

**FACTORS RELATED TO THE UTILIZATION OF
ANTENATAL CARE SERVICES AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN
AT HEALTH CENTERS IN ACEH BESAR DISTRICT,
NANGGROE ACEH DARUSSALAM PROVINCE,
INDONESIA**

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ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional study was conducted at five health centers in Aceh Besar District, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Province, Indonesia in order to identify the association between the predisposing characteristics (maternal age, education of respondents and husbands', occupation of respondents and husbands', family income and knowledge), enabling resources (accessibility and availability, waiting time, information acquired and satisfaction) and need factors (parity, type of last delivery, complication during previous and current pregnancy, intention of pregnancy and husband's concern) with the utilization of antenatal care services.

Using a structured questionnaire, the data was derived from 160 pregnant women in the third trimester who utilized the antenatal care services at five health centers: Ingin Jaya, Indrapuri, Darul Imarah, Montasik and Suka Makmur. Descriptive statistics were used to describe the utilization of antenatal care services and dependent variables, while the relationship between these factors and utilization of antenatal care services was determined by Chi-square test. Multiple logistic regression was performed to determine predictive factors for antenatal care utilization.

The antenatal care utilization of pregnant women was measured by the visits based on guideline of the Ministry of Health of Republic Indonesia. Logistic regression showed that the information acquired, intention of pregnancy, satisfaction of antenatal care services, occupation and education of respondents were significant predictors for antenatal care utilization. After adjusting other factors, pregnant women who acquired less information from health care providers were nearly 7.5 times more likely to inadequately utilize antenatal care services compared to those who acquired enough information.

Health Promotion and prevention should be taken into consideration to create an awareness of pregnancy risk. Interpersonal communication and counseling training should be provided for midwives as they are the main health providers and implementers of the mother and child health program. Health providers should implement the standard operational procedure as per the guidelines of antenatal care services in order to ascertain key performance indicators to improve the quality of service.

KEY WORDS: UTILIZATION/ ANTENATAL CARE SERVICES/ HEALTH CENTERS

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