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Research Article

Knowledge and Attitude of Mothers Regarding Early Childhood Health Protocol Implementation During the Covid-19 Pandemic

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Abstract

Aim: Since Sars-CoV-2, a new strain of the coronavirus, has become a global pandemic, we need to take precautionary measures and establish health procedures. The study aimed to determine the relationship between knowledge and mothers' attitudes regarding the application of health protocols for early childhood during the Covid-19 pandemic at Majalengka Regency. **Method:** This cross-sectional study was conducted in 2021 with a sample size of 51 mother-and-child pairs from kindergartens in the Majalengka Regency of West Java. Knowledge and attitude measurement using good validity and reliability reported questionnaires.

Result: The results of the mother's knowledge were good, namely 82.4%, while the level of knowledge was sufficient at 17.6%. The results of the mother's attitude supported 56.9% and did not support 43.1%. The cross-tabulation results obtained a p-value of 0.714, which is greater than 0.05, meaning there is no relationship between knowledge and mothers' attitudes about the application of health protocols in early childhood.

Conclusion: Based on the study result, family members and nurses in public health centers can increase counseling regarding health protocols for early childhood mothers. They need to work with health workers or local health agencies to counsel and motivate mothers to increase attitudes toward implementing health protocols in early childhood during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords:

Attitude, Covid-19, Health Protocols, Knowledge

INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 or Sars-CoV-2 can raise symptom disturbance in breathing, fever above 38°C, cough, shortness of breath, weakness, painful muscles, and diarrhea (1). Severe COVID-19 causes pneumonia, breathing syndrome, acute, failed kidney even until death (2). *World Health Organization* (WHO) and the *Centers for Disease Control and*

Prevention (CDC) report that the most deaths occur in patients with COVID-19, aged 80 years to the top, with the percentage reaching 21.9% (1,3). Based on data on the distribution of COVID-19 according to the *World Health Organization* (WHO), the incidence of COVID-19 spread across 235 countries with a total of 754.018.841 cases, number dead totaling 6.817.478 (4,5). The spread case is first in the United States, two

in India, and third in Brazilian. Indonesia recorded 6.731.135 cases, with the figure Dead reaching 160.832 people (6).

In Indonesia numbers, the incidence of COVID-19 on 27 November 2020 was 522,581 cases confirmed, as many as 68,604 cases active (13.1% of the case confirmed), several patients recovered 437,456 (83.7% of cases confirmed), and numbers 16,521 deaths (3.2% of the case confirmed). The highest incidence rate is DKI Jakarta Province, with 132,961 (25.4%) cases confirmed. In order, second is Province East Java, with a total of 60,618 (11.6%) cases confirmed. In order third is Province Central Java, with a total of 51,843 (9.9%) cases confirmed, and in order, fourth is Province West Java, with a total of 51,181 (9.8%) cases confirmed (6).

With a high number of Covid-19 incidences, it is for prevention action. COVID-19 can be infectious from man to man through contact tightness and droplets (splash fluid at the time, sneezing, and coughing). The form of COVID-19 is seen through microscope electrons (liquid channel breath/throat swab) and depicted in the form of COVID-19 like the virus has the crown.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has conveyed that the Covid-19 virus is not can be lost in time short and be a problem worldwide. Need order new everyday life implemented by society. The new normal life is habits for life clean and healthy, constantly washing hands using soap and running water for at least 20 seconds, wearing a mask if necessary, avoiding crowds, and keeping a distance physically. Fixed society was productive with notice protocol health in preventing transmission of Covid-19, namely, keeping distance, wearing a mask, being diligent, washing hands, and dodging crowds (7). The family must give role models so children can apply new everyday life. Parents always expect their children to be healthy during the Covid-19 pandemic (8). Breaking the distribution chain of Covid-19 requires good knowledge to provide action and direct children to behave based on their knowledge (9,10).

The covid-19 pandemic is feared to increase the risk of death in children through many attacks on the elderly. United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) mentions that 6,000 children per day face a deadly risk due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg, School of Public Health, reveals a reduction scenario in in-service health worst that is subtraction service health 45 percent, increase in death 44.7 percent toddlers and mothers 38.6 percent per month. Ten countries with the risk of Dead children worst in Brazil, Congo, India, Nigeria, Tanzania, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Uganda.

Based on Association data with Indonesian Pediatricians, the number of Dead children due to COVID-19 in Indonesia is the highest in Asia. Commissioner Field Social and Deep Child Situation, Indonesian Child Protection Commission emergency, said the government was off guard handle in a manner severe Corona cases in children because it focused on groups susceptible to age elderly. Many families underestimate protocol health for Indonesian Child Protection Commission children found that many children free play around the house without wearing a mask and do not implement physical distancing in the environment family (11).

The time of the Covid-19 pandemic made health a priority central. Hence, government centers and areas have policies for whole institution education from level education child age early childhood (PAUD) to college tall To do *study from home* or study from the house. The policy is applied to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 virus (12). Minister of Education and Culture sends messages for parents, students, and teachers to look after respective health protocols from the Ministry of Health regarding Covid-19 and to appeal to President Jokowi to study at home, work at home, and worship at home (13).

Master responsible party answer in guarding a healthy child, but the most reparents are the most responsible Because children study good and habit style parental

life is very influential health of children and family (14). parents determine the choice of service quality health for their child, including food eaten, physical activity performed, emotional support, and environment quality (12). Giving directions to children is vital for parents, especially mothers, to have good knowledge about protocol health during the current pandemic.

Knowledge and attitudes possessed by a person usually will influence existing change behavior in the self individual. Change in the intended individual here corresponds to changes in element health caused by several factors. Factor the including education, personal experience, and tradition.

Based on previous research at Surakarta, the more knowledgeable mother will increase their behavior of washing their hands, got known to knowledgeable mothers tall part big have behavior wash good hands (63.6 %) (15). The previous study shows that the mother's knowledge significantly correlates with the child's habit of washing their hands. The study stated that about half of the mothers (62.9%) have good knowledge about their children, and more than half of 21 (60.0%) children in preschool show personal hygiene very well (16). This study also concluded a connection between mother and child personal hygiene knowledge at the Dharma Wanita Unity Kindergarten Tlogomas Malang. In addition, the other study shows no connection between Among Age, Education, Knowledge, and Attitude with the behavior prevention of the Covid-19 Community in the work area of the Barajo Public Health Center (17).

The critical reason to do protocol health in children age early is that child age early, including group society with high risk. The school-age child is the most appropriate

time for embedding understanding and introducing of healthy life. School is one institution in society that has been organized so that well healthy child age schools will determine the health of society and the nation in the future (18).

Destination General from the study this knowing connection Knowledge with Mother's attitudes about the Application of Health Protocols in Early childhood. Another purpose of the research is to identify: Mother's knowledge and attitude about application protocol health in children aged early during the Covid-19 pandemic at Citra Asih Kindergarten Regency Majalengka.

METHODS

Method research used quantitative method *survey analytics* with a cross-sectional approach. This study was held from November 2020-February 2021. The study using total sampling is the mother who has child age early first and second-year Kindergarten students at Majalengka Regency with a total of 51 people. Instrument data collection on research uses a knowledge and attitude questionnaire. Data collection with a google form includes informed consent and questionnaires given to respondents through the WhatsApp application. Data analysis technique using chi-square statistical test with 95% confidence ($\alpha=0.05$).

Between November 2021 and January 2022, the researcher sent the questionnaires to respondents after being assessed for validity and reliability. 14 out of 15 questions on the knowledge validity test, 15 out of 15 questions on the attitude validity test, and 15 out of 15 questions on the health protocol implementation validity exam were all valid. All questionnaires were deemed credible after undergoing a reliability test.

RESULTS

Table 1.
Distribution frequency Mother's knowledge about Health Protocols in Early Childhood in Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majalengka Regency

Mother Knowledge Level	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Enough	9	17.6
Well	42	82.4
Total	51	100

Based on table 1. above, the results obtained from 51 respondents were that 42 people (82.4%) had good knowledge.

Table 2.
Distribution Frequency Mother's attitude to Health Protocols in Early Childhood in Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majalengka Regency

Variable	Category	(f)	(%)
Attitude	Supportive/positive	29	56.9%
	Not Support / negative	22	43.1%
Total		51	100%

Based on Table 2. above, the results of 51 respondents are more from part Respondents 29 people (56.9%) attitude mothers supportive/positive about protocol health in children age early.

Table 3.
Distribution Frequency Relationship of Knowledge with Mother's Attitudes about Implementation of Health Protocols in Early Childhood at Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majalengka Regency

Knowledge	Attitude		Total		<i>p-values</i>		
	Not Support (f)	Support (%)	(f)	(%)			
Enough	3	33,3	6	66,7	9	74	0.714
Well	19	45,2	23	54,8	42	17,8	
Total	22		29		51	100	

Based on table 3. above, we obtained a p-value of 0.714 because the p-value > 0.05. Then could be concluded that there is no connection between mothers' knowledge and attitude about the implementation of health protocols for early childhood at Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majalengka Regency.

DISCUSSION

The results showed that respondents at Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majalengka Regency, had a good level of knowledge, namely 82.4%, while the level of knowledge was sufficient, 17.6%. From these data, it shows that the level of knowledge of respondents regarding health protocols in early childhood is good.

The health protocol for preventing and controlling Covid-19 contained in this study follows the Decree of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia Number HK.01.07/MENKES/382/2020 concerning protocol health for the Community in places and facilities general in framework prevention (7). Control of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is using a tool protector self in the form of a mask, nose and mouth until the chin, washing hands using soap or alcohol/*hand sanitizer*, keeping the social distance at least 1 meter from other people, avoiding crowds, as well as increasing endurance by implementing Clean and Healthy Behavior (PHBS).

Many factors can affect the level of one's knowledge. These factors include age, education, information/mass media, socio-cultural-economic, environment, and experience (19). The researchers also collected data regarding the respondent's characteristics, such as age, education, and sources of information that the respondents obtained regarding health protocols during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The majority of the results of this study are the level of knowledge of mothers regarding suitable health protocols, which is equal to 82.4%. This result is because one of the factors that influence knowledge is age. This study shows the frequency distribution of respondents aged > 35 years with a percentage of 51% and ages 20-35 years with a percentage of 49%. These results indicate that the majority of respondents are >35 years old.

Age affects one's comprehension and mindset. The older they are, the more their grasping power and mindset will develop, so

the knowledge they gain will improve (19). According to the researchers, respondents aged >35 had a better understanding and mindset, and knowledge about health protocols during the Covid-19 period.

In line with research conducted by Intan Silviana with the title Relationship Mother's knowledge about upper respiratory infection disease with Behavior Prevention upper respiratory infection in Toddlers at PHPT Muara Angke, North Jakarta, 2014, The results showed that maternal ARI disease prevention behavior could be said to be well associated with more maternal ages between 25-35 years. Where the age of the mother enters the productive age, where at that age it belongs to the early adult stage, which is the culmination of a very prime physical condition. The more mature the mother age, the mother's behavior also increases in behavior.

The educational factor can also affect one's knowledge. The results of this study show that the distribution of the frequency of education of mothers with elementary education/equivalent is 41.2%. From these data, it shows that the education of the majority of respondents is at the basic level of education.

Parental education is vital in supporting children's growth and development. With a good education, parents will more quickly receive all information from outside, especially how to take good care of their children, support their children's health, provide the best education, and so on. Parents' role is enormous in a child's growth and development (20).

Research data shows that most mothers with good knowledge are expected to apply it in everyday life and can be used as role models for their families and mothers who have students at Citra Asih Kindergarten. Furthermore, mothers with sufficient knowledge 17.6%, so it needs to be increased with counseling provided by health workers or schools so they can know more about health protocols during the Covid-19 period.

Research results also indicate that almost half of the respondents (43.1% %) have an attitude that is not supported about prevention transmission of COVID-19. Factor else that is experienced personally could influence the attitude of someone. Statistical test results obtained a score significance (p-value) is 0.714. The p-value ($0.714 \geq p \text{ alpha } (0.05)$) then H_0 is accepted, meaning there is no significant relationship _ Between knowledge of family and attitude about the prevention transmission of COVID-19. A person's or society's health is influenced by two main factors, namely *behavioral causes* and *non-behavior causes*. While *behavior causes* are influenced by three factors: predisposing factors, *which* include age, occupation, education, knowledge, and attitudes. Enabling factors (*enabling factors*) are manifested in the physical environment and distance to health facilities. Factors reinforcement (*Reinforcing Factors*) is manifested in the support provided by families and community leaders. Good knowledge results in implementing suitable health protocols for early childhood, and knowledge is part of the predisposing factors proposed by Lawrence Green in forming health behavior. Predisposing actor Attitudes in research almost part respondents (43.1% %) have an attitude that does not support the prevention transmission of COVID-19, the attitude that does not support positively not only influences knowledge just but could be influenced to some extent factor.

Based on the results research, almost half of the respondents (33.39.6%) have enough knowledge _ and have an attitude that is not supported, and Most respondents (66.7) have a good and supportive attitude. Attitude is not supported will impact action prevention in implementing suitable health protocols for early childhood. Mother's attitude about Health Protocols for Early Childhood at Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majaleng Regency, preventing COVID-19. one effort to increase knowledge is with the promotion of health, promotion of health,

building motivation and hope in critical society moment.

Study this in line with the previous study finds that knowledge respondents regarding COVID-19 are 71.2% good, attitude respondents as much as 74.6% positive, and behavior respondents are 59.2% good (21). Not found a significant relationship between good knowledge and producing a positive attitude and good behavior in the prevention of COVID-19.

CONCLUSION

This study concludes that respondents' knowledge regarding health protocols in early childhood during the Covid-19 pandemic was primarily a supportive attitude about protocol health in early-age children. There is a connection Between the knowledge and mothers' attitudes about implementing health protocols for early childhood at Citra Asih Kindergarten, Majalengka Regency.

It is recommended that schools increase counseling regarding health protocols for mothers with early childhood. Schools need to work with health workers or local health agencies in counseling and motivating mothers to build attitudes toward implementing health protocols for early childhood during the Covid-19 pandemic.

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