



## **The Relationship Between The Level Of Knowledge Of Posyandu Cadres And Early Detection Skill Growth In Toddlers In Mojosari Village And Bleber Village**

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### **Abstract**

The growth of toddlers is something that needs attention because stunted growth can interfere with physical growth, intelligence, and brain development. Therefore, the knowledge and skills of posyandu cadres in the early detection of toddler growth are very much needed. The aim of this research was to determine the relationship between the level of knowledge of posyandu cadres and early detection skills of toddler growth in Mojosari Village and Bleber Village. The research design used Correlational Analytics with a Cross-Sectional approach. The population of this study was 30 posyandu cadres, the sample was 30 posyandu cadres using a total sampling technique. The research instrument uses an observation sheet. Data were analyzed using the Spearman Rho Test. The research results showed that the level of knowledge of Posyandu cadres was mostly good knowledge, with as many as 19 respondents (63.3%). Meanwhile, the majority of early growth detection skills in toddlers were good, with as many as 21 respondents (70.0%). The results of the analysis show that there is a relationship between the level of knowledge of posyandu cadres and early growth detection skills in toddlers in Mojosari Village and Bleber Village ( $p\text{-value} = 0.00; \alpha < 0.05$ ). Early detection in children is very necessary to find that the child's growth is disturbed or experiencing illness. Increasing the knowledge of posyandu cadres can help health workers detect early the growth process of children during posyandu activities.

**Keywords:** *Level Of Knowledge, Skills, Early Detection, Growth, Posyandu Cadres.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

The growth of toddlers is something that needs attention because stunted growth can interfere with physical growth, intelligence, and brain development (Kakietek, 2018). However, the condition of children under five in Indonesia in general and in several regions, cases of malnutrition and poor nutrition still show worrying numbers. Malnutrition during infancy and childhood, apart from increasing the risk of infectious disease and death, can also result in impaired growth and development (Hamariyana, Syamsianah, & Winaryati, 2013).

Based on 2018 WHO data, it shows that growth problems are not only poor nutrition but also stunting and overnutrition. The prevalence of malnourished toddlers is 7.3%, overweight is 5.9%, and stunted (short) toddlers as much as 21.9% (WHO, 2019). Based on the results of Riskesdas (2018), it can be seen that of the 82,661 toddlers whose weight was weighed nationally, there was a prevalence of underweight of 19.6%, consisting of 5.7% malnutrition and 13.9% malnutrition. This data is still far from the 2018 SDGs

expectations for the prevalence of malnutrition, namely 17%. In Indonesia, it is recorded that there are 18 provinces that have a prevalence of malnutrition above 21.2%-33.1%. The prevalence of nutritional problems in East Java Province in 2016 was 19.1%, only a difference of 0.5% compared to the national prevalence rate of malnutrition (East Java Health Office, 2016). Nutrition problems in the city of Kediri in 2016 revealed that the number of toddlers with underweight status was 522 toddlers or around 3.7% of toddlers experienced malnutrition. The number of underweight toddlers in the city of Kediri exceeds the normal threshold, namely less than 1% in a region (Kediri City Health Office, 2016).

During interviews and preliminary study observations, it was found that posyandu cadres had sufficient knowledge and the results of observations at 6 posyandu, one of the posyandu, contained procedural errors, especially in measuring the height of toddlers. The toddler's shoes/sandals are not removed, and the toddler simply stands under the microtoise without paying attention to the position of the feet, whether the heel is against the wall or not. Measuring body length does not pay attention to whether it is correct from head to toe, sometimes it does not press the baby's knees so that they are straight. Using dacin to measure a toddler's weight is a mistake, especially during preparation. The position of the dacin pendulum when it is balanced is not exactly at the 'zero' position. Cadres sometimes forget not to take off their toddler's sandals/footwear when they are weighed. Head circumference measurements are not circled correctly around the head circumference. This shows that there are still many cadres who are not skilled in carrying out early detection of growth in toddlers.

Growth disorders are a problem that is often found in society, so it is very important that all components involved in children's growth and development, namely parents, teachers, and the community, can work together in carrying out early monitoring (Atien, 2018). Apart from that, malnutrition also causes short or thin growth disorders and increases the risk of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes mellitus, hypertension, coronary heart disease, and stroke (Ministry of National Planning and Development, 2018). Posyandu cadres are technically tasked with registering toddlers, measuring the weight and height of toddlers, and recording them periodically on a health card (Supriasa, 2019). A cadre's insufficient level of knowledge can lead to incorrect interpretations of nutritional status and can also result in errors in making decisions and handling these problems (Handarsari, Syamsianah, & Astuti, 2019).

Treatment that can be done for early detection of growth is to increase the level of knowledge of posyandu cadres. Because one of the government's efforts is to provide guidance to posyandu cadres, posyandu cadre development activities include fostering posyandu toddlers, administrative coaching, routine examinations of toddlers, and counseling. Health cadres need guidance or training in order to deal with their duties and the problems they face (Supriasa, 2019). Cadres are expected to play an active role in promotive and preventive activities. One of the most basic problems in posyandu is the low level of knowledge of cadres both from an academic and technical perspective, therefore, to be able to provide optimal services, it is necessary to adjust the knowledge and skills of cadres (Center for Health Promotion, 2015). Based on the description above, the author is interested in conducting research on the relationship between the level of knowledge of posyandu cadres and early growth detection skills in toddlers.

## **METHODS**

The research design used Correlational Analytics with a Cross-Sectional approach. The population of this study was 30 posyandu cadres, the sample was 30 posyandu cadres using a total sampling technique. The research instrument uses an observation sheet. Data were analyzed using the Spearman Rho Test.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

**Table 1 Respondent's Characteristics**

Variable		n	%
Age (years old)	20-30	3	10.0
	31-40	13	43.3
	41-50	14	46.7
Educational Level	Illiterate	2	6.7
	Eelmentary School	6	20.0
	Junior High School	21	70.0
	Senior Hgh School	1	3.3
	Collage	0	0
Length of Cadre	10-20	9	30.0
Tenure (years)	21-30	17	56.7
	31-40	4	13.3

The results of the analysis based on Table 1 showed the age of most of the cadres was 41-50 years as many as 14 respondents (46.7%), the education level of the cadres was junior high school as many as 21 respondents (70.0%), the length of service for most of the cadres was 21-30 years as many as 17 respondents (56.7%) .

**Table 2 Cadre Knowledge and Early Detection Skills**

Variable		n	%
Cadres Knowledge	Less	0	0.0
	Enough	11	36.7
	Good	19	63.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Early Detection Skill	Poorly	9	30.0
	Good	21	70.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The results of the analysis based on table 2 showed that most of the cadres' knowledge was good knowledge as many as 19 respondents (63.3%), while most of the cadres' early detection skills were good as many as 21 respondents (70.0%).

**Table 3 The Correlation Between Cadre Knowledge with Early Detection Skills**

Cadres Knowledge	Early Detection Skill				p-value
	Poorly		Good		
	n	%	n	%	
Less	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.000
Enough	8	26.7	3	10.0	
Good	1	3.3	18	60.0	
Total	9	30.0	21	70.0	

The results of the analysis based on Table 3 showed that there was a significant relationship between the level of cadre knowledge and cadre skills in early detection in Posyandu toddlers ( $p$ -value = 0.000;  $\alpha < 0.05$ ). The results of further analysis showed a correlation coefficient value of 0.709, meaning the relationship was strong and had a positive direction. The higher the level of cadre knowledge, the greater the early detection skills. Conversely, the lower the level of knowledge, the lower the early detection skills.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Level of Knowledge of Posyandu Cadres**

The results of the research showed that the frequency distribution of cadres' knowledge levels was mostly quite good knowledge, with 19 respondents (63.3%) out of a total of 30 respondents. Knowledge is a result of curiosity through sensory processes, especially the eyes and ears regarding certain objects. Knowledge is an important domain in the formation of open behavior (Donsu, 2017). There are 2 factors that can influence the formation of knowledge, namely internal factors and external factors according to (A. Wawan and Dewi M, 2016), internal factors include education, age and employment, while external factors include environment, culture, experience and socio-economics. Researchers are of the opinion that a posyandu cadre is said to have high knowledge if it is supported by the large number of sources of information obtained. If more information is obtained, the level of knowledge will be higher. Meanwhile, a posyandu cadre who has quite good knowledge is due to the cadre's lack of interest in attending seminars and nutrition monitoring training. In this case, posyandu cadres must be more active in participating in various activities such as seminars because the higher the level of knowledge, the better the knowledge of posyandu cadres in early detection of growth.

### **Skills of Posyandu Cadres in Early Detection of Growth in Toddlers**

The result showed that the frequency distribution of early growth detection skills in toddlers in Mojosari and Bleber villages is mostly good skills with 21 respondents (70.0%) out of a total of 30 respondents. According to Bambang Wahyudi (2016) skills are abilities or expertise to do a job that are only obtained in practice. The level of cadre skills can be influenced by their knowledge, so continuous training and coaching is needed so that cadre skills become better and posyandu performance also increases. This is in accordance with what Munfarida (2015) stated, the factors that can influence the skills of these cadres are parity, education, employment, length of time as a cadre, assignments at the posyandu, activeness, training and coaching.

Researchers are of the opinion that the skills possessed by posyandu cadres in early detection of growth can be carried out through training followed by field monitoring and observation of posyandu cadre skills. Cadre skills in early detection of growth can be improved by implementing health education activities and training on the role of posyandu cadres regarding anthropometric examination, body weight and nutritional status of toddlers. Considering the important role of posyandu cadres in preventing and overcoming growth retardation in society, it is necessary to hold counseling, training and seminars to improve the skills of posyandu cadres.

### **Relationship between Posyandu Cadres' Knowledge Level and Early Growth Detection Skills in Toddlers**

The result showed that there was a significant relationship between the level of cadre knowledge and cadre skills in early detection in Posyandu toddlers ( $p$ -value = 0.000;  $\alpha < 0.05$ ). Several factors that influence cadre knowledge and skills are the frequency of participating in cadre training. Cadre training is an effort to

increase the knowledge, attitudes and skills of cadres in order to improve the quality and performance of cadres. Research shows that there is a relationship between cadres' knowledge and early growth detection skills in toddlers, where the higher the level of knowledge, the more skilled the cadres will be and vice versa. There was also confirmed in research by Sutiani, Lubis and Siagian (2013) that knowledge is the variable that has the most influence on cadres' skills in carrying out posyandu activities.

Hamariyana (2013), explains that the level of knowledge and skills of cadres will be better if basic education or higher education receives five basic modules in courses, is active in providing coaching and has a high frequency of participating in coaching. The high value of a cadre's knowledge and skills is influenced by formal education, the cadre's activeness at the posyandu and the length of time they have been a cadre. Researchers believe that posyandu cadres who are highly educated influence the level of performance of a cadre. Cadres who have good knowledge will be more empowered to implement health programs in the community, especially in detecting early growth. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out posyandu cadre development activities including posyandu development for toddlers, administrative guidance, routine examinations for toddlers and counseling. With a good level of knowledge and skills in early growth detection, growth problems in toddlers will soon be resolved.

## **CONCLUSION**

Early detection in children is very necessary to find that the child's growth is disturbed or experiencing illness. Increasing the knowledge of posyandu cadres can help health workers detect early the growth process of children during posyandu activities.

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