

ABSTRACT

Background: Wasting is a malnutrition condition that needs to be addressed in Indonesia. Weight loss in children or failure to gain weight due to lack of energy and protein intake causes wasting. **Objective:** To determine whether there is a relationship between the characteristics and knowledge of mothers regarding nutritional status with the care of toddlers who experience wasting in the Helvetia Health Center area, Medan. **Methods:** The study used a quantitative approach method that focuses on analyzing objective phenomena numerically. Of the 45 mothers with wasting toddlers at the Helvetia Health Center, 40 mothers were selected as samples using the slovin formula. Data analysis was conducted utilizing the method of Multivariate Analysis. Questionnaires were distributed for data collection, which were then analyzed by applying the chi-square test. **Results:** The results of this study showed that the value of the p-value was 0.000 (<0.05) so that the null hypothesis (H_0) was rejected. **Conclusion:** there is a relationship between the characteristics and knowledge of mothers about nutritional status with the care of wasting toddlers.

Keywords: Mother's knowledge, characteristics, nutritional status, care of wasting toddlers

ABSTRAK

Latar Belakang : Wasting adalah kondisi gizi buruk yang perlu segera ditangani di Indonesia. Penurunan berat badan pada anak atau kegagalan dalam penambahan berat badan akibat kekurangan asupan energi dan protein menyebabkan terjadinya wasting. **Tujuan :** Untuk mengetahui apakah terdapat hubungan diantara karakteristik dan pengetahuan dari ibu mengenai status gizi dengan perawatan balita yang mengalami wasting di wilayah Puskesmas Helvetia, Medan. **Metode :** Penelitian menggunakan metode pendekatan kuantitatif yang berfokus analisis fenomena-fenomena objektif secara numerik. Dari 45 Ibu yang memiliki balita wasting di Puskesmas Helvetia, sebanyak 40 Ibu yang terpilih sebagai sampel dengan menggunakan rumus slovin. Analisis data yang dilakukan memanfaatkan metode dari Analisis Multivariat. Kuesioner disalurkan untuk penghimpunan data, yang lalu dianalisis dengan mengaplikasikan uji chi-square. **Hasil :** Hasil penelitian ini didapatkan hasil bahwasanya nilai dari p-value yakni 0,000 ($<0,05$) sehingga hipotesis nol (H_0) ditolak. **Kesimpulan:** yaitu ada hubungan antara karakteristik dan pengetahuan Ibu tentang status gizi dengan perawatan balita kurus (wasting)

Kata Kunci : Pengetahuan Ibu, Karakteristik, Status Gizi, Perawatan Balita Kurus (Wasting)