



## The Relationship Between The Role of Cadres and The Behavior of Mothers in Stunting Prevention at Posyandu Toddler Mancar Village Jombang Regency

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### Abstract

Stunting is short or very short of its age caused by inadequate chronic nutritional intake. The low role of cadres is one of the causes that affects maternal behavior in the prevention that will be carried out. This study aimed to determine the relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention in the posyandu toddler. This research design used a cross sectional approach. The population was toddlers Posyandu in Mancar village, jombang regency with a sample size of 68 respondents and using a total sampling technique. Data collection tools in the form of questionnaires on the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention, as well as tests data analysis using the spearman rank test significant rate 0.05. The results of the study showed that 51 respondents (75.0%) and mothers under five had less behavior in stunting prevention as many as 59 respondents (86.8%). The results of the Spearman Rank statistical test obtained a significant value of  $p < \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), which is  $0.000 < 0.05$ , meaning that H1 is accepted, so there is a relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Toddler Posyandu in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency. The role of a good cadre can create the behavior of mothers under five in good prevention. The role of health workers or posyandu cadres is very important in realizing good stunting prevention knowledge and behavior so that stunting events can be reduced.

### Keywords :

Maternal Behavior, The Role of Cadres, Stunting Prevention.

## INTRODUCTION

At this time, many toddlers experience malnutrition as a result of chronic lack of nutritional intake, especially during the growth and development period in early life, where the child's body becomes shorter caused by growth disorders called stunting (K. Rahmadhita, 2020). The low knowledge that a person has is something that causes stunting. Low knowledge causes mothers to provide inappropriate nutrition to their children (Swarjana & Kartika, 2022).

Based on data from the World Health Organization, (2023) the stunting rate in the world for children under five in 2022 is 22.3% (148.1 million) (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023). According to stunting data according to SSGI (2021), the number of children under five with stunting incidence was 5.253.404 (24.4%), in 2022 it was 4.558.899 (21.6%), which means that from 2021 to 2022 there was a decrease of 2.8% (Ministry of Health, 2023).

Based on SSGI (2022), the incidence of stunting in East Java Province is at 19.2% of 2.115.873 children under five, which is 406.247 (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2023). Data on stunting toddlers in Jombang Regency is 162 toddlers with stunting incidences. Furthermore, from e-PPGBM data as of August 2023, there are 225 toddlers in Mancar Village with stunting incidents of 10 toddlers. In Mancar Village, there are 75 babies and 5 toddlers with stunting incidences.

The role of health workers is very important in exposure to disease prevention programs to the community, which is useful for changing community behavior in order to prevent various diseases in the research area. With the Community Empowerment Program, this effort is expected to reduce the prevalence of disease occurrences in the surrounding community (Hapsari, 2018).

The role of cadres is very important in overcoming stunting, because cadres are the closest health workers and regulate the diet of children and families in the community. Cadres must know about balanced nutrition so that toddlers in the community do not experience stunting (I. Kuswanti, 2022). If the role of cadres in the good category can definitely affect the behavior of mothers in providing

nutritional needs to toddlers so that they are met (Harikatang et al., 2020). The lack of cadre role regarding stunting will put toddlers at risk of stunting. Based on the above background, the researcher wants to research "The relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Toddler Posyandu in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency".

## RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a correlational analysis design with a cross sectional approach entitled "The relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Toddler Posyandu in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency. The research was conducted at the Mancar Village Toddler Posyandu on May 21-27, 2024. Before conducting the research, the researcher submitted a research application to the KEPK (Health Research Ethics Committee) of Stikes Husada Jombang to get approval.

The population and sample in this study are the same, a total of 68 respondents of mothers under five in Mancar Village Toddler Posyandu using the Non Probability Sampling technique, with the type of sampling used is Total Sampling.. The sample in this study is all mothers of toddlers at the toddler posyandu in Mancar village, which is as many as 68 mothers under five.

The data collection tools in this study are in the form of a cadre role questionnaire and a questionnaire on maternal behavior in stunting prevention. The cadre role questionnaire consists of 20 questions with a choice of correct and false answers. So, the stunting prevention behavior questionnaire consists of 15 questions in the form of statements with the choice of answers always, often, rarely, never. The researcher conducted a validity test with a significance value of  $< 0.05$ , then the questionnaire of this study was declared valid.

Data analysis includes univariate and bivariate analysis. In this study, individual characteristic variables (respondent age, education, occupation, number of children, gender of children, children's age), the role of cadres, and maternal behavior in stunting prevention are in the form of categorical data, all variables are presented in the form of distribution tables and percentages.

Data processing and data analysis techniques use univariate analysis in order to produce the frequency and percentage distribution of each variable and to analyze the relationship between the two variables (independent and dependent) with bivariate analysis. The spearman rank statistical test was conducted with the aim of finding out the relationship between the two variables, with a significance level of 0.05 using SPSS 16 on the windows operating system.

## RESULT

Table 1. Distribution of Respondent Characteristics, May 2024 (N=68)

Respondent Characteristics	Frequency(n)	Percentage (%)
<b>Age</b>		
18-23 years old	3	4.4%
24-29 years old	21	30.9%
30-35 years old	21	30.9%
36-41 years old	17	25.0%
42-47 years old	6	8.8%
<b>Education</b>		
primary school	5	7.4%
Junior High School	16	23.5%
High School	41	60.3%
university	6	8.8%
<b>Work</b>		
Housewives	55	80.9%
Private	4	5.9%
Self Employed	6	8.8%
farmer	0	0%
Civil servants	3	4.4%
Laborer	0	0%

**Number of Inner Children**

1	26	38.2%
2	32	47.7%
3	8	11.8%
4	2	2.9%

**Child Gender**

Male	33	48.5%
Woman	35	51.5%

**Child to-**

1	31	45.6%
2	28	41.2%
3	7	10.3%
4	2	2.9%

**Child Age**

12-22 months	20	29.4%
23-33 months	8	11.8%
34-44 months	10	14.7%
45-59 months	30	44.1%

Table 1. showed that almost half of the respondents aged 24-29 years and 30-35 years each had 21 respondents (30.9%), most of the respondents who took high school education amounted to 41 respondents (60.3%), almost all of the respondents became IRT (Housewives) as many as 55 respondents (80.9%), almost half of the respondents had 2 children in the family, a total of 32 respondents (47.7%), most of the respondents' children were female, amounting to 35 respondents (51.5%), almost half of the respondents who had the order of the 1st child were 31 respondents (45.6%), and almost half of the respondents had children aged 45-59 months, a total of 30 respondents (44.1%).

Table 2. The relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Toddler Posyandu in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency, on May 2024 (N=68)

The Role of Cadres	Maternal Behavior in Stunting Prevention								Cor. Coefficient	P-value		
	Good		Enough		Less		Total					
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%				
Good	3	4.4	1	1.5	1	1.5	5	7.4	0.435	0.000		
Enough	0	0	2	2.9	10	14.7	12	17.6				
Less	1	1.5	2	2.9	48	70.6	51	75.0				
Total	4	5.9	5	7.4	59	86.8	68	100				

Table 2. showed that most of the respondents had a less role in stunting prevention, as many as 51 respondents (75.0%), and most of the respondents had less behavior in stunting prevention, as many as 59 respondents (86.8%), and the results of data processing using the Spearman Rank statistical test obtained a significant value result, namely  $p < \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), namely  $0.000 < 0.05$ , meaning that H1 is accepted, so the conclusion is that there is a significant relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Posyandu Toddler Village, Mancar Village, Jombang Regency.

Based on the results of the SPSS 16 output calculation above, it can be known that the correlation coefficient between the variables of the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention is 0.435. The value of the correlation coefficient is in the range between 0.400-0.599, meaning that the relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention is quite high.

## DISCUSSION

### Overview of the Role of Cadres at the Toddler Posyandu in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency on May 2024

From the results of the study, it was stated that the role of the majority of cadres had a less of role as many as 51 respondents and 5 respondents played a good role. Factors that affect the role of cadres are age, education, and work.

This statement is in line with Notoatmodjo's theory (2017) which says that the result of human sensing is the definition of knowledge. Some of the things that affect knowledge and roles are work, age, education, environment, information media, and socio-culture.

Age factors can affect a person's role. Where in the results of the study, the majority of respondents were 24-35 years old. This age is still in the young age category. A small number of respondents aged 18-23 years old were 3 respondents.

In line with Wahyuni's research (2022), age is a person's condition in thinking and working on the level of maturity and strength. According to Nurmala's theory (2018) (in Shokouhi & Baghban, 2022), age is the length of a person's life which is calculated in years from birth and age affects knowledge. The older a person gets, the more knowledge and role a person has. So that a person can be more capable in making decisions, wiser, and able to think more critically, as well as be able to control feelings and accept openly the opinions of others.

According to Insan and Setyorini (2019) (in Salamung, 2022), age has an indicator that as people get older, their knowledge and roles also increase. However, the ability to understand and think possessed by a person will decrease because it is influenced by a person's memory which is also decreasing.

The role of cadres is also less influenced by education. In the results of the study, most of the respondents had a high school education of 41 respondents and a small part of the respondents who had an elementary education of 5 respondents.

In line with the research I. Kuswanti & Salsabila (2022) shows that the role is very related to education, where individuals who have taken higher education will have a lot of insights. The lack of education cannot be a guarantee for a person to have enough knowledge about stunting and its prevention. Strengthened in Notoatmodjo's theory (2017) states that the high role that a person has can be influenced by higher education. The higher a person's education can increase the individual's ability to absorb more complex knowledge (Notoatmodjo, 2017).

The next factor that affects the role of cadres who are not good is the employment factor. Most of the respondents were housewives with 55 respondents and 3 respondents as civil servants.

Along with the research of Arnita et al. (2022), it was explained that respondents had less knowledge about stunting, the majority as housewives. Strengthened by Notoatmodjo's theory (2017) states that the next factor that can trigger lack of knowledge is a person's job. Work is a place where knowledge and experience can be obtained both with intermediaries and not with intermediaries by each individual.

The correlation coefficient number in the above result has a positive value of 0.435 which is included in the interpretation category is quite high, so that the close relationship between the two variables is unidirectional. The better a person's role, the better the behavior to prevent stunting (Wiratama & Sumartini, 2023).

### Overview of Mother's Behavior in Stunting Prevention at the Toddler Posyandu, Mancar Village, Jombang Regency on May 2024

Based on the results of the study, almost all respondents behaved less, a total of 59 respondents and 4 respondents behaved well.

In the theory of Cholifah et al., (2020) defines preventive behavior as an action taken by a person who has a belief that he or she is healthy, which aims to prevent or detect a disease before the symptoms of the disease appear or take action first before the event. In Triwibowo's theory (2015) (in

I. Kuswanti, 2022), there are several things that have an impact on a person's behavior, one of the factors is the environment. The environment can affect the habits that a person is used to doing in caring for them, and provide support to come to the posyandu.

Mother's behavior in stunting prevention is not good due to one of the internal factors, namely education. Most of the respondents had a high school education, a total of 41 respondents and 5 respondents had an elementary school education.

According to Triwibowo (2015) (in I. Kuswanti, 2022) states that the next factor that affects a person's behavior is education. Education can affect a person's behavior, attitude, and knowledge in paying attention to children's growth and development. Strengthened in Notoatmodjo's theory (2017) states that education is a tool used to change a person's behavior. The higher the education a person has, the better his behavior will also be (Notoatmodjo, 2017).

The next factor that affects mothers' behavior in stunting prevention is not good, namely the age factor. Most respondents are 24-35 years old. This age is included in the young age category. A small number of respondents aged 18-23 years were 3 respondents.

In the theory of Wawan & Dewi (2018) (in Tiyas Anggraini, 2022) it is explained that age can affect a person's behavior. As a person's age increases, his or her mindset will be much more developed. However, in the study of Salamung (2022), it was stated that supporting factors, namely socio-culture, can affect stunting prevention behavior. Culture that is contrary to health rules such as giving complementary foods early causes mothers' behavior to be less good and can experience the risk of stunting in children.

### **The relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the posyandu for toddlers in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency on May 2024**

From the results of the study, the role of cadres is included in the category of poor and maternal behavior in stunting prevention is lacking. The incident is caused by several factors, namely education, work, and age. The results of data processing using the spearman rank statistical test obtained significant value results of  $0.000 < 0.05$ , meaning that H1 was accepted, it can be concluded that there is a significant relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Mancar Village Toddler Posyandu in Jombang Regency on May 21-27, 2024.

The value of the correlation coefficient between the variables of the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention is 0.435 which is located between 0.400-0.599 so that it can be concluded that the relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention is quite high.

Education can influence an individual's knowledge and behavior. A person with secondary or higher education can obtain and study more specific information, especially about stunting and its prevention (M. Iffatul, 2022). Based on the presentation in the research of Masmuri et al., (2023), education is knowledge that is acquired by itself. The role is closely related to education. The role that a person has will be more if he has achieved higher education. However, not all those with low education play a low role. A person's role can be increased obtained from formal and non-formal education.

According to research by Erfiana et al. (2023), it is possible for a person to be well-informed and to play a good role. Thus, the receipt of information can be easier and in accordance with the facts and obtained from reliable sources.

In Notoatmodjo's theory (2017), it can be influenced by external factors, namely the environment. Where the environment is a situation around an individual that can have an impact on a person's growth and behavior. The environment is closely related to how the science can be absorbed and still in one area. In line with research conducted by Wiratama & Sumartini (2023), there is a strong relationship between knowledge and the environment in stunting prevention. A person who is well knowledgeable, but the stunting prevention behavior carried out is less likely to result from the surrounding environmental conditions.

The role of cadres is said to be good if they already understand and understand stunting, such as the definition, symptoms, causes, and ways to prevent it. Meanwhile, the role of cadres is said to be lacking if they do not understand and understand stunting. The behavior of mothers in prevention is lacking because mothers have not carried out appropriate preventive behaviors such as not taking their children to the posyandu regularly, not providing nutritious and protein food to children, not

maintaining sanitation and clean water, and not paying attention to the needs of their children. Stunting prevention behavior in mothers is said to be good if they have carried out preventive behaviors appropriately, such as providing the right nutritional intake according to the needs of the child.

The results of the cadre role research questionnaire are included in the less category. The data is influenced by several factors obtained from the results of the questionnaire. The factors in question are, among others, many mothers of toddlers who do not know about the causes of stunting, the specific characteristics of children who experience stunting, the impact of stunting, as well as the fulfillment of child nutrition and the variety of menus that can be served to meet the balanced nutritional needs of children. Then from the results of the questionnaire, the preventive behavior of mothers under five is included in the category of less in stunting prevention, which also reaches a fairly high number. This can be seen from the results of the questionnaire, this behavior arises as a result of some mothers who rarely bring their children to participate in routine posyandu activities. This makes it difficult for cadres to get data on child development in their work areas. In addition, mothers who do not pay attention to the growth and development of their toddlers such as not paying attention to the child's sleep time, children's meal time, and less of attention to the cleanliness of the surrounding environment.

Based on the research of Erfiana et al., (2023) stated that there is a relationship between knowledge and stunting prevention behavior. Then according to research conducted by Iffatul (2022), a person with broader knowledge will be able to update and increase his knowledge. So that it makes it easier to get more specific information from trusted sources.

## CONCLUSION

Most of the respondents at the Toddler Posyandu in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency have a less cadre role and less maternal behavior in stunting prevention. There was a relationship between the role of cadres and maternal behavior in stunting prevention at the Posyandu Toddler in Mancar Village, Jombang Regency, as evidenced by the results of the Spearman Rank test and the result of the correlation coefficient on both variables was quite high.

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