

MIXED METHOD STUDY ON EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF THE FAMILY HOPE PROGRAM ON BIRTH WEIGHT IN NGANJUK, EAST JAVA

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ABSTRAK

Background: Low birth weight is defined as a live birth baby weighing less than 2.5 kg. It is a key factor in infant survival, health and development. Babies with low birth weight are at greater risk of disability and suffer from diseases such as cerebral palsy, visual problems, learning disabilities and respiratory diseases. Intervention through the Family Hope Program (PKH) is expected to improve mothers and children's health and produce good pregnancy outcomes. Although it has been running since 2013, the effect of PKH on birth weight in Indonesia has not been widely evaluated. This study aimed to evaluate the impact of the family hope program on birth weight in Nganjuk, East Java.

Subjects and Method: This was a retrospective cohort study with combined quantitative and qualitative approach. This study was conducted at Tanjunganom sub-district, Nganjuk, East Java, Indonesia. A sample of 161 mothers who delivered at 2012 to 2014 and 9 respondents consisting of one PKH assistant in Tanjunganom District, one midwife in the local area, and 7 mothers who gave birth to LBW babies from recipient and non-recipient groups of PKH assistance during pregnancy. 1) The independent variable was PKH cash assistance during pregnancy, 2) The dependent variable was birth weight, and 3) The external variables were ANC visits, accessibility to health services, age, parity, birth spacing and mother's education. The data were collected by questionnaire, in-depth interview, secondary data. The data were analyzed by t-test and one-way ANOVA.

Hasil: The average birth weight among mothers who received PKH assistance during pregnancy was 52.6 grams higher than those who did not receive PKH assistance during pregnancy. However, this difference was not statistically significant. Qualitative research provides an overview of the causes of birth weight among PKH beneficiaries, namely maternal condition factors, underweight gain during pregnancy, and strenuous physical activity at the end of pregnancy.

Conclusion: PKH does not affect birth weight among poor mothers of PKH recipient families. Government intervention should be more on monitoring the use of PKH costs for nutritious food consumption and monitoring birth weight gain during pregnancy, not only focusing on the number of ANC examinations.

Keywords: Birth weight, LBW, Family Hope Program, Effects

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