DO SMOKING, HEAVY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND OVERWEIGHT, INCREASE THE RISK OF MALE INFERTILITY? A NEW EVIDENCE FROM SURAKARTA, CENTRAL JAVA

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ABSTRACT

Background: Male infertility is a global public health issue. Infertility affects an estimated 15% of couples globally, amounting to 48.5 million couples. Males are found to be solely responsible for 20-30% of infertility cases and contribute to 50% of cases overall. This study aimed to investigate the effects of smoking, heavy physical activity, and overweight on the risk of male infertility.

Subjects and Method: This was a cross-sectional study conducted in Sekar infertility clinic, Dr. Moewardi hospital, Surakarta, from January to May 2018. A sample of 120 men was selected by fixed disease sampling. The dependent variable was male infertility. The independent variables were age, smoking, physical activity, and body mass index (BMI). The data were collected by questionnaire and analyzed by a multiple logistic regression.

Results: Male infertility was associated with older age (b= 4.96; 95% CI= 1.74 to 14.17; p= 0.003), smoking (b= 2.83; 95% CI= 1.17 to 6.84; p= 0.021), heavy physical activity (b= 2.84; 95% CI= 1.14 to 7.06; p= 0.025), and BMI \geq 25 (b= 2.88; 95% CI= 1.06 to 7.85; p= 0.038).

Conclusion: Male infertility is associated with age, smoking, heavy physical activity, and BMI ≥ 25 .

Keywords: infertility, smoking, physical activity, body mass index, men

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