RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE, AND THE USE OF MATERNAL REFERRAL SERVICES AT THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER IN LANGKAT, NORTH SUMATERA

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ABSTRACT

Background: In 203, World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 289,000 women had died during pregnancy and childbirth worldwide. These deaths could have been reduced if mothers had visited maternal health services during pregnancy, childbirth, and during the month after delivery. Maternal health services are important to ensure women and children's health. This study aimed to estimate the relationship between education, knowledge, and the use of maternal referral services at the community health center in Langkat, North Sumatera.

Subjects and Method: This was a cross-sectional study conducted at Pantai Cermin community health center, Langkat, North Sumatera, in 2018. A total of 56 mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and during the month after delivery was selected for this study. The dependent variable was the use of maternal referral services. The independent variables were maternal education and knowledge. The data were collected by questionnaire and analyzed by chi square.

Results: 62.5% of mothers had low education level, 64.3% had poor knowledge, and 66.1% did not use maternal referral services. The use of maternal referral services was positively associated with high maternal education (PR= 1.62; 95% CI= 0.10 to 2.63; p=0.049), and good maternal knowledge (PR= 1.73; 95% CI= 1.03 to 2.90; p= 0.029).

Conclusion: The use of maternal referral services is positively associated with high maternal education and good maternal knowledge.

Keywords: education, knowledge, maternal referral services, community health center

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