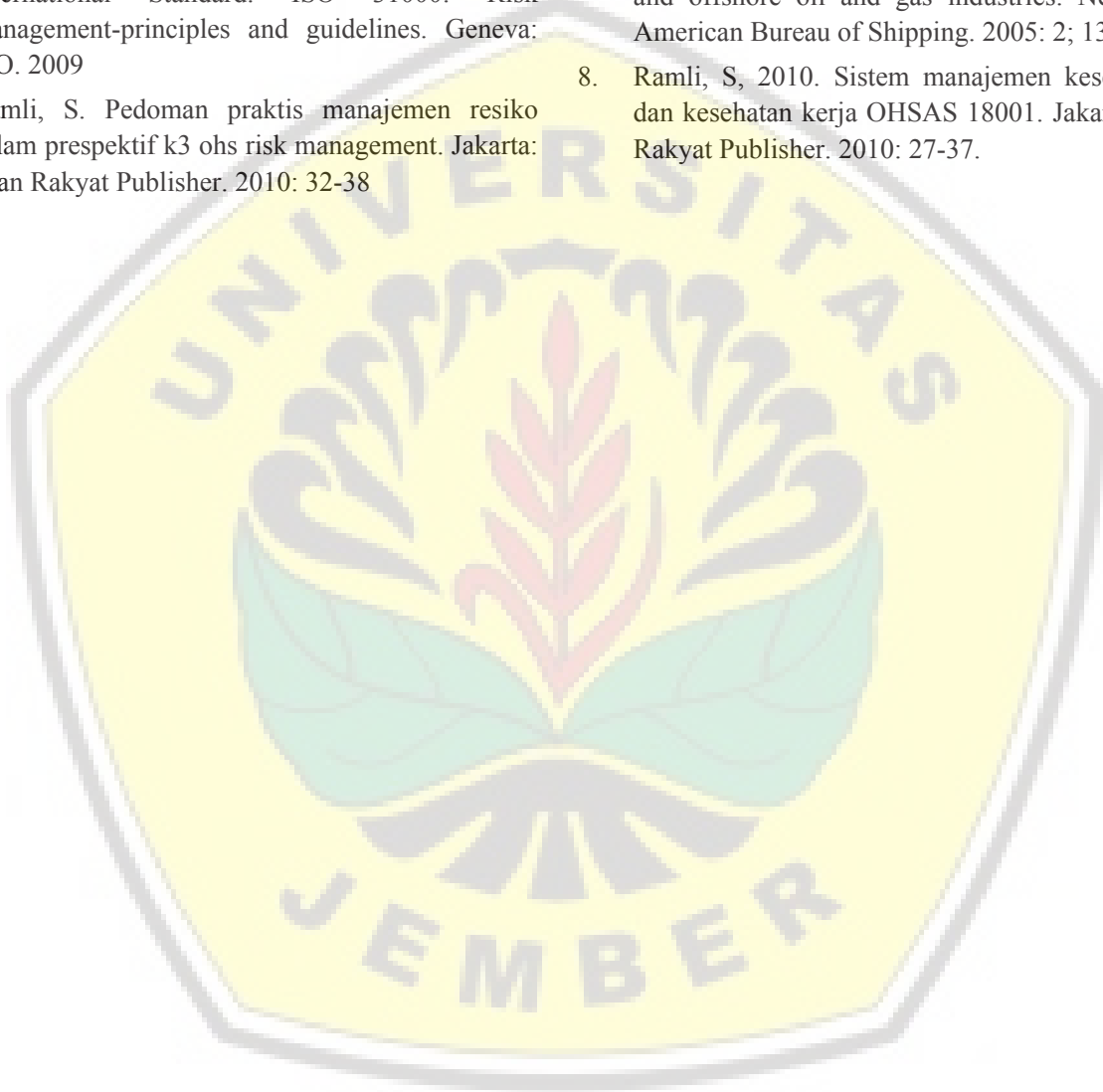
**Conflict of Interest:** None

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**Ethical Clearance:** Not required, as the research article is based on health and safety of fertilizer production and not an experiment or human research.

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# Maternal Behavior of Child Malocclusion Dental Treatment in Gayungan Health Center Surabaya

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## Abstract

Context: based on Gayungan Health Center Surabaya's patient visit data obtained from April-June 2018 primary teeth persistence is the most common dental case, with percentage 42.6% in April, 20.8% in May and 48.6% in June. The most common cause of primary teeth persistence is the absence of successor permanent teeth. It has connection with the physiological process of primary tooth shed and change to permanent teeth, which occurs to the school-age children, and requires more attention from parents to take care of their children's dental health.

Aims: To determine the effect of maternal behavior and sociodemographic factors on child malocclusion dental treatment in area of Gayungan Health Center Surabaya.

Methods and Material: This research is an analytic-observational study. Using instruments in the form of questionnaire that developed from the Theory of Planned Behavior. Results: poor maternal knowledge of dental health may results to not to bring the child to get malocclusion treatment.

Results: poor maternal knowledge of dental health may results to not to bring the child to get malocclusion treatment

Conclusions: perceived control of orthodontic treatment history (perceived control that characterized by history of orthodontic treatment?), maternal's level of knowledge, usage of health insurance, and maternal's perceptions of the child's dental condition have the opportunity to influence the maternal behavior to make dental visit to get malocclusion treatment.

**Key-words:** *maternal behavior, child malocclusion, Gayungan Health Center, Theory of Planned Behavior*

## Introduction

The results of the 2013 Basic Health Research (RISKESDAS), the percentage of people who have dental and mouth problems according to Riskesdas in 2007 and 2013 increased from 23.2% to 25.9%. This can be caused by several factors, one of which is the lack of public knowledge and awareness of the importance of

maintaining oral and dental hygiene.<sup>1</sup>

Based on data from the Gayungan Surabaya Health Center, monthly patient visits were obtained from April to June 2018. From these data it can be seen that persistence is the most frequently encountered case at the Puskesmas, with a percentage of 42.6% in April, 30.8% in May and 48.6% in June. Based on preliminary survey data conducted on 151 children at SDN Gayungan 1 Surabaya, the highest percentage of persistence was found to be 37%. The second most common problem encountered is caries which is 69.58%. The last problem most frequently encountered was pulp disease and periapical tissue by 28.22%.

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Persistence of deciduous teeth is a condition where deciduous teeth are not has the ability to exfoliate when it's time to exfoliate, but the permanent teeth that will replace the deciduous teeth have erupted<sup>1</sup>. In some cases persistence can cause clinical problems such as periodontitis, deep caries, ankylosis and even malocclusion.<sup>1</sup>

In connection with the physiological process of turning primary teeth into permanent teeth that takes place during school-age children, it requires more attention from parents in the dental and oral health care of their children. Until now, the knowledge that parents have about oral health is still relatively low. Parents do not apply the maintenance of children's dental and oral health properly, a reason that is often cited is because of the lack of access to information about dental and oral health maintenance, parents' busy work, high costs and so forth. Even though the behavior of parents who maintain good dental and oral health of children can affect the growth and development of permanent teeth and children's quality of life.<sup>3</sup>

One model used to predict behavior, including malocclusion treatment behavior is Theory of Planned Behavior, theories of attitude that is widely used in behavior. The Planned Behavior Theory is a prediction of good behavior because it is balanced by the intention to carry out the behavior<sup>4</sup>. In Planned Behavior Theory, the behavior displayed by individuals arises because of the intention to behave. The emergence of intention to behave is determined by three determinants, namely: (1) attitude towards behavior; (2) subjective norms; and (3) perceived perception control.<sup>5</sup>

Based on the survey results and background above, the author's interest arises to examine the influence of maternal sociodemographic and behavioral factors on the behavior of child malocclusion treatment to dentists in the Gayungan Public Health Center in Surabaya. Hypothesis of this research is there are influences on maternal sociodemographic and behavioral factors on the behavior of child malocclusion treatment to dentists in the Gayungan Health Center

### Subjects and Methods

This research is an analytic-observational study with a cross sectional study design. The population in this study was the mother of Gayungan I Elementary School students in the Gayungan region, Surabaya city as many as 151 people. Sampling using simple random sampling

method. Research subjects were asked questions by questionnaire method to find out the factors that influence the behavior of mothers bringing children to dental and oral health services in the Keputih area, Surabaya City. The questionnaire was developed based on the Theory of Planned Behavior which contains questions that contain closed ended questions. As supporting data, a check on the prevalence of malocclusion in children. Then the data obtained is processed data and results.

### Findings

The research data were obtained from epidemiological studies on 18 and 20 August 2018 at SDN Gayungan 1 Surabaya. Data was collected by dental examination and questionnaires for students in grades 1-4 with an age range of 7-12 years at SDN Gayungan 1 Surabaya. The sample of this study was 151 students selected by simple random sampling.

Based on data, there is information that there is no tendency for a relationship between risk factors in academic level with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.078$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with higher education and the lowest is the risk factor group with primary education

Based on data, there is information that there is no tendency for a relationship between risk factors in job status with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.091$ . In the table illustrated, both of risk factor has the same percentage of orthodontic visit experience.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in daily working hour with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.007$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with scheduled working hour and the lowest is the risk factor group with unscheduled working hour.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in shift working hour with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.003$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with morning

shift working hour and the lowest is the risk factor group with afternoon shift working hour.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in salaries with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.005$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with well paid salaries and the lowest is the risk factor group with under paid salaries.

Based on data, there is information that there is no tendency for a relationship between risk factors in residential with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.076$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group in sub-urban residential and the lowest is the risk factor group in urban residential.

Based on data, there is information that there is no tendency for a relationship between risk factors in insurance with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.098$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with covered by insurance and the lowest is the risk factor group with uncovered by insurance.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in mother orthodontic treatment experience with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.000$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with mother with orthodontic treatment experience and the lowest is the risk factor group with mother with no orthodontic treatment experience.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in family orthodontic treatment experience with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.001$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with family with orthodontic treatment experience and the lowest is the risk factor group with family with no orthodontic treatment experience.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in children orthodontic treatment experience with

orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.000$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with children with no orthodontic treatment experience and the lowest is the risk factor group with children with orthodontic treatment experience.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in dental alignment with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.002$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with bad dental alignment and the lowest is the risk factor group with good dental alignment.

Based on data, there is information that there is no tendency for a relationship between risk factors in total children in family with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.076$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with total children in family is 1 and the lowest is the risk factor group with total children in family more than 1.

Based on data, there is information that there is tendency for a relationship between risk factors in orthodontic treatment need basic knowledge with orthodontic visit experience. This is indicated by the p value of  $p = 0.004$ . In the table illustrated from the results of the highest orthodontic visit experience in the risk factor group with family with good orthodontic treatment need basic knowledge and the lowest is the risk factor group with bad orthodontic treatment need basic knowledge.

## Discussion

The Planned Behavior Theory is a prediction of good behavior because it is balanced by the intention to carry out the behavior. In this theory, a behavior is influenced by several variables, namely attitudes that are influenced by the strength of beliefs about the behavior, subjective norms that are influenced by social pressures that motivate individuals to behave, and perceptual controls that take into account ease and difficulty factors in carrying out the behaviour<sup>10</sup>. In this research, it is known that actions are not influenced by intention but are directly influenced by perception control. Based on Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA) that connects beliefs, attitudes, intentions and behavior. Intention is the best predictor of behavior, meaning that if you want to know

what someone will do, the best way is to know that person's intentions. However, one can make judgments based on completely different reasons (not always based on intention).<sup>2</sup>

An important concept in this theory is the focus of attention (salience), which is to consider something that is considered important, namely control of perception. More simply, this theory says that a person will take an action if he views the action positively and if he believes that he can do the action. Knowledge has a direct influence on perceptual control and on behavior. The characteristics that have an influence on perception are the condition of the child's teeth, insurance, history of child stirrup, history of maternal stirrup and family stirrup history.

In this epidemiological study begins with a preliminary study to determine the severity of malocclusion in Gayungan I Public Elementary School Surabaya in the Gayungan Surabaya Public Health Center area by using the Angle classification. The number of research subjects was 151 students from classes I to IV at SDN Gayungan I Surabaya. The severity of malocclusion can be influenced by many things such as parental income, ability to buy services and participation in health insurance.

Based on the results of research and data analysis found that mothers who have insurance and do not have insurance do not visit the dentist. This is because orthodontic treatment is not included in the BPJS dependents and therefore mothers have or do not have insurance must continue to pay orthodontic treatment costs so that there is no difference with mothers who don't have insurance. History is an event that someone has experienced in interacting with their environment. An unfavorable history is soon forgotten, if it is pleasant it will become an imprint in mental emotions and eventually form a positive attitude in his life<sup>9</sup>. Based on the results of research and data analysis, it was found that mothers who had no history of orthodontic treatment did not visit the dentist to treat their malocclusion teeth. That is because there is no encouragement from the nearest party, namely the family to take care because of the low level of knowledge about the dentist.

Based on the results of research and data analysis, it was found that mothers who had children with poor dental conditions as much as 58.3% did not come to the dentist, while mothers who had children with good

dental conditions as many as 100% did not visit the dentist. This is caused by the perception of parents who assess the child's dental condition is good, and does not require a visit to the dentist. Based on the results of research and analysis obtained results that mothers with poor knowledge of 73.3% did not visit the dentist while mothers with good knowledge of 53.8% did not visit the dentist. If parents have good knowledge, it will be directly proportional to their behavior. Parents who have high knowledge will show positive behavior in performing dental care, including treatment of malocclusion. A theory revealed that before having a behavior, a person must pass through the stages of awareness, interest, evaluation, trial and adoption<sup>10</sup>. Malocclusion care behavior of children by mothers to dentists based on theory of planned behavior is associated with attitudes, subjective norms, perception control perceptions, intentions and actions of mothers towards pediatric malocclusion treatment to dentists. Attitudes, subjective norms, perception control perception, positive intention will produce positive behavior.

## Conclusion

From this study it can be concluded that the perception of perception control with the characteristics of the mother's orthodontic treatment history, the level of maternal knowledge, the use of health insurance, and the mother's perception of the condition of the child's teeth have a chance of influencing the behavior of the mother's visit to perform treatment of children's malocclusion in the dentist.

Ethical Clearance taken from Ethical Committee Faculty of Dental Medicine Airlangga University

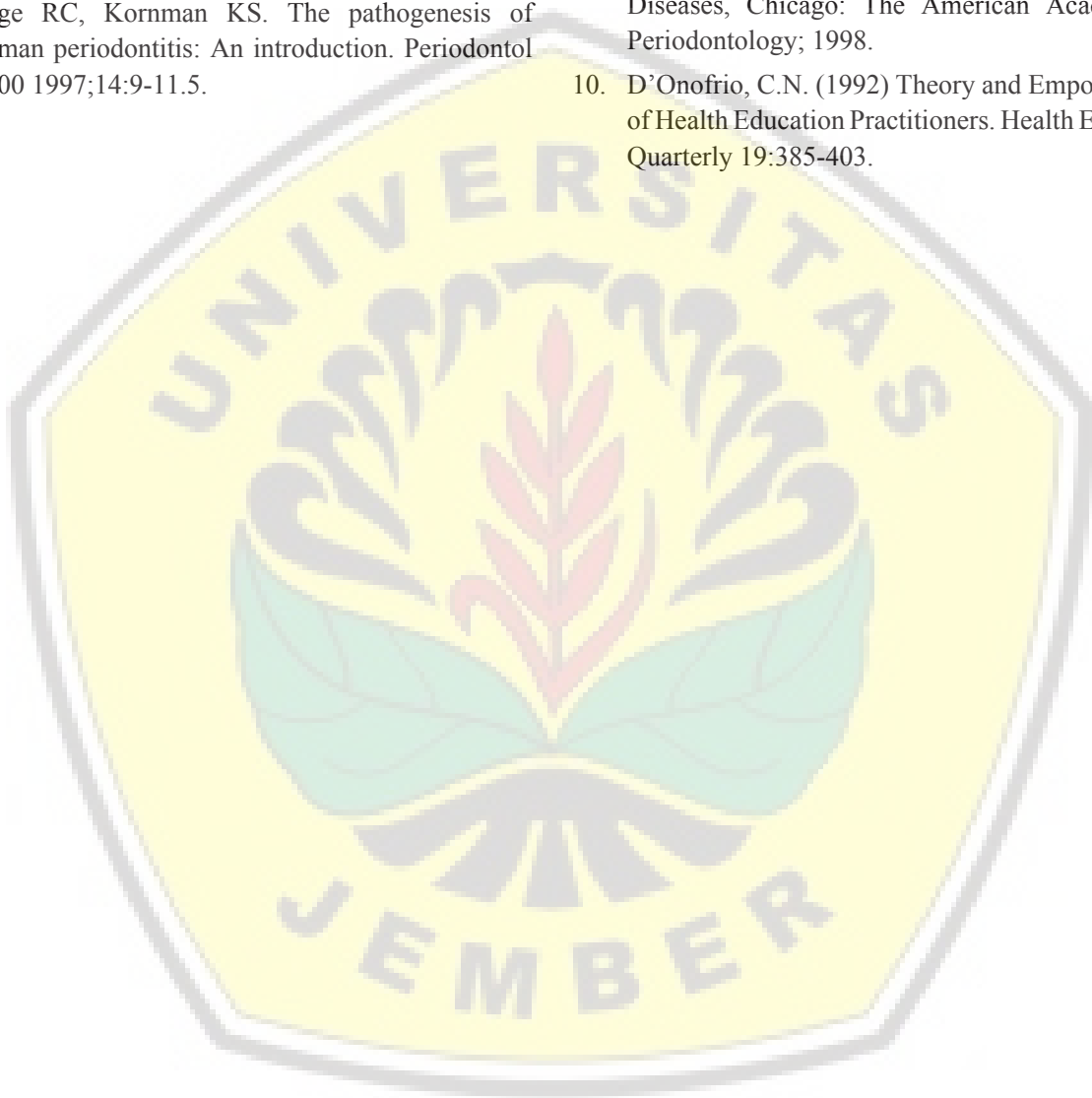
Source(s) of Fundings: Faculty of Dental Medicine, Airlangga University

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# Analysis of Platelet Counts and Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-Bb Levels in Platelet Rich Plasma Produced with Edta as Anticoagulant in Three Different Centrifugation Methods

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## Abstract

**Background:** Platelet rich plasma (PRP) is an autologous product made of whole blood through centrifugation process producing high platelet concentrate in a small volume of plasma. This high platelet concentrate can lead to high growth factor levels that play important roles in the nature of thrombosis, hemostasis and wound healing. PRP has been widely used in clinical setting, however standardized procedure of PRP production has been lacking, mainly the procedure related to duration and speed of centrifugation, and also anticoagulant used.

**Aim:** To analyze the difference between platelet counts and PDGF-BB levels in PRP produced from various preparation methods (centrifugation speed and duration), using *Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid* /EDTA as anticoagulant.

**Method:** This study used experimental laboratory design, involving 34 healthy volunteers that met inclusion criteria. These subjects were divided into three groups with different centrifugation methods that adopted from previous study.

**Results:** The platelet counts was found in group 1, 2, and 3 with an increase of, 2,69, 3,69, and 2,53 times from the initial platelet counts respectively and there was significant difference between platelet counts before and after treatment on three groups that used EDTA ( $p=0,000$ ,  $p=0,003$ , and  $p=0,002$  for group 1, 2 and 3 respectively). PDGF-BB levels in this group was also higher than the remaining groups.

**Conclusion:** The highest platelet counts and PDGF-BB levels was found in PRP with EDTA produced from first spin at 2800 RPM in five minutes, and second spin at 3800 RPM in seven minutes. This study suggests further research on qualitative assessments of platelets and PDGF-BB resulted from various preparation methods (centrifugation and anticoagulant usage).

**Keywords:** Platelet, Platelet Derived Growth Factor-BB, Platelet Rich Plasma, centrifugation, *Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid*

## Introduction

Platelets are megakaryocyte cytoplasmic fragments that are formed in the bone marrow and have a diameter

of about 1-4  $\mu\text{m}$ . Platelets play an important role in the process of hemostasis and thrombosis.<sup>1</sup> Another function of platelets is to help the wound healing process. Growth factors on platelets can affect chemotaxis, differentiation, proliferation, and synthetic activity of cells, which regulate physiological remodeling and healing. The more growth factors that can reach the wound site, the greater the potential for improving the healing process.<sup>2</sup>

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Platelet rich plasma (PRP) is an autologous product that is produced from whole blood through a process of centrifugation to produce high platelet concentrations in low plasma volumes. The number of growth factors contained in PRP can accelerate endothelial, epithelial and epidermal regeneration, stimulates angiogenesis, stimulates collagen synthesis, accelerates soft tissue healing, decreases scar tissue in the skin, accelerates the response of homeostasis to injury, thereby stimulating wound healing.<sup>3</sup>

Until now the process of making PRP has not been standardized. A systematic review by Chahla, Cinque, and Piuze<sup>4</sup> involving published research in 2006-2016 found that the existing PRP preparation protocols and PRP compositions used in clinical trials were inconsistent and were not standardized so that they produced different effects. Araki et al.<sup>5</sup> also mentioned that the non-standardization of PRP-making protocols for clinical trials makes the efficacy of PRP still debatable. Therefore, standardization of the PRP manufacturing process is needed to obtain platelet counts and levels of growth factors with certainty.<sup>4,6</sup> This standardization must consider factors that influence the quantity and quality of the PRP, including the number of centrifugation cycles (single or double), speed and length of centrifugation, temperature during the manufacturing process, anticoagulants used, and sampling techniques.<sup>3, 4, 6</sup>

The speed and duration of centrifugation is one of the very varied factors used in the preparation of PRP. The study by Nugraha et al. used 30 treatments employing a range of intervention (speeds and duration) of centrifugation. The study results found that the highest platelet increase was obtained at a speed of 1300 RCF for 5 minutes at the first centrifugation and a speed of 2300 for 7 minutes with a platelet increase of 4.11 times.<sup>7</sup>

The use of anticoagulants is also a very important factor in maintaining the function, integrity, and morphology of platelets. Some researchers argue that the use of Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid (EDTA) anticoagulants can damage platelet membranes, and recommend the use of Acid Citrate Dextrose (ACD). However, the study of Araki et al.<sup>5</sup> in 2012 showed that the use of EDTA anticoagulants increased platelet counts and PDGF levels showed higher results compared to the use of ACD anticoagulants. This is because the use of EDTA shows better effectiveness in preventing

platelet aggregation compared to the use of ACD.<sup>5</sup> Based on the abovementioned phenomenon, this study aimed to identify the difference between platelet counts and PDGF-BB levels in PRP with different treatments (speed and length of centrifugation) using EDTA as the anticoagulant.

## Methodology

### *(Research Design, Ethical Aspect, Data Collection and Data Analysis)*

This study used an experimental laboratory research design. The study was conducted from August to September at the Clinical Pathology Laboratory of Hasanuddin University Hospital and at The Research Center of Faculty of Medicine of Hasanuddin University, which both were located in Makassar, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia. The sample size of this study was determined by employing *Frederer Formula* of experimental laboratory study and it was obtained that the minimum sample per group of intervention was seven (7) subjects. The inclusion criteria for the research were: healthy individuals aged 18-40 years; individuals who had not taken any drugs that can affect platelets such as thrombolytic or Non-Steroid Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID) at least 7 days before blood collection. The study included sample with initial platelet examination results of platelets in between 150,000 /  $\mu\text{L}$  and 400,000 /  $\mu\text{L}$ , while serum/plasma sample which were indicated jaundice, lipemic or hemolysis were excluded.

Regarding ethical aspects, this study had obtained permission by The Ethical Committee of Health Research, Faculty of Medicine of Hasanuddin University, which issued the Ethical Agreement No. UH19060359. Every volunteer filled and signed an informed consent sheet, and was allocated to each of experimental groups by using *simple random sampling*. After volunteer blood was collected, the blood would be assessed for initial hematology examination. Platelet count from this assessment is the number of platelet cells in blood cells, measured using the Sysmex XE800i® Hematology Analyzer expressed in units of  $\mu\text{U/mL}$ . The reference value for platelet counts is 150-400 x 10<sup>3</sup> /  $\mu\text{L}$ . From this initial assessment, platelet counts were obtained and were considered as the platelet counts *pre-intervention*. Subsequently, the blood was processed to produce PRP through different interventions. In details, there are three groups of intervention, any of which was different in speed and time of centrifugation as seen in table 1.

**Table 1. Type of interventions included in the study**

Intervention groups	1 <sup>st</sup> Centrifugation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Centrifugation	Anticoagulant
I	Speed of 1200 RCF (2700 RPM) in 5 minutes.	Speed of 2000 RCF (3500 RPM) in 6 minutes	EDTA
II	Speed of 1300 RCF (2800 RPM) in 5 minutes	Speed of 2300 RCF (3800 RPM) in 7 minutes	EDTA
III	Speed of 600 RCF (1900 RPM) in 10 minutes	Speed of 2000 RCF (3500 RPM) in selama 5 minutes	EDTA

After the second centrifugation, PRP was obtained and the platelet counts were also examined by using similar hematology examiner. The platelet counts obtained from this examination were considered platelet counts of *post-intervention*. In terms of growth factors measurement, PDGF-BB levels was measured by the Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) method using the human PDGF-BB ELISA kit (LifeSpan BioScience, Inc., China) and the units expressed in pg/mL. The detection range was 31.25-2000 pg/mL.

### Results

The study involved 33 volunteers who met the inclusion criteria. The subjects aged 26-40 years old with an average of 32,88 years old with more female subjects than men, accounting for 24 people (72.7%) as seen in table 2.

**Table 2. Sample characteristics**

Characteristics	n	Mean±SD	Median (Min-Max)	p value	Ratio
Age (years)	33	32,88±3,69			
Gender					
Male	9				
Female	24				
Platelet Counts (103/μL)					
Group 1 (pre)	11	323,18±51,46		0,000*	2,69
Group 1 (post)	11	868,90±257,84			
Group 2 (pre)	11	313,82±62,28		0,000*	3,69
Group 2 (post)	11	1277,36±835,39			

Cont... Table 2. Sample characteristics

Group 3 (pre)	11	346,27±76,57		0,000*	2,53
Group 3 (post)	11	877,09±423,00			
PDGF-BB Levels (pg/mL) Group 1	11	6905,68±3696,58	8271,63 (168,62-12189,67)		
Group 2	11	8330,86±6115,52	6238,44 (676,80-25691,57)		
Group 3	11	5206,75±1574,97	5362,00 (1609,41-7216,84)		

\*paired t-test

Table 2 shows the mean difference in the number of platelets counts (pre and post-treatment) of each group. Using the paired t-test it was found that platelet counts were significantly higher in all groups of PRP, compared to the baseline (group 1 (p=0,000), group 2 (p=0.000), and group 3 (p=0.000) respectively). Interestingly, the highest platelet counts was found in group 2, with an increase of 3.69 times from the initial platelet counts.

Table 3 depicts the mean difference of PDGF-BB levels in PRP from all groups of intervention. It is shown that there was no significant difference between PDGF-BB levels in all of the intervention groups. However, the highest PDGF-BB levels was found in group 2.

Table 3. PDGF-BB levels in all groups of intervention

	PDGF-BB Levels (pg/mL)			p*
	Mean	SD	Median (Min-Max)	
Group 1	6905,68	3696,58	8271,63 (168,62-12189,67)	0.14
Group 2	8330,86	6115,52	6238,44 (3676,80-25691,57)	
Group 3	5206,75	1574,97	5362,00 (1609,41-7216,84)	

\*Kruskal Wallis test

### Discussion

Among PRP produced from three different groups of intervention (centrifugation speed and duration of centrifugation), the highest platelet rise was found in group 2, with an increase in platelets counts as of

3.69 times compared to the baseline. This is in line with the studies of Hans et al. as cited Nugraha et al.,<sup>7</sup> showing the highest increase in platelets with speed and duration similar to the intervention conducted in this study, namely 1300 RCF for the first 5 minutes of centrifugation and 2300 RCF for 7 minutes in the second

centrifugation. Platelet increase in the studies of Hans et al was 4.11 times higher than the initial platelets.<sup>7</sup> The increase in platelet counts in group 2 was also in line with the research by Perez et al.<sup>8</sup> who found that PRP produced from double centrifugation can reach platelet counts three times more even up to five times if 2/3 of the plasma volume is removed.<sup>8</sup>

The benefit of PRP lies in the number of platelets it contains, but more than that can be seen from the level of growth factors released when activated.<sup>9</sup> These growth factors have the highest concentration in platelets and play a very important role in the process of wound healing.<sup>2,10</sup> Among many growth factors, PDGF-BB is one of the most important in the regeneration and healing of wounds or damaged tissue.<sup>9,10</sup>

PDGF-BB levels in the three groups showed no significant difference. The interesting fact from this study is that the mean of platelet counts found in such platelet rich plasma products was not directly proportional to the levels of PDGF-BB after platelet activation. This finding is supported by Sonker and Dubey<sup>11</sup> research that there is no correlation between platelet counts with PDGF-BB levels found, as well as correlations with other growth factors. This is supported by the results of the study of Singh et al who analyzed qualitatively differences in the morphology of platelets in some PRP products. The study found that platelets in EDTA tubes had the worst morphology so that the effect on PRP resulting from EDTA tubes had a low growth factor compared to other tubes.<sup>12</sup>

Platelet activation during the PRP preparation process can occur, which results in the early release of alpha granules which results in the loss of growth factors needed, depending on the preparation method.<sup>11</sup> In terms of platelet Activation, when platelets are exposed to EDTA, platelets lose their discoid shape to “spiny-spheres” resulting in changes in the membrane surface structure and OCS (Open Canalicular System).<sup>13</sup> This change can cause early activation of PRP platelets in tubes that use EDTA anticoagulants and may result in early PDGF-BB growth factor release. Measurement of PDGF-BB levels is also strongly influenced by its half-life. Some studies report that the half-life of PDGF-BB is around 1.8 hours,<sup>14</sup> while Saik et al.<sup>15</sup> reported that the half-life of PDGF-BB is only about 30 minutes after activation.

## Conclusion and Suggestion

This study concluded that there was a significant mean difference between platelet counts of PRP in all groups of intervention compared to the number of platelets in the baseline. The significance was as follow: group 1 ( $p = 0,000$ ), group 2 ( $p = 0.000$ ), group 3 ( $p = 0.000$ ), and the highest platelet counts was found in group 2 in which PRP produced in a method of centrifugation as follow: speed of 1300 RCF (2800 RPM) in 5 minutes for the first centrifugation and speed of 2300 RCF (3800 RPM) in 7 minutes for the second centrifugation, resulting 3.69 times platelets compared to the initial platelets. This study also found that there was no significant difference in terms of PDGF-BB levels between the three groups, but PDGF-BB levels in group two (2) was higher than the other groups regardless. This study suggest further research that can identify qualitatively the function and morphology of platelets contained in PRP that are produced various method of preparation (speed and time of centrifugation). Further research that employ a variety of anticoagulants will also be needed to best understanding the best outcome of PRP products.

**Ethical Clearance** – Taken from The Ethical Committee of Health Research, Faculty of Medicine of Hasanuddin University, which issued the Ethical Agreement No. UH19060359.

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**Conflict of Interest** – Nil

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# Relationship Factor Enabling Giving Complementary Foods for Breast Milk with Baby Nutrition Status in Makassar City

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** Poor nutritional status is a major nutritional problem in infants and has an impact on growth disorders and is a problem that needs to be addressed seriously, age 6-18 months is a very important period as well as a critical period in the process of growth and development both physically and intellectually. Therefore, every baby at this time must obtain nutritional intake according to their needs. Aim; to prove the relationship between enabling factors and infant nutritional status. **Methods:** type of research used analytical survey with a cross-sectional study approach. This research was carried out in Maccini Sawah Sub-District, Makassar Sub-District, Makassar City. The sample of this study was infants with exhaustive sampling with 62 samples. **Results:** The study found that the age of starting complementary food for breast milk was related to the nutritional status of the baby with a p-value (0,000), the type of complementary foods for breast milk related to the nutritional status of the baby with a p-value (0,015), the frequency of complementary foods for breast milk related to nutritional status with p-value 0.004), and the variation of complementary foods for breast milk administration is related to nutritional status with p-value (0.001).

**Conclusion:** It was found that there was a strong relationship between age, starting, giving, type, frequency, and variation of complementary feeding with infant nutritional status.

**Keywords:** *Nutritional Status, Complementary Food*

## Introduction

Nutritional status in children is very important for their lives<sup>(1)</sup>, growing and developing into healthy, productive adults who benefit the community, this is an international priority to improve children's nutritional status<sup>(2)</sup>. The World Child Association (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) state that good nutrition practices in children include the initiation of early breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding ages 0-6 months, the addition of adequate, safe nutrition, and complementary foods according to the breastfeeding

period for 1 year<sup>(3,4)</sup>. The prevalence of malnutrition in Indonesia is still high. One potential factor that contributes to the high prevalence of malnutrition is the inappropriate complementary diet and practice of breastfeeding<sup>(5)</sup>.

Malnutrition during breastfeeding, especially the practice of exclusive breast milk for 6 months after birth is a risk factor for infant and child morbidity and mortality that can be corrected by providing complementary food<sup>(6)</sup>. One intervention to prevent a more effective way to reduce 13-15% of child deaths is to apply exclusive breastfeeding supplemented with complementary foods that will prevent 19% of children's deaths<sup>(7)</sup>. The impact during the child learning process is inactivity, intellectual disruption, decreased productivity, and development of social behavior<sup>(6)</sup>.

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Improvement of maternal nutrition carried out before and during exclusive breastfeeding is one of the efforts to improve infant nutrition 0-6 months. This problem is very important and needs to be addressed seriously. The age of 6-18 months is a critical period due to malnutrition at the age of under two years, has an impact on decreasing brain development, physical growth, intellectual, and productivity, the impact of malnutrition is largely irreversible. Malnutrition in infants and children occur because of the food given is low in nutrition or energy. Additional food for babies in developing countries generally made of cereals or tubers tends to be powdery. At the age of one year, the proper administration of complementary foods for breast milk is expected to meet the nutritional needs of the baby, but it can also stimulate the baby's eating behavior which is usually liquid and then adapt to the types of porridge and biscuits <sup>(8)</sup>. Premature babies are at high risk and really need adequate nutrition to increase proper growth <sup>(9)</sup>. The complimentary food program of breast milk is very important to give to babies in overcoming high nutrient deficiencies, based on the description above the authors feel interested in conducting research on the relationship of enabling factors for complementary food for breast milk with the nutritional status of infants. Aim; to prove the relationship between enabling factors and infant nutritional status.

## Method

This research was conducted in 2017 with samples in the study, namely infants aged 6-11 months, using exhaustive sampling techniques as many as 62 infants. The type of research used is an analytical survey with the approach cross sectional study. The source of complementary food data is derived from the results of interviews with mothers and caregivers using questionnaires, nutritional status data obtained from weighing the baby's weight using Baby Scale the GEA brand with measurement accuracy of 0.05 Kg to 0.1 Kg followed by calculation of standard deviation using anthropometric methods (WHO Anthro Plus) and referring to the NCHS table. Data analysis using univariate, bivariate and multivariate analysis.

## Results

### Sample Characteristics:

Table 1 shows a description of the sex of the baby, the age of the baby, the level of education and the type of work the mother has on the case of infant nutritional status. The homogeneity test results between cases of abnormal nutritional status and normal nutritional status in the baby sex obtained a value of  $p = 0.77$ , the average age of the baby obtained a value of  $p = 0.87$ , the maternal education level obtained a value of  $p = 0.44$  and work mother obtained  $p$  value = 0.73.

**Table 1. Analysis of Sample**

Characteristics	Infant Nutritional Status				Number of	p-values
	Normal		Normal			
	n	Percentage	n	Percentage of		
Gender for infants						0.77 *
Male	11	31.4	24	68.6	35	
Female	9	33.3	18	66.7	27	
Age of Infants						0.87 *
6 - 7 Months	6	42.9	8	57.1	14	
8 - 9 Months	6	35.3	11	64.7	17	
10 - 11 Months	8	25.8	23	74.2	31	
Mother's Education						0.44 *
Elementary	5	35.7	9	64.3	14	
Junior High School	3	25.0	9	75.0	12	
Senior High School	8	29.6	19	70.4	27	
Bachelor	4	44.4	5	55.6	9	
Mother's Work						0,73 *
not work	15	32,6	31	67,4	46	
contract	1	33,3	2	66,7	3	
employees	2	22,2	7	77,8	9	
government employees	2	50,0	2	50,0	4	

n: Number of Samples, \* Homogeneity Test

**Factors Enabling Complementary Foods :** relationship between enabling factors and infant nutritional status is presented in Table 2. Based on table 2, age suitability in supplementary feeding does not have a significant relationship with infant nutritional status, age suitability in the process of providing complementary food for breast milk in cases of abnormal nutritional status is more  $37.5 \pm 22.7$  compared with age suitability in the case of normal nutritional status  $62.5 \pm 77.3$ . Chi-square test between the two variables obtained p value = 0.23. There is a significant relationship between the consistency of the type of complementary food given with the nutritional status of the baby, where the

consistency in the case of abnormal nutritional status is more  $55.6 \pm 14.3$  compared to the consistency of food types in the case of normal nutritional status  $44.3 \pm 85.7$ . The chi-square test between the two variables obtained p = 0.001. there is a significant relationship between the frequency of complementary feeding and the nutritional status of infants, where the frequency in cases of abnormal nutritional status is more  $45.2 \pm 19.4$  compared to the frequency in cases of normal nutritional status  $54.8 \pm 80.6$ . The chi-square test between the two variables obtained a value of p = 0.03.

**Table 2. Correlation Factors Enabling Food Complementary foods for breast milk with Infant Nutritional Status**

Enabling complementary foods for breast milk	Infant Nutritional Status				Total	p-Value
	Not Normal		Normal			
	n	Percentage	n	Percentage		
Age Suitability						
Unsuitable	15	37.5	25	62, 5	40	0,234 *
Suitable	5	22.7	17	77,3	22	0,000 **
Type Consistency						
Inconsistent	15	55.6	12	44,4	27	0,001 *
Consistent	5	14,3	30	85,7	35	0,090 **
Frequency						
Less	14	45,2	17	54.8	31	0.030 *
Sufficient	4	19,4	25	80.6	31	0.021 **

\* Chi-Square \*\*Paired Test

**Multivariate Analysis:** Requirements fulfilled in multivariate analysis, namely all variables related to p value <0.05 entered which are then analyzed include variable consistency the type of complementary food,

the frequency of supplementary feeding, using the statistical ratio method to see the riskier and most related variables. It is indicated that the consistency of food types and frequency can improve nutritional status (Table 3).



**Table 3. Multiple Logistic Regression**

Variable	B	Sig (p-value)	Exp (B)	OR	95% CI
* Consistency type	2.186	0.001	8.903	7.500	2.384 to 33.054
Frequency	1.477	0.027	4.380	3.431	1.183 to 16.219

B: Beta, Sig: Significant, Exp: Expected, OR: Ods Ratio, CI: Confidential Interval. \* Variables that are most related to the nutritional status of the baby.

### Discussion

**Giving Age Suitability:** Provision of complementary foods for breast milk should be started at the age of 6 months because the digestive system of the body has started to be perfect and ready to receive food other than breast milk. When babies enter the age of 6 months and above, some nutritional elements such as protein, carbohydrates and some vitamins and minerals contained in breast milk are no longer sufficient. Based on the results of this study that the suitability of the age of the first time giving is not related to nutritional status. Important findings in this study, supplementary feeding was first given in the first 6 months, but more were given formula milk at the age of under 6 months. Similarly, Lakshman's research is more focused and specific in the provision of bottled milk and obesogenic foods<sup>(10)</sup>.

The results of this study are in contrast to Alzaheb's research in Saudi Arabia (2015) stating that the practice of giving is very useful as a complement to infant malnutrition obtained from breast milk<sup>(11)</sup>. The introduction of earlier complementary foods before a six-month-old baby has a negative effect as a substitute for breast milk and can stop breastfeeding practices at an early stage<sup>(12,13)</sup>. Baby's nutritional needs increase along with increasing age and reduced breast milk production and duration of breastfeeding<sup>(11)</sup>. In the first year of life, the method of feeding babies on time is one way of intervention carried out in the community to support optimal baby growth and development<sup>(14)</sup>.

**Consistency of Food Types:** important finding in this research is that the type of complementary food has an influence on the nutritional status of infants and children. Research found and explained more specifically the age conformity with the type of quality food consumed has an influence on the absorption of nutrients that have an impact on nutritional status. Various kinds

of complementary foods for breast milk are given to each day according to age development. Complementary foods cannot match breast milk in its nutritional content, enzymes, hormones, and immunological substances and antibodies. Modified food ingredients or mixtures of various types of food ingredients that are specially made as complementary foods for breast milk so that these foods contain complete nutrients needed by babies because this period includes the period of growth.

This study is not in line with stating that the average food supplement studied cannot meet the needs of calcium, iron and zinc every day as a nutritional source of complementary foods for infants in developing countries<sup>(15)</sup>. This study is in line with that conducted in Tanzania in the 6-23 month age group (2010) which states that the main determinant that can affect a baby's health, development and growth is the proper consumption of complementary foods<sup>(16)</sup>. Giving baby food is a modification factor that can reduce mortality and disability caused by preterm birth<sup>(17)</sup>. The growth and development of premature babies is in accordance with types of food such as breast milk or fortified formula<sup>(18)</sup>.

**Giving Frequency:** Quantity of complementary food is very important for brain growth and intelligence development. The fulfillment of infant and family nutrition is closely related to the frequency of food provided. The frequency of breastfeeding must be adjusted to the age and ability to produce breast milk. Increasing age needs are also increasing and the ability to produce breast milk decreases so that the frequency of supplementary food supply is increasing and added some types of snack foods.

The frequency of eating children is also influenced by several factors such as the family's socio-economic status and the number of family members. According to

the theory, the proportion of adults more than children in the family can result in less food availability for children. Low-income communities increase the attention and focus on breastfeeding and supplementary food for babies<sup>(2)</sup>. The results of this study are similar to research conducted in Krakow and Silesia (2014) stating that regular feeding is very important, adequate daily nutrient intake is useful for physical development and and it is necessary to introduce healthy eating patterns for health during the growth period<sup>(19)</sup>. Perceptions about breast milk and feeding given complementary breast milk can be improved by health education<sup>(14)</sup>.

### Conclusion

Provision of complementary breast milk food is related to the nutritional status of the baby. The consistency of food types has a greater relationship with nutritional status compared to frequency. The age match for starting complementary foods performed by mothers starts at 6 months of age. The practice of giving complementary foods for breast milk is influenced by the mother's knowledge which has an impact on the mother's skills in serving complementary foods.

### Significant Statement

Results of this study found that babies need complementary food as they age to cover malnutrition from the intake of breast milk for growth and development. The practice of providing good complementary foods can be seen from the suitability and consistency in providing complementary foods caused by knowledge of maternal nutrition.

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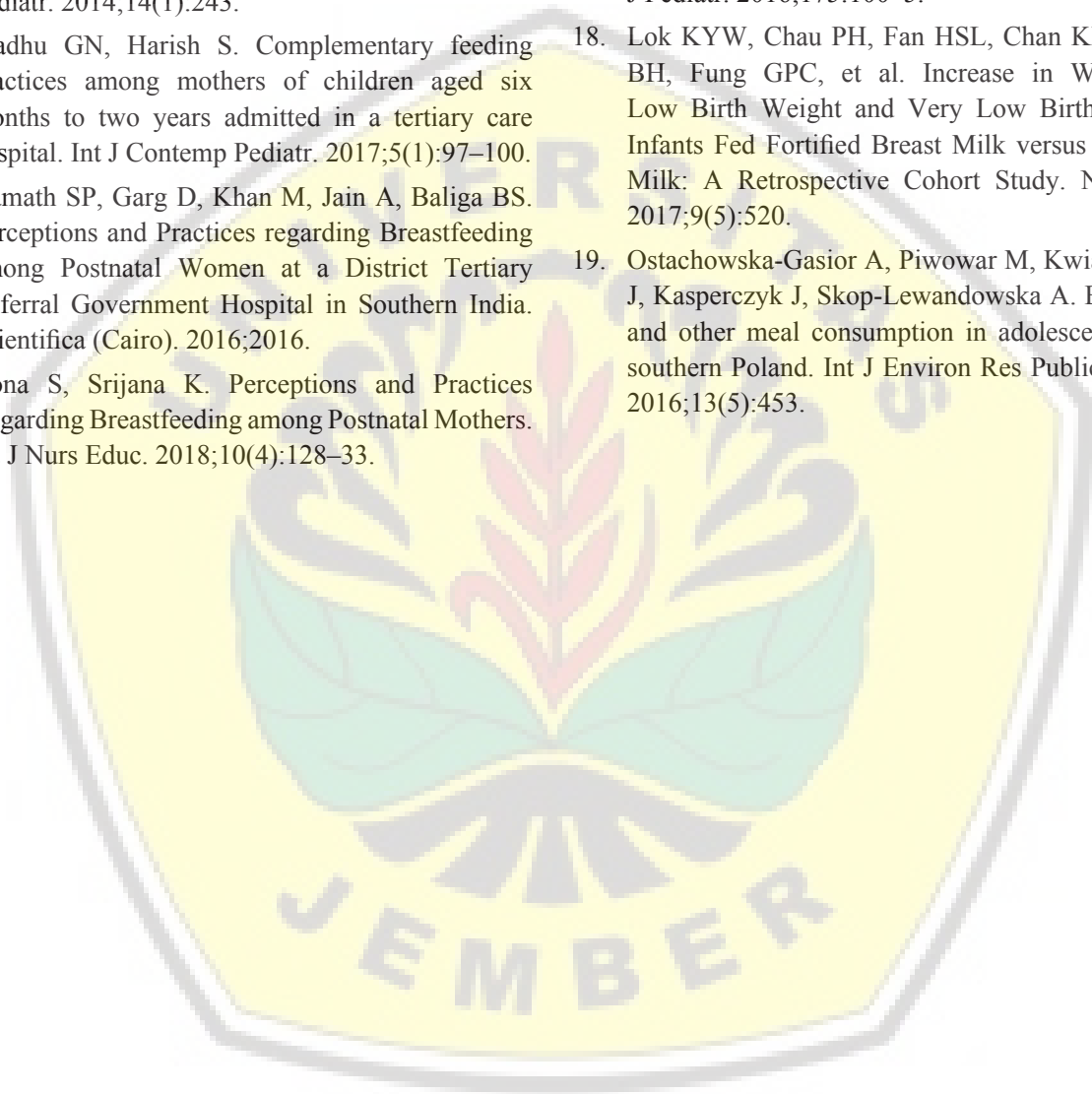
**Internal Conflict:** The author (s) declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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# Determinant of Premature Rupture of Membrane in Indonesia (Secondary Data Analysis of Idhs 2017)

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## Abstract

Premature rupture of membranes (PRoM) constitutes 5-10% of the causes of complications in full-term pregnancy and 30% of preterm pregnancy. In Indonesia, according to Riskesdas data in 2018, ProM is the biggest delivery complication of 5.6% in women aged 10 - 54 years. Based on IDHS 2017 data, it is the third biggest complication during labor with a percentage of 16.1%, which increased from 14.9% in 2012. Premature rupture of membranes risks troubled mothers and fetuses that potentially cause maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality. Little is known about the determinants of PRoM in Indonesia. Therefore, this study was conducted to identify the determinants of the ProM in Indonesia. This research method using logistic regression analysis to individual data IDHS 2017 by enclosing 4 independent variables: age, parity, amount of iron tablet consumption, and smoking habit to predict the incidence of PRoM. Sample of this study counted 12,340 people. Based on multivariate analysis found that consumption of Fe tablets is significantly related to PRoM by Odds Ratio (OR) 0.7 (95% CI: 0.631 - 0.777) controlled by maternal age. The conclusion of this study is mothers who consume  $\geq 90$  iron tablets during pregnancy are 0.7 times low risk of experiencing PRoM than mothers who consume iron tablets  $< 90$  tablets during pregnancy.

**Keywords :** PRoM ; Amount of Iron Tablet Consumption; Indonesia

## Introduction

Premature rupture of membranes (PRoM) is a condition of membranes rupture before the beginning of labour, where cervical dilatation of less than 3 cm in primipara and less than 5 cm in multiparas. PRoM which occurs before 37 weeks pregnancy is called premature PRoM, whereas occurs after 37 weeks PRoM itself<sup>(1)</sup>. PRoM constitutes 5-10% of the causes of complications in full-term pregnancy and 30% of preterm pregnancy<sup>(2)</sup>. According to Riskesdas 2018, PRoM is the biggest delivery complication of 5,6%<sup>(3)</sup>. Based on IDHS data 2017, ProM is the third biggest complication during labour of 16.1%<sup>(4)</sup>. PRoM is risked causing maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality. A serious complication of ProM includes retained placenta and haemorrhage requiring dilatation and curettage (12%), maternal sepsis (0,8%), and maternal death (0,14%). So

that, ProM is a high risk of caesarean deliveries<sup>(1)</sup>. Based on IDHS data 2017 the number of caesarean deliveries caused by PRoM decreased to 18.8% from 22.8% in 2012. Meanwhile, cases of within a month old infant mortality increased to 19% from the previous 14%<sup>(4,5)</sup>.

The risk factors associated with PRoM include maternal age, parity, infection, anemia, multiple pregnancies, increased intrauterine pressure, and genetic factor<sup>(6)</sup>. According to a case-control study conducted at Tugurejo Regional General Hospital mentioning the relationship between fetal malposition, maternal age, parity, history of PRoM, maternal employment status, anemia status, and active-passive smoking with the incidence of PRoM and there was no association between multiple pregnancies, genetic factor, previous recurrent miscarriage with PRoM<sup>(7)</sup>. Another case-control study where conducted in Mekele City Tigray about risk factors of PRoM in public hospital mention abortion histories, caesarean delivery histories, previous PRoM, and abnormal vaginal discharge significantly associated with KPD, and previous PRoM to be the strongest risk factor for PRoM<sup>(1)</sup>.

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Determinants identification of PRoM is needed to predict and prevent the occurrence of PRoM to prevent complications. Previous PRoM determinant researches have been conducted in various regions and different times of health services, yet secondary data utilization thoroughly in Indonesia still less in amount. Therefore, this study aims to fill those gap by identifying the determinants of PRoM using Indonesian Demographic and Health Survey (IDHS) data.

### Method

This study used secondary data from IDHS 2017 and designed in cross-sectional. Populations of this study

are all interviewed women who had live births in the 5 years before the survey. The total sample of this study were 12,340 people. Univariate, bivariate (crosstabs), and multivariate analysis (logistic regression) were performed in this study. Statistical analyses were performed using SPSS version 21.0;  $p < 0.05$  indicated statistical significance. Inclusion criteria of this study were women who gave birth to the last child within 5 years before the survey and experienced complications at the time of delivery. The dependent variable of this study was PRoM and the independent variables were maternal age, parity, amount of iron tablet consumption and smoking.

**Tabel 1. Bivariate Analysis result for significant variables ( $p \leq 0,25$ ) of determinant PRoM in Indonesia, 2017**

Variable	PRoM				OR	P Value
	No		Yes			
	n = 8400	%	n = 3940	%		
Age (years)						
No risk (20 – 35)	6051	49	2956	24	0,857	0,006
High Risk (< 20 & > 35)	2349	19	984	8		
Parity						
< 2	2822	22,9	1341	10,9	0,980	0,686
≥ 2	5578	45,2	2599	20		
Amount of iron tablets consumption						
≥ 90	4253	34,5	2342	18,9	0,700	0,000
< 90	4147	33,6	1598	13		
Smoking						
No	8275	67,1	3885	31,5	0,936	0,729
Yes	125	1	55	0,4		

\*Bivariat analysis was using crosstabs

The bivariate analysis showed that maternal age ( $p$ -value: 0.006) and total consumption of iron tablets ( $p$ -value: 0,000) are related to PRoM. Meanwhile, parity ( $p$ -value: 0.686), and smoking ( $p$ -value: 0.729) were not related to PRoM. Based on the table above there are 2 variables that have  $p$ -value  $< 0.25$ , there are age and amount of consumption of iron tablets. So both of them required to enter multivariate modelling.

**Tabel 2. Multivariate analysis Determinant of PRoM in Indonesia, 2017**

Variable	Model 1	Model 2
	cOR (95% CI)	aOR (95% CI)
Age	0,851 (0,761, 0,952)**	0,858 (0,769 - 0,958)**
Parity	1,032 (0,933, 1,120)	-
Amount of iron tablets consumption	0,700 (0,631, 0,777)***	0,700 (0,631 - 0,777)***
Smoking	0,940 (0,645, 1,370)	-

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

\* $p < 0,05$ , \*\* $p < 0,01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0,001$

The multivariate analysis showed that iron tablet consumption was the dominant factor causing PRoM, with OR 0.7 (95% CI: 0.631 - 0.777) after controlled by maternal age variable. This study in line with the case-control study conducted at Wates Regional Hospital in 2015 that stated there is an association of anemia in pregnancy with ProM with  $p$ -value = 0.036 and OR 2,524 (95% CI: 1.042 - 6.113) pregnant women with anemia have a risk 2, 524 times higher experiencing PRoM<sup>(8)</sup>.

## Discussion

### Study Limitation

This study used secondary data of IDHS 2017, because of limitation the research data, anemia variable which in theory is related to PRoM incidences in this study was replaced by the amount of iron tablet consumption during pregnancy. Researchers also could not control results from interviews with respondents due to the possibility of recall bias that caused by respondents memories related to research variables.

### Relationship Between Maternal Age and ProM

The results of this study showed that there is a relationship between maternal age and PRoM incidences. Similarly with past research conducted by Berkowits (in Hussain, 2012) which found that mothers with 30 years old or older significantly increased occurrence of preterm rupture of membrane (pPROM)<sup>(9)</sup>. Larger studies by retrospective cohort study conducted by Lucke and Brown (2007) show that increasing maternal age is significantly associated with a high risk of pPROM occurrence after being controlled by variables of race, parity, diabetes, chronic hypertension and

maternal smoking status<sup>(10)</sup>. However, in contradiction with past research conducted at Yogyakarta Hospital by Rahayu (2018) which states that there is no relationship between maternal age, parity, gestational age, uterine over distance with PRoM occurrence<sup>(11)</sup>.

Based on literature optimal maternal reproduction age is between 20-35 years old. Under or above those ages will increase pregnancy and deliveries risked. Maternal age will affect the reproductive organs by decreasing their ability and elasticity in pregnancies. The older maternal ages, both of environmental stress and oxidative stress are increased that induce biological damage of cell at molecular level<sup>(12)</sup>, which affects decreasing of vitamin C level on blood circulation<sup>(13)</sup> so that inhibit collagen formation and stability of collagen cross-link<sup>(12)</sup>. Structure alteration, amount of cells and collagen catabolism cause rupture of membranes<sup>(14)</sup>.

### Relationship Between Parity and ProM

This study showed that there is no significant relationship between parity and occurrence of PRoM. In line with research conducted in Gowa, suggesting that the amount of parity is not a risk factor of premature rupture of membranes even though both of  $\leq 1$  and  $> 3$  parity are 1.5 times higher risked than maternal parity of 2-3 (OR = 1.5 95%CI: 0, 91 - 2.48)<sup>(15)</sup>. Contradiction with results research was conducted at Bahteram Hospital which states that maternal parity is a risk factor of PRoM occurrence (OR = 9.94 95%CI: 4.44 - 22.24)<sup>(16)</sup>. This may be due to more respondents with  $\geq 2$  parity who didn't experience PRoM compared to those who experienced it.

In multiparous and grand multiparous women the risk of P<sub>RoM</sub> occurrence will increase. Multiparous women have intrinsic weakness of the uterus caused by cervical trauma due to previous deliveries that caused increasing of uterine motility, hanging bellies and decreasing of cervical flexibility that causes premature cervical dilatation and ends with P<sub>RoM</sub>. Furthermore, in multiparous and grand multiparous women occurred cervical damage tissue which consists more of nerve fibres than connective tissue that allows the basic muscles of the uterus to stretch<sup>(17)</sup>.

### Relationship Between Amount Of Maternal Iron Tablet and P<sub>RoM</sub>

Overall, 50% of anemia was caused by iron deficiency<sup>(18)</sup>. 75 - 95% of anemia during pregnancy were caused by iron deficiency<sup>(19)</sup>. A study conducted in Singapore in 2019 mentioned that almost three-quarters of pregnant women in Singapore experienced an iron deficiency in the early third trimester of pregnancy<sup>(20)</sup>. During pregnancy, women lose 680 mg iron. Iron necessity enhances 3 times higher during pregnancy (> 4 mg per day). Pregnant women are fragile to iron deficiency due to an increased need for iron during pregnancy for the expansion of erythrocytes, plasma volume, fetal, and placental growth. Based on research at Karang Asem primary health services in Samarinda 2015-2017, it was found that there was a significant relationship between the distribution of Fe tablets and anemia. Pregnant women who are not compliant with consuming Fe tablets are 1.3 times more likely to develop anemia than pregnant women who are compliant in consuming Fe tablets<sup>(21)</sup>.

This study showed that mother who consumes  $\geq 90$  iron tablets during pregnancy is 0.7 times low risk of experiencing P<sub>RoM</sub> than mothers who consume iron tablets < 90 tablets during pregnancy. Same with the retrospective cohort study conducted in Purworejo Regency stated that anemia in the second trimester has been shown to increase of P<sub>RoM</sub> occurrence. Mothers with anemia are at risk of P<sub>RoM</sub> 2.11 (RR = 2.11; 95% CI: 1.06 - 3.44) times higher than mothers without anemia after controlled by iron tablet consumption<sup>(22)</sup>. Another case-control study in Singaraja Bali found, mothers with anemia at risk of experiencing P<sub>RoM</sub> 3.59 (OR = 3.59; 95% CI = 1.82-7.09) times higher than mothers who were not anemic after controlled by parity variable<sup>(23)</sup>.

Anemia during pregnancy causes weakness of amnion membranes due to lack of tissue oxygenation caused by reduction of haemoglobin mass<sup>(6)</sup>. So that mother with anemia during pregnancy is risky to P<sub>RoM</sub> occurrences

### Relationship Between Smoking and P<sub>RoM</sub>

This study showed that smoking is not associated with P<sub>RoM</sub>. Same with a case-control study at General Hospital of Mekele Tigray City, December 2015 - June 2016 that Stated there was no significant relationship between smoking and P<sub>RoM</sub>(1). Contradiction with research was conducted in Southern Ethiopia, that smoking is a positive predictor of premature rupture of membranes, women with a history of smoking during pregnancy are at risk of experiencing P<sub>RoM</sub> of 17 times higher than non-smoking mothers (AOR; 17,053, 95% CI [2,145, 135,6])<sup>(24)</sup>. The differences might be due to the low prevalence of smoking respondents.

Based on the literature, smoking lead to decrease of collagen and protein in membranes by increasing cadmium levels and decreasing the ability of CU<sup>2+</sup> to synthesize collagen in mesenchymal cells of amnion<sup>(25)</sup>. Also, nicotine causes arteriolar constriction leading to uterine decidua ischemia<sup>(26)</sup> so affecting the integrity of the membrane that leads P<sub>RoM</sub>.

### Conclusion

Amount of iron tablets consumption is a dominant factor of P<sub>RoM</sub> occurrence after controlled by maternal age variables. Based on these results, the researcher recommends consumption of  $\geq 90$  iron tablets to all pregnant women during pregnancy to prevent the occurrence of P<sub>RoM</sub>, that can cause maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality. The results of this study are expected to encourage the effectiveness of distribution and compliance of the iron tablets consumption for pregnant women.

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# The Influence Factors of The Performance of Midwives on the Neonatal Health Services in Balangan District

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## Abstract

The performance of midwives in Balangan District in neonatal health services from 2016 to 2018 did not reach the Minimum Service Standard target for newborn services based on Ministry of Health Decree of the Republic of Indonesia No 43 in 2016. The low performance of midwives in neonatal health services in Balangan District has an important position on the performance of the Balangan District Health Office to reduce IMR. This research aim to analyze the factors that influence the performance of midwives in neonatal health services in Balangan District. The research using an observational analytic study with a cross sectional study design. Sample of 70 midwives took using a purposive sampling method. The results of this research showed that there was no influence between education ( $p=0.230$ ) and compensation ( $p=0.193$ ) on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services, while the length of service could not be analyzed. The most dominant factor influencing was training ( $p=0.000$ ) with Exp (B) of 23.33 with a confidence level of 95%.

**Keywords:** *education, compensation, training, tenure, performance*

## Introduction

Neonatal health service by midwife is one way to reduce infant mortality in the neonatal period. Neonatal visits that do not meet the standards or behavior of non-neonatal visits statistically have a large risk of neonatal death. Neonatal visits are conducted to reduce the risk of neonates who are vulnerable to health problems.

Based on maternal and child health reports of Balangan District Health Office, neonatal health services in 2016 amounted to 78.77% consisting of coverage of the first neonate visit at 6-48 hours after birth according to the standard of only 87.83%, complete neonatal visits according to the standard only amounted to 84.42% and

handling neonatal complications was only 64.05%. In 2017 neonatal health services only amounted to 69% consisting of coverage of first neonate visits according to the standard of only 84.45%, complete neonatal visits according to the standard was only 79.66% and handling neonatal complications was only 42.5%, whereas in 2018 neonatal health services by 75.57% consisting of coverage of first neonate visits according to the standard of only 83.2%, complete neonatal visits according to the standard of only 79.3% and handling of neonatal complications only by 64.2% .<sup>1</sup> The performance of midwives in neonatal health services from 2016 to 2018 did not reach the Minimum Service Standard (SPM) target for newborn services based on the Ministry of Health Decree of the Republic of Indonesia Number 43 of 2016. The low performance of midwives in neonatal health services in Balangan District has an important position on the performance of the Balangan District Health Office to reduce IMR. Neonatal health services have a statistically significant relationship with neonatal deaths in Indonesia. The low performance of midwives in neonatal health services is influenced by various

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factors.<sup>2</sup> Individual factors influence performance consisting of abilities and skills, cultural background and demographics. Demographic factors can influence performance.<sup>3</sup> Factors that affect employee performance are influenced by a number of factors including motivation, ability, knowledge, expertise, education, experience, training, interests, personality attitudes, physical conditions and physiological needs, social needs and egoistic needs.<sup>4</sup> Factors that influence performance are internal factors, namely individual characteristics such as years of service and attitudes towards tasks and external factors.<sup>5</sup>

**Materials and Method**

This research used observational analytic study, with the time approach of data collection using a cross-

sectional design. This study uses secondary data analysis from monthly and annual reports on maternal and child health for neonatal health services and nominative list data of civil servant for the Balangan District Health Office especially for midwives, midwife training data and compensation data. The population in this study were all midwives in the village and public health center who had civil servants (PNS) status and at least one year of service in their working area, totaling 92 people out of 116 midwives. The sample of this study was 70 people in which was obtained purposively based on the proportion of the total population who met the criteria for inclusion and then for each public health center. Analysis of the data used is descriptive and statistical analysis of the test chi-square and test logistic regression doubled the significance level of 95%.

**Findings and Discussion**

**Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Education, Compensation, Training, and Working Period of Midwives in The Neonatal Health Service on Balangan District**

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Education		
Diploma IV/ Bachelor of Midwifery	5	7.1
Diploma III Midwifery	65	92.9
Compensation		
High	9	12.9
Low	61	87.1
Training		
Complete	19	27.1
Incomplete	51	72.9
<b>Working Period</b>		
Long	35	50
Medium	13	18.6
Short	22	31.4
Midwife's Performance		
Good	13	18.6
Not good	57	81.4

**Table 2. Bivariate Analysis of The Influence of Education, Compensation, Training, and Working Period to The Midwives Performance in The Neonatal Health Service on Balangan District**

Variable	Midwife's Performance				Total		Chi-Square
	Good		Not good				
	n	%	n	%	N	%	p-value
Education							
Diploma IV/ Bachelor of Midwifery	2	40	3	60	5	100	0.230
Diploma III Midwifery	11	16.9	54	83.1	65	100	
Compensation							
High	0	0	9	100	9	100	0.193
Low	13	21.3	48	78.7	61	100	
Training							
Complete	10	52.6	9	47.4	19	100	0.000
Incomplete	3	5.9	48	94.1	51	100	
Working Period							
Long	7	20	28	80	35	100	-
Medium	4	30.8	9	69.2	13	100	
Short	2	9.1	20	90.9	22	100	

#### The influence of education on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services

Based on the results of the fisher's exact test obtained p-value of 0.230 ( $p > 0.05$ ) which means midwife education has no influence on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services. The level of education of midwives have an important role on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services. It should have the competence to midwife consisting of a set of knowledge, skills and attitudes acquired through higher education and continuing education. The higher level of midwife education can be interpreted to have more knowledge, skills, and high ability in neonatal health services. At least midwives who have diploma/bachelor education so that midwives who have good knowledge, skills and abilities about neonatal health services

according to the standard are also very little that have an impact on the low performance of midwives in neonatal health services. The level of employee performance will greatly depend on the ability of the employee itself such as the level of education, knowledge, experience where the higher the level of ability is likely to have higher performance as well.<sup>6</sup> The results of this study are in line with research Purwaningsih et al. (2015) which states that there is no significant relationship between education and the implementation of neonatal visits by midwives.<sup>7</sup>

#### The influence of compensation on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services

Based on the results of the fisher's exact test obtained p-value of 0.193 ( $p > 0.05$ ), which means midwife compensation has no influence on the performance of

midwives in neonatal health services. The compensation distribution to midwives in the form of additional allowances for a certain amount of money each month does not affect the performance of midwives in neonatal health services because the compensation provided is not proportional. Compensation provided is not based on the performance of midwives in providing neonatal health services but based on consideration of the workplace and rank of midwife. If compensation were given to midwives in accordance with the performance made by midwives to neonatal health services will improve the performance of midwives.<sup>8</sup> This study is in line with Rachmawati (2014) which states that the performance of village midwives in performing a neonatal visit is increasingly poor due to the poor perception of village midwives towards a compensation system and in line with Merita (2016) that midwives receive financial compensation that is not appropriate, will encourage dissatisfaction in him, so that in doing work will be less good.<sup>9,10</sup>

**The influence of training on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services**

Based on the results of the fisher’s exact test obtained p-value of 0.000 ( $p < 0.05$ ), which means that the complete training that midwives have participated in affects the performance of midwives in neonatal health services neonates with PR of 17.778, which means midwives who have completed training have a 18 times greater chance to perform well. Training is a systematic and planned effort so that employees get additional capabilities so that the quality of work gets better.<sup>11</sup> Training is a process that teaches certain knowledge and expertise, and attitudes so that employees become more skilled and able carry out their responsibilities better, in accordance with the standards.<sup>12</sup>

To improve the performance of midwives in neonatal health services, midwives should take a comprehensive series of technical training related to neonatal health services such as midwifery competency training, APN, asphyxia management and LBW management and MTBS. The full technical training followed by a midwife obstetrics can improve the competence to midwife. Factors that influence employee performance is influenced by training.<sup>4</sup> This study is in line with research Suryaningtyas et al (2014) which states there was an influence between training and midwife performance in neonatal visits and supported by Purwaningsih et al (2015) research that training related to handling infants

to midwives through asphyxia management training, LBW management, MTBS/MTBM can affect neonatal services in accordance with the service standards that should be provided to neonates.<sup>7,8</sup> There were differences in performance between midwives who have been trained and midwives who have not been trained on MTBM in terms of quality aspects of midwife performance in the management of neonatal visits.<sup>13</sup>

**The influence of working period on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services**

The chi square statistical test results with a 95% confidence level in the cross table 3 x 2, showed that all expected counts were 2 cells (33.3%) less than 5. So the p-value could not be analyzed so the working period can not be concluded whether or not influence to the performance of midwives in neonatal health services.

**Multivariate Analysis**

**Table 3. Final Models of Multivariate Logistic Regression**

Independent Variable	p-value	PR
Training	0.000	23.33
Compensation	0.999	0.000

The results of multivariate analysis showed that the independent variables included in the model were training and compensation and the variable with the strongest influence was the training variable. Variable training is the most dominant variables that affect the performance of midwives in neonatal health services with exponential beta (Exp. B) 23.33. This revealed that training was the most influential variable after gaining control of the education, compensation and training variables. Training is a process that teaches certain knowledge and expertise, and attitudes so that employees are more skilled and able to carry out their responsibilities better, in accordance with standards.<sup>12</sup>

To improve the quality of midwives in accordance with service, non-formal education is developed through training programs, internships, seminars or workshops held in collaboration with professional organizations, the ministry of health, health service facilities, international institutions and others.<sup>14</sup>

The main objectives of the training are to improve performance and upgrade expertise so that it is in line with technological progress. Training is specific, practical and immediate. Specific means that training is related to the field of work being carried out. Practical and immediate means those that have been trained can be put into practice.<sup>15</sup> Training that has been followed by someone who is related to their field of work will be able to affect skills and mentality and will increase their confidence in their abilities, this will positively affect the performance of midwives.<sup>13</sup>

### Conclusion

Education has no influence on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services. Compensation has no influence on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services. Training has an influence on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services. The tenure cannot be concluded whether there is no influence or not. The most influential factor on the performance of midwives in neonatal health services in Balangan District is the training.

### Ethical Clearance

Before conducting the data retrieval, the researchers conducted a decent test of ethics conducted at the Faculty of Medicine, Lambung Mangkurat University to determine that this study has met the feasibility. Information on an ethical test that the study is eligible to continue. The feasibility of the research was conducted to protect the human rights and security of research subjects.

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**Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict interests.

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