

Maternal Factor and Children's Nutrition Status in Senuro Village, South Sumatera Province, Indonesia

*Suci Destriatania *, Rini Mutahar, Fatmalina Febry & Indah Purnama Sari*

Public Health Faculty, University of Sriwijaya, South Sumatera, 30662 Indonesia

**For reprint and all correspondence: Suci Destriatania S.K.M., M.K.M, Public Health Faculty, University of Sriwijaya, South Sumatera, 30662 Indonesia*

ABSTRACT

Introduction	Nutritional status is influenced by various underlying factors including maternal factor. The aim of this study is to analyze the relationship between maternal factors such as: breastfeeding and weaning practices of mother, mother's education, occupation and knowledge, with children's nutritional status.
Methods	This study is a cross-sectional descriptive survey using a structured questionnaire. The sample comprised 69 mothers with 69 infants aged 7-60 months in Senuro village, Ogan Ilir District, South Sumatera Province. Infants are classified as underweight if weight-for-age Z score (WAZ) are respectively below minus 2 standard deviation (-2SD) from World Health Organization (WHO) reference data.
Results	59.4% of mothers gave colostrums and 47.8% practiced exclusive breastfeeding; 52.2% of infants were introduced solid foods before 6 months of age. The weaning food given by most mothers was milk formula. The majority (88.4%) of mothers had basic level of education and 65.2% were farmers. 92.8% of mothers had low level of knowledge about infant feeding. The Z-score classification showed that 20.3% of the infants were underweight and 79,7% were in a normal weight. The nutritional status of the infants was therefore not significantly influenced by breastfeeding and weaning practices of the mothers but significantly associated with mother's education (PV=0.048).
Conclusions	Educating mothers to improve their parenting skills will have a large impact on children's nutritional status and health, and benefit for the next generation.
Keywords	Mother - education - infant nutritional status