

ABSTRACT 3

EVALUATION OF THE POST TRAINING KNOWLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE OF MIDWIVES IN IMPLEMENTING THE KANGAROO MOTHER CARE (KMC) AT GRASS ROOT LEVEL : A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY IN LOMBOK ISLAND

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Background : The prevalence of low birth weight (LBW) babies in West Nusa Tenggara Province is still high (10.5%-Kanwil Dep.Kes 1995). KMC is one method of appropriate technology for caring of LBW babies.

Training of the KMC method for all midwives throughout the province had been carried out in the early 1999. The aim of the study is to find out the knowledge and practice of midwives in implementing the KMC method at level of grass root, the prevalence of LBW babies and the infant mortality rate (IMR) through out the island.

Methods : A cross sectional study was done in 90 midwives from public centers (PHC) and 290 village midwives through out the Lombok islands on July 2000. All samples were given a questionnaire consisting of two parts; the first part concerned the number of deliveries, LBW, and neonatal and infant mortality for the last three months in the sub districts and villages where they worked. The second questionnaire, has to be filled at the district meeting (taking 2 or 3 meetings for each district) and concerned their knowledge and experiences in using the KMC method. Focus group discussion was carried out after they finished filling the questionnaire which was continued by a refresher course about KMC method given by the provincial team. The completed questionnaire had to be checked directly by the team and then edited by another member of the team. A score of 0 to 10 was based on the midwives answers to the questions : 7-10, "good"; 4-7, "fair"; 0-3, "poor". Descriptive data was based on whether they had ever training or not.

Results : There were 11.525 deliveries during the last three month period, 78% was attended by midwives and the rest (22%) by TBA (*dukun*). The prevalence of LBW babies was 6.3%. The perinatal and infant mortality rate were 27.6% per mil, and 51.6 per mil, respectively. The PHC midwives and village midwives that had undergone previous training were 65.6% and 26.9%, respectively. The knowledge of the midwives 85.3% was still poor and 19.7% had good practice/performance. Among those who have had previous training, 75.7% practiced KMC method, consisting of 79.2% PHC midwives, and 57.0% village midwives. The knowledge of PHC midwives categorized as good, fair, and poor was 7.7%, 14.4% and 77.7%, respectively and their practices categorized as good, fair and poor was 21.1%, 37.8% and 41.1%, respectively. The knowledge of village midwives categorized as good, fair, poor was 1.0%, 11.4%, and 87.6%, respectively, and their practices was 19.3%, 23.4%, and 59.3%, respectively. The most common complaint of mothers in using the method was irritation/sensitive. The main constraint was the poor/low education of the mothers.

Conclusion : The knowledge and practices of midwives especially the village midwives are still poor/low. Spreading information of KMC method by coordinator midwives of PHC to village midwives is also still poor.