

# BABY CHARACTERISTICS ON POST-PARTUM MOTHERS EFFICACY IN CARING FOR LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABY

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Low birth weight (LBW) babies are babies born weighing less than 2500 grams. LBW babies are vulnerable and require special care at the hospital and home. To perform optimal care, it is necessary to have good self-efficacy from the mother which can be influenced by the characteristics of the baby. This study aimed to analyze the relationship between baby characteristics on post-partum mother efficacy.

**Subjects and Method:** This was a cross-sectional study conducted at General Hospital in East Java from January to March 2020. A total of 24 post-partum mothers were selected for this study. The dependent variables was post-partum mothers efficacy. The independent variable were baby characteristic (baby age, baby weight, medical diagnosis of baby, and medical device). The data were collected by a set of questionnaire and analyzed by Spearman correlation.

**Results:** Post-partum efficacy was correlated with baby weight ( $r= 0.47$ ;  $p= 0.018$ ), the use of medical device ( $r= -0.44$ ;  $p= 0.018$ ), baby age  $>10$  days ( $r= -0.28$ ;  $p= 0.177$ ), medical diagnosis of baby ( $-0.010$ ;  $p= 0.964$ ).

**Conclusion:** Post-partum mother efficacy has correlations with baby weight, the use of medical device, baby age, and medical diagnosis. However, some of the correlations were statistically non significant.

**Keywords:** baby characteristics, low birth weight, caring, self-efficacy, post-partum mothers.

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