Factors Associated with the Occurrence of Anemia in Pregnant Women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu

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Abstrak
Anemia dianggap sebagai masalah kesehatan masyarakat karena prevalensinya yang masih tinggi. Anemia dapat memberikan akibat buruk terhadap ibu hamil seperti mudah terserang penyakit, Berat Bayi Lahir Rendah (BBLR), pengaruh pada kemampuan kerja, bahkan pada anemia berat dapat mengakibatkan kematian. Rumusan masalah pada penelitian ini adalah apakah ada hubungan paritas, umur ibu, konsumsi tablet Fe, jarak kehamilan dan pemanfaatan pelayanan antenatal dengan kejadian anemia pada ibu hamil di Rumah Sakit Umum Anutapura Palu. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah mengetahui faktor-faktor yang berhubungan dengan kejadian anemia pada ibu hamil di Rumah Sakit Umum Anutapura Palu. Jenis penelitian ini digunakan adalah penelitian observasional dengan pendekatan cross sectional study. Variabel independen pada penelitian ini yaitu paritas, umur, jarak kehamilan, dan pemanfaatan pelayanan antenatal care, variabel dependen yaitu anemia pada ibu hamil. Analisis data dengan menggunakan analisis univariat dan bivariat serta uji statistik chi-square dan multivariat. Penarikan sampel dengan menggunakan metode Purposive sampling. Sampel sebanyak 87 responden. Ada hubungan paritas (p = 0.003), umur ibu (p = 0.005), jarak kehamilan (p = 0.001) dan pemanfaatan pelayanan antenatal (p = 0.002) dengan kejadian anemia pada ibu hamil di Rumah Sakit Umum Anutapura Palu. Faktor konsumsi tablet Fe yang paling dominan dimana tingkat nilai Exp (B) 1,594 pada CI 95 % dan nilai lower limit = 0,585 dan upper limit = 4,341 dengan tingkat kemaknaan = 0,000. berhubungan dengan kejadian anemia pada ibu hamil di Rumah Sakit Umum Anutapura Palu. Saran kepada rumah sakit khususnya petugas kesehatan untuk memberikan penyuluhan pada ibu hamil tentang pentingnya kunjungan antenatal care minimal 4 kali selama hamil, agar dapat memenuhi kebutuhan tablet zat besi selama kehamilan.

Kata Kunci : konsumsi tablet Fe, jarak kehamilan, anemia

Abstract
Anemia is considered a public health problem because its prevalence is still high. Anemia can give bad consequences to pregnant women such as susceptible to disease, Low Birth Weight (LBW), influence on workability, even on severe anemia can result in death. The formulation of the problem in this study is whether there is a relationship of parity, maternal age, consumption of Fe tablets, a distance of pregnancy and utilization of antenatal care with the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Anutapura General Hospital, Palu. The purpose of this study was to determine the factors associated with the incidence of maternal mortality in Anutapura General Hospital, Palu. This type of research is an observational study with a cross-sectional study approach. The independent variables in this study are parity, age, pregnancy distance, and the use of antenatal care services, the dependent variable is anemia in pregnant women. Data analysis using univariate and bivariate analysis and chi-square and multivariate statistical tests. Sampling using the Purposive sampling method. Samples were 87 respondents. There was a relationship of
parity (p = 0.003), maternal age (p = 0.005), pregnancy distance (p = 0.001) and utilization of antenatal services (p = 0.002) with the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Anutapura General Hospital, Palu. The most dominant factor of Fe tablet consumption where the level of Exp (B) value is 1.594 at 95% CI and lower limit value = 0.585 and upper limit = 4.341 with a significance level = 0.000. related to the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Anutapura General Hospital, Palu. Advice to hospitals, especially health workers to provide counseling to pregnant women about the importance of antenatal care visits at least 4 times during pregnancy, to meet the needs of iron tablets during pregnancy.

Keywords: consumption of Fe tablets, pregnancy distance, anemia

INTRODUCTION

Anemia during pregnancy is an important health problem to improve the health of the community with public health. Concerning maternal and child health, anemia problems include common nutritional problems in developing countries, including Indonesia. Anemia during pregnancy is the most important health problem to improve public health about maternal and child health. Anemia is one of the factors that become a success indicator of a nation's health development, which describes socio-economic capabilities in fulfilling the quality and quantity of people's nutrition (3).

Based on data from the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2010 that anemia in pregnant women ranged from 20-89% and set Hb 11 gr% as a basis. In developing countries including Indonesia, the infant mortality rate and the percentage of anemia during pregnancy are the most sensitive indicators that describe health status, especially maternal health in infants. According to the Survey Kesehatan Rumah Tangga (SKRT) in Indonesia from year to year showed the level of anemia of pregnant women was 73.3% in 2006; 63.5% in 2012; 50.9% in 2008. While in Central Sulawesi based on SKRT 2012, the iron-deficiency anemia reached 24.5% (2).

The high rate of maternal mortality still becomes a public health problem in various countries, especially in developing countries including Indonesia. Around 15-20% of maternal mortality is directly or indirectly related to anemia. Anemia is the biggest and most difficult micronutrient problem on the whole agenda (Soekirman 2000 in Darlina 2003). Most anemia in pregnant women is anemia due to iron deficiency. Currently, it is estimated that every year around 4 million pregnant women and nursing mothers suffer from anemia that mostly caused by iron deficiency (8).
Anemia in pregnant women is associated with several factors, for example, knowledge, where there is a lack of knowledge of pregnant women regarding food containing iron essential, education level, parity, and antenatal use. The optimal use of antenatal care will improve the health status of pregnant women and will motivate them to consume foods that are rich in Fe.

The medical record data of the Anutapura Hospital in Palu showed the number of pregnant women who had their pregnancies in 2012 as many as 173 pregnant women with several anemia cases as 97 pregnant women. While in 2013, there are 82 of 158 pregnant women suffering from anemia and 62 of 160 pregnant women suffering from anemia in 2014.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This research is an observational study with a cross-sectional study approach, where data on dependent and independent variables will be collected at the same time to obtain information about the relationship of several factors to the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu. The population in this study were all pregnant women who visited the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Primary data was obtained through the measurement of Hb levels using the Chyanmethimoglobin method and filling in questionnaires distributed to pregnant women. Data analysis used was univariate using frequency distribution and single percentage, Bivariate used was chi-square test and multivariate using regression logistic analysis.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Univariate Analysis**

**Anemia incidence**

Table 1 shows that based on the Hb levels of respondents, there were 57 (65.5%) pregnant women who were anemic, and 30 (34.5%) respondents did not experience anemia.

| Hb Level | (n) | (%) |
|----------|-----|-----|
| Anemia   | 57  | 65.5|
| Normal   | 30  | 34.5|
| **Total**| **87** | **100** |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

**Parity**

Table 2 shows that according to the parity of respondents, pregnant women with high-risk parity were 40 (46.0%) respondents and pregnant women with low-risk parity were 47 (54.0%) respondents.

| Parity | (n) | (%) |
|--------|-----|-----|
| High Risk | 40  | 46.0|
| Low Risk  | 47   | 54.0|
| **Total** | **87** | **100** |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

**Maternal Age**

Table 3 shows that according to the respondents' maternal age, pregnant women with high-risk maternal age were 37 (42.5%) respondents and pregnant women with low-risk maternal age were 50 (57.5%) respondents.

| Maternal Age | (n) | (%) |
|--------------|-----|-----|
| High Risk    | 37  | 42.5|
| Low Risk     | 50  | 57.5|
| **Total**    | **87** | **100** |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

**Consumption of Fe tablets**

Table 4 shows that according to respondents' Fe tablet consumption, pregnant women with less Fe tablet consumption as much as 49 (56.3%) respondents and pregnant women with sufficient Fe tablet consumption as many as 38 (43.7%) respondents.
Pregnancy Distance

Table 5 shows that according to the respondents’ pregnancy distance, pregnant women with a high-risk pregnancy distance were 45 (51.7%) respondents and pregnant women with a low-risk pregnancy distance were 42 (48.3%) respondents.

Table 5. Distribution of Pregnant Women who check the Pregnancy According to Pregnancy Distance at Anutapura Hospital

| Pregnancy Distance | (n) | (%)  |
|--------------------|-----|------|
| High Risk          | 45  | 51.7 |
| Low Risk           | 42  | 48.3 |
| Total              | 87  | 100  |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Use of antenatal services

Table 6 shows that according to the utilization of the respondent’s antenatal services, pregnant women with less utilization of antenatal care were 46 (52.9%) respondents and pregnant women with sufficient use of antenatal care were 41 (47.1%) respondents.

Table 6. Distribution of Pregnant Women who check the Pregnancy According to the Use of Antenatal Service at Anutapura Hospital

| Use of Antenatal Service | (n) | (%)  |
|--------------------------|-----|------|
| Less                     | 46  | 52.9 |
| Sufficient               | 41  | 47.1 |
| Total                    | 87  | 100  |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Bivariate Analysis

Relationship between parity and anemia in pregnant women

Table 7 shows that from 87 respondents, pregnant women who had high-risk parity were 40 (46.0%) respondents, who had anemia were 27 (67.5%) respondents and who had not been 13 (32.5%) respondents. Whereas those with low-risk parity were 47 (54.0%) respondents, who had anemia were 30 (63.8%) respondents and who had not been 17 (36.2%) respondents.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of 1 and α =0.05 were obtained p = 0.003 where p < α which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between parity and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Table 7. Relationship between Parity and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Anutapura Hospital in Palu

| Parity       | Anemia | Total | P  |
|--------------|--------|-------|----|
|              | Yes   | No    |    |
| High Risk    | n     | %     | n  | %  |
| Low Risk     | 27    | 67.5  | 13 | 32.5| 40 | 46.0| 0.003|
| Total        | 57    | 65.5  | 30 | 34.5| 87 | 100 |    |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Relationship between age and anemia in pregnant women

Table 8 shows that from 87 respondents, pregnant women who had high-risk age were 37 (42.5%) respondents, those who had high risk age with anemia were 26 (70.3%) respondents and without anemia were 11 (29.7%) respondents. Whereas those who had low-risk age were 50 (57.5%) respondents, those who had low risk age with anemia were 31 (62.0%) respondents and without anemia were 19 (38.0%) respondents.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of 1 and α = 0.05 were obtained p = 0.005 where p < α which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between the age of the
Factors Associated with the Occurrence of Anemia in Pregnant Women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Table 8. Relationship between Age and Anemia Occurrence in Pregnant Women at Anutapura Hospital

| Age         | Anemia | Total | P    |
|-------------|--------|-------|------|
|             | Yes    | No    | n    |
|             | %      | %     | %    |
| High Risk   | 70,3   | 29,7  | 37   |
| Low Risk    | 62,0   | 38,0  | 50   |
| Total       | 65,5   | 34,5  | 87   |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Relationship between Fe Tablet Consumption and Anemia in Pregnant Women

Table 9 shows that from 87 respondents, pregnant women who had less consumption of Fe tablets were 49 (56.3%) respondents, with anemia were 29 (59.2%) respondents and without anemia were 20 (40.8%) respondents. While those who had sufficient consumption of Fe tablets were 38 (43.7%) respondents, with anemia were 28 (73.7%) respondents and without anemia were 10 (26.3%) respondents.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and \( \alpha = 0.05 \) were obtained \( p = 0.000 \) where \( p < \alpha \) which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between Fe tablet consumption and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Table 9. Relationship between Fe Tablet Consumption and Anemia Occurrence in Pregnant Women at Anutapura Hospital

| Fe tablet consumption | Anemia | Total | P    |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|------|
|                       | Yes    | No    | n    |
|                       | %      | %     | %    |
| Less                  | 59,2   | 40,8  | 49   |
| Sufficient            | 73,7   | 26,3  | 43,7 |
| Total                 | 65,5   | 34,5  | 87   |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Relationship between Pregnancy Distance and Anemia in Pregnant Women

Table 10 shows that from 87 respondents, pregnant women who had high risk in pregnancy distance were 45 (51.7%) respondents, with anemia were 27 (60.0%) respondents and without anemia were 18 (40.0%) respondents. While those who had low risk in pregnancy distance were 42 (48.3%) respondents, with anemia were 30 (71.4%) respondents, and without anemia were 12 (28.6%) respondents.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and \( \alpha = 0.05 \) were obtained \( p = 0.001 \) where \( p < \alpha \) which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between pregnancy distance and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Table 10. Relationship between Pregnancy Distance and Anemia Occurrence in Pregnant Women at Anutapura Hospital

| Pregnancy Distance | Anemia | Total | P    |
|--------------------|--------|-------|------|
|                    | Yes    | No    | n    |
|                    | %      | %     | %    |
| Risiko Tinggi      | 60,0   | 40,0  | 45   |
| Risiko Rendah      | 71,4   | 28,6  | 42   |
| Total              | 65,5   | 34,5  | 87   |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Relationship between the use of antenatal services and anemia in pregnant women

Table 11 shows that from 87 respondents, pregnant women with less use of antenatal care were 46 (52.9%) respondents, with anemia were 34 (73.9%) respondents and without anemia were 12 (26.1%) respondents. While those with sufficient use of antenatal care were 41 (47.1%) respondents, with anemia were 23 (56.1%) respondents and without anemia were 18 (43.9%) respondents.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom)
1 and $\alpha = 0.05$ were obtained $p = 0.002$ where $p < \alpha$ which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between the use of antenatal service and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Table 11. Relationship between the use of antenatal service and Anemia Occurrence in Pregnant Women at Anutapura Hospital

| The Use of Antenatal Service | Anemia | Total | P |
|------------------------------|--------|-------|---|
|                              | Yes    | No    |    |
|                              | n      | %     | n  | %  |
| Less                         | 34     | 73.9  | 12 | 26.1 | 46 | 52.9 |
| Sufficient                   | 23     | 56.1  | 18 | 43.9 | 41 | 47.1 |
| Total                        | 57     | 65.5  | 30 | 34.5 | 87 | 100 |

Source: Primary Data, 2015

Multivariate Analysis

Table 12 shows that after statistical tests on all variables together, it turns out that the factors associated with anemia in pregnant women are parity, maternal age, consumption of Fe tablets, distance of pregnancy, and the use of antenatal care. While the most dominant factor associated is consumption of Fe tablets with the value of $\text{Exp}(B) 1.594$ in 95% CI and lower limit value = 0.585 and upper limit = 4.341 with a significance level = 0.000.

Parity in Pregnant Women

Parity is the number of deliveries performed by a woman with live births or stillbirths. The number of births can affect the body’s metabolic processes. In pregnant women, the need for hydrocytes will increase. So that the higher the level of parity, the more at risk of anemia in pregnant women (7).

Parity is the number of births experienced by a mother, both live and stillborn, but does not include abortion. Complications that can trigger postpartum hemorrhage are found in mothers with the first pregnancy and pregnancy more than the third time. This is because in the first pregnancy, the birth canal has not been tested and the psychological condition has not been stable. While in pregnancy more than the third time, the reproductive system has suffered a setback. Every pregnancy followed by labor will cause abnormalities in the uterus (27).

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and $\alpha = 0.05$ were obtained $p = 0.003$ where $p < \alpha$ which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between parity and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

This means that high-risk parity or more than three times of pregnancy are more likely to experience anemia compared to pregnant women with low-risk parity or less than three times pregnancy in pregnant women at the Anutapura General Hospital in Palu.

The high rate of parity in a mother can usually relate to a mother’s lack of knowledge about the impact of a high number of pregnancies associated...
with a lack of information dissemination through counseling about the number of pregnancies that are normally experienced by every woman (9).

The results of this study are supported by the research of SittiAminah (2012) in RSIA Sitti Fatimah Makassar suggesting that parity has a relationship with the incidence of anemia. Anemia can occur in women with high parity associated with the biological condition of the mother and iron intake. Anemia, in this case, is related to a previous pregnancy where if the iron reserves in the body are lacking or minimal, the pregnancy will drain the body's iron supply and will cause anemia in the next pregnancy.

**Age in Pregnant Women**

Age is one of the non-modifiable factors. The age intended in this study is related to the implementation of an appropriate pregnancy in every woman whose age is fast carrying out pregnancy tends to be more at risk of the emergence of various health problems compared to the normal gestational age.

A mother’s age has a close influence on the development of reproductive organs. This is related to the physiological state of the mother’s body in accepting presence and supporting fetal development. A woman entering the age of marriage will experience a certain phase in her life, namely the age of reproduction. In the age of healthy reproduction, it is known that the safe age for pregnancy and childbirth is between 20-35 years (23).

The pregnancy that occurs in the risky age category is an unhealthy pregnancy. This is because, in this age, the state of reproductive health and the state of the organs in a woman’s body have experienced a decreased ability to deal with pregnancy, especially in the physiological function of the uterus as a reproductive organ. The uterine elasticity has decreased so that it will increase the risk of LBW and complications during labor (14).

Age of pregnant women who are young (less than 20 years) is at high risk of fetal growth because they are in a period of growth that requires a lot of nutrients and then added by pregnancy which means that the calories received must be shared between the mother and the fetus. The development of reproductive instruments is also not entirely optimal. Besides, the psychological burden that must be borne is quite heavy to be pregnant and care for children with minimal knowledge.

The age factor of pregnant women influences the development of female reproductive organs where the age that is safe for pregnant women is aged 20-30 years. The age of pregnancy plays a high role in the occurrence of anemia in pregnant women. This is because with the higher pregnancy, the blood volume will increase which is usually called hydremia or hypervolemia of the blood, so that blood dilution occurs which can cause anemia.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and \( \alpha = 0.05 \) were obtained \( p = 0.005 \) where \( p < \alpha \) which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between the age of the mother and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

This research is supported by the study conducted by Willem at the Cempae Pare-Pare Health Center (2010) which found that age has a relationship with the incidence of anemia. This is also reinforced by the study of SittiAminah at the Fatimah Makassar Hospital who found that under 20 years old and over 35 years old are 9.7 times riskier experiencing anemia compared to pregnant women aged 30-35 years.

**Fe Tablet Consumption in Pregnant Women**

Iron enters the body through food. In body tissues, iron is a functional compound such as
hemoglobin. Ferric iron from food will become ferrous if it is in an acidic state and is reduced so that it is easily absorbed by the intestinal mucosa. In the body, iron is not free but binds to protein molecules to form ferritin namely apoferritin, while iron transport in the form of Ferro binds to proteins forming transfer called apo transferrin in blood plasma called set transfer in.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and $\alpha = 0.05$ were obtained $p = 0.000$ where $p < \alpha$ which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between Fe tablet consumption and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

Iron from foods such as meat, liver, eggs, green vegetables and fruits are absorbed in the small intestine. The average of foods included contains 10-15 mg of iron but only 5 -10% which can be absorbed, so if the decrease in iron intake is the main element in the formation of hemoglobin, the level/production of hemoglobin will also decrease and causing anemia (10).

**Pregnancy Distance in Pregnant Women**

Pregnancy distance is the interval between two consecutive pregnancies from a woman. Pregnancy spacing has an impact on the health of the mother and her baby. The distance of pregnancies that are too tight (<2 years) is riskier than a stretchy pregnancy (> 2 years). This is because anatomically women need time to restore their health and adequate nutritional intake. The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and $\alpha = 0.05$ were obtained $p = 0.001$ where $p < \alpha$ which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between pregnancy distance and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu. This is in line with the study conducted by Dewi (2010), that pregnancy distance is related to the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Batua Raya Makassar Health Center with P-value 0.002.

**Antenatal Service in Pregnant Women**

Departemen Kesehatan RI (2011) in antenatal care consisting of weighing, checking blood pressure, checking fundus uterine height, tetanus toxoid injection (TT) and giving Fe tablets, PMS tests, and interview. This service should be carried out regularly by pregnant women until they give birth.

Antenatal examinations are services by professional staff (midwives) to pregnant women during pregnancy that are carried out following established standards. The antenatal examination is recommended at least four times during normal pregnancy conditions, but the reality in the field, especially in AnutapuraPalu General Hospital, there are still many pregnant women who do not regularly check their pregnancies to health facilities that have been prepared by the government so that the impact on some pregnant women is anemia.

The results of relationship analysis using the Chi-Square test of df (Degree of Freedom) 1 and $\alpha = 0.05$ were obtained $p = 0.002$ where $p < \alpha$ which means statistically the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted so that there is a significant relationship between the use of antenatal service and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

What applies in this study is that the more often pregnant women make use of antenatal care, they are less likely to have anemia and vice versa. But the better the antenatal care of pregnant women, the smaller the possibility of anemia, and vice versa where antenatal services are less likely to have anemia.
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the results of data analysis/discussion about the relationship of parity, maternal age, Fe tablet consumption, pregnancy distance and antenatal care with the incidence of anemia in pregnant women on March 18 - April 18, 2015, at Anutapura Hospital in Palu, it can be summarized as follows: There is a relationship between parity and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Anutapura Hospital Palu; There is a relationship between maternal age and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu; There is a relationship between consumption of Fe tablets and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at Anutapura Hospital in Palu; There is a relationship between the distance of pregnancy and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu; There is a relationship between the use of antenatal care and the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu; Factor consumption of Fe tablets is the most associated with the incidence of anemia in pregnant women at the Anutapura Hospital in Palu.

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