

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE, AND PRENATAL VISITS IN PREGNANT WOMEN

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Abstract

According to the data of the Garut Health Office, the coverage of antenatal care visits has not yet reached the target in Garut district, especially in the Sukawening Public Health Center. Factors influencing the prenatal visits include knowledge and attitudes. The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and prenatal visits of pregnant women who have regular visits at Sukawening Public Health Center in Garut Regency. The research method used in this study was descriptive correlational using a cross-sectional approach. The samples were selected using the total sampling technique, 55 pregnant women involved in this study. The data were analyzed using the Chi-Square statistical test and correlation test. The results of the study showed that the knowledge of pregnant women was good (63.64%), they had a favorable attitude (60%), and the majority of them did antenatal care visits (74.55%). Statistical tests showed that there is a relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and prenatal visit with P-Value 0.017. as the antenatal visits in this study is still under the target, so there is a need to improve the pregnant women's knowledge related to the importance of prenatal visit for the baby and mother during pregnancy.

Keywords: Antenatal visits, attitude, knowledge, pregnancy.

INTRODUCTION

According to data from the West Java Provincial Health Office in 2012, the number of pregnant women who did the first prenatal visit was 1,044,334 women, the second visit was 1,045,388 women, and women who attended the fourth visit were 944,560 women (Dinkes Provinsi Jabar, 2012). factors that influence prenatal visits are divided into two factors including predisposing factors, enabling factors, and reinforcing factors. the predisposing factors include knowledge and attitudes while enabling factors related to women's home location, health cost, and health facilities. In addition, the reinforcing factors include the behavior of officers, attitudes of service officers, and attitudes of community leaders (Notoatmodjo, 2005).

According to Notoatmodjo (2005) that health behavior with good knowledge will become long-lasting behavior and also awareness. Attitude is also a big factor affecting the behavior of antenatal care. According to Newcomb (quoted by Notoatmodjo, 2005) stated that attitude is a readiness or willingness to take action, and attitudes are divided into favorable and unfavorable attitudes. The favorable attitude formed in pregnant women would influence women's behavior including prenatal visits.

Saifudin (in Putriani & Asnindari, 2016) states that antenatal visit of pregnant women to midwives or doctors as early as possible from the beginning of pregnancy is important.

The visit aims to prevent obstetric complications and ensuring that complications are detected as early as possible and adequately handled. According to Notoatmodjo (2010), the frequency of prenatal visits would be influenced by several factors, namely predisposing factors, enabling factors, reinforcing factors.

The number of prenatal visits at the Garut District Health Office (2016) showed that the number of pregnant women visits in health services decreased slightly from 62,514 women (the first visit) and 62,818 women (the second visit) to 58,594 women for the fourth visit. According to those data, the PHC of Sukawening was the lowest coverage of prenatal visits target (91.6%) compare to other PHCs in Garut districts such as 94.8% at the Sukamukti Health Center and Maripari Health Center (96.5%). This research was conducted to determine the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and prenatal at the Sukawening Health Center in the Garut Regency, West Java.

METHODS

The study design applied the descriptive correlational with the cross-sectional approach, the data were analyzed by univariate and bivariate analyses. This study's objective was to determine the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and the prenatal visits of pregnant women at the Sukawening Health Center, Garut Regency. The population in this study was the Trimester III pregnant women (gestational age > 36 weeks). The samples were 55 pregnant women who selected using the total sampling technique. The instrument in this study was a questionnaire that had tested the validity (0.648) and the reliability test (0.632). The questionnaire consisted of 15 items of knowledge questions about antenatal care and attitude questions (15 items) and the recapitulation sheet of the antenatal care visits.

The data were analyzed using univariate and bivariate analysis. The results of the univariate analysis divided the level of knowledge into three criteria including a good level of knowledge with a total score of 76-100%, a moderate level of knowledge (56-75%), and a low level of knowledge with the correct answer less than 55%. The attitude is distinguished into two categories which are favorable and not favorable. The variable of prenatal visits was coded into three categories including code 0 for pregnant women who did not visit for prenatal visits, code 1 for the prenatal visit less than 4 times, code 2 for the prenatal visit 4 times, or more visits. A bivariate analysis was carried out to determine whether there is a relationship between the knowledge, attitude of pregnant, and the prenatal visit. The analysis

result was presented in the tabular form. This study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the University of Padjadjaran Ethics Research with Number 722 / UN6, Kep / EC / 201

RESULTS

The result of a univariate analysis to assess the level of knowledge, the attitude, and the number of the prenatal visit is presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Distribution of frequency of pregnant women’s Knowledge, Attitudes, and Prenatal Visits (n = 55)

variables	f	%
Knowledge		
Good	35	63.64
Moderate	10	18.18
Low	10	18.18
Attitudes		
Favorable	33	60
Un favorabel	22	40
Prenatal visits		
4 times and more	41	74.55
Less than 4 times	14	25.45

Table 1 presents that the majority of women were in a good category (n=35, 63.64%), they had a favorable attitude 33 (60.00%) and visited the health services for prenatal visits for more than 4 times 41 women (74.55%).

Table 2 Relationship between Pregnant Women’s Knowledge and Prenatal Visits

Knowledge	Visits				X	df	P-value	SC
	< 4		>4					
	F%	f%	f%	f%				
Low	6	60	4	40	10	100		
Moderate	1	10	9	90	10	100	8097	2
Good	7	20	28	80	35	100		
Total	14	25	41	75	55	100		

Table 2 describes the results of the analysis of the relationship between knowledge and prenatal visits. The analysis found that there is a significant relationship between knowledge and prenatal visits with P-value 0.017 (<0.05).

Table 3 The Relationship between Attitudes and Prenatal Visits

Attitude	Visit						X	df	P-value	SC
	Not good		Good		Total					
	F	%	f	%	f	%				
Unfavorable	9	41	13	59	22	100				
Favorable	5	15	28	85	33	100	4,615	1	0.032	0.032
Total	14	25	41	75	55	100				

Table 3 describes the results of the analysis of the relationship between attitudes and prenatal visits. The analysis found that there is a significant relationship between attitude and prenatal visits with P-value 0.032 (<0.05).

DISCUSSION

Knowledge

According to research results at the Sukawening Health Center showed that the majority of pregnant women had a good level of knowledge related to pregnancy and prenatal visits. Notoatmodjo (2003) states that knowledge is the result of understanding a certain object and have a sense of it. Sensing occurs through the five human senses, including the sense of sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch. Most of the human understanding of an object is obtained through the eyes and ears. Knowledge of cognitive is a very important domain in formatting one's actions. Respondents who have a good level of knowledge tend to have regular pregnancy check-ups because they know that by examining the pregnancy they will know the condition of the pregnancy, especially the fetus condition. This finding in line with research conducted by Aritha at Dina Bromo Clinic Ujung XX Meda, they stated that the better the mother's knowledge about the signs and dangers of pregnancy the more obedient she did the antenatal visits. Damayanti's research (in Kusumo & Yulian, 2016) also said that the better knowledge of pregnant women about ANC, the better the level of compliance in prenatal visits.

Attitude

The findings found that the majority of pregnant women at Sukawening Health Center had a favorable attitude to prenatal visits. Attitudes towards an object is a feeling of support or siding (*favorable*) as well as a feeling oppose (*unfavorable*) on the object (Berkowitz, 1972 Azwar, 2007). Factors that influence attitudes in prenatal visits include occupation and parity. Improving women's awareness in having prenatal visits, there is a need for several stimulations including providing support to motivate them, access to health facilities, and support from health professionals. In the Sukawening Health Center, the support and facilities are provided for pregnant women, as a result, they had a favorable attitude to prenatal visits, even though still under the target.

The formation of attitudes is influenced by personality, experience, culture, and close people for example partner, spouse, relatives, or family. Other factors are information from media, and formal institutions that related to women for example education or religion, these factors state by o are considered important, the mass media, educational institutions or institutions, and religious institutions, as well as emotional factors in individuals (Rahman, 2017). The favorable attitude is important to influence pregnant women's behavior in participating prenatal visit and it would be positive to monitor the condition of the mother and fetus. Pregnant women's attitudes related to the importance of prenatal visits as soon as possible after they knew their pregnancy is significant to their health, especially during pregnancy (Prawiroharjo, 2010).

Prenatal Visits

This study found that the frequency of the prenatal visits of pregnant women at the Sukawening Garut Health Center was in a good category. However, it still under the national target. The prenatal visit is the pregnancy check to health professionals to optimize the mental and physical health of pregnant women, so mother and baby are welfare, the mother has a good preparation related to giving birth, breastfeeding, and the postpartum period (Manuaba, 2009). According to Saifuddin, (2006), pregnant women should have antenatal visits at least four times during pregnancy for monitoring and supervision of maternal and fetal welfare and child, as the following schedules: the first trimester (<14 weeks) minimally one visit, the second-trimester pregnancy (14-28 Weeks) one visit, and the third trimester (28-36 weeks and after 36 weeks) two visits. Another advice related to prenatal visits are as following schedules: Up to 28 weeks of pregnancy, women should check their pregnancy

every four weeks, 28-36 weeks of pregnancy requires once a fortnight examination, and 36-40 weeks need weekly prenatal visits. Their prenatal visits are influenced by several factors namely predisposing factors, enabling factors, and reinforcing factors (Notoatmodjo, 2010).

The relationship between knowledge and prenatal visits.

The results of the study showed that there is a significant relationship between knowledge and Pregnancy Checking with a P-value of 0.017 (<0.05). According to Notoatmodjo, (2010), the formation of new behavior, especially in adults starts from the cognitive aspect, the subject knows in advance of the theory, and then stimulate their responses. This study findings in line with Yanti's research that written in Sudarti, (2014), she also found a significant relationship between knowledge and attitudes of pregnant women towards compliance with ANC in the Flamboyan region of Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan. It is proven that knowledge is important for one's health behavior.

The relationship between attitudes and prenatal visits

The results of the study showed that there is a relationship between attitude and Prenatal visits with P-value 0.032 (<0.05), this value can be accepted or rejected. According to SOR theory states that the personal attitude depends on the personal stimulation, and the responses or not to the stimulus. When women responded to mean the stimulus is effective, they will be processed so that, they will understand the stimulus and having a willingness to change attitudes, and responsible for everything related to their choices (Azwar, 2007).

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

From this study it can be concluded that the percentages of prenatal visits at the Sukawening Health Center in Garut Regency are a good category, hence it still under the province or the national target. This study also finds the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and prenatal visits. It is strengthened the previous study that found similar findings. Counseling and promotion about the importance of prenatal visits for mother and baby's welfare are needed from health workers so that all pregnant women would improve their knowledge and have a favorable attitude related to prenatal visits.

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