

ABSTRACT

Toddlerhood is an important period in the process of growth and development of a child. Malnourished children can experience malnutrition and have an impact on stunting. Gorontalo Province is still facing challenges in terms of malnutrition, one of which is still having a stunting problem, namely Boalemo Regency with a stunting prevalence of 29.8%. There are several factors that can influence the incidence of stunting, namely direct and indirect factors. The purpose of this study was to analyze the factors associated with the incidence of stunting in toddlers in the working area of the Saritani Health Center, Boalemo Regency.

The research design was cross sectional using stratified simple random sampling technique and the number of samples was 112 mothers under five in January 2023. The study was conducted from January to February 2023.

The results showed that the majority of toddlers who experienced stunting were 57 toddlers (50.9%).

Based on the calculation of the chi square statistical test with a significant value <0.05 , indicating that there is a significant relationship between the history of infectious disease factors and the incidence of stunting ($p=0.006$), the value of $OR=2.804$, there is a significant relationship between risk factors for pregnant women and the incidence of stunting ($p=0.005$), $OR=2.760$, there is no significant relationship between the Kadarzi factor and the incidence of stunting ($p=1.000$), $OR=1.606$, there is no significant relationship between the PHBS factor and the incidence of stunting ($p=0.830$), $OR = 1.072$, there is no significant relationship between the factor of utilization of nutrition services at the puskesmas and the incidence of stunting ($p = 1.000$), $OR = 0.743$, and there is a significant relationship between the factor of the frequency of nutrition services at the puskesmas and the incidence of stunting ($p = 0.001$), $OR = 2.859$ in the working area of the Saritani Health Center, Boalemo Regency.

Health promotion efforts can be made for mothers under five can be carried out as nurses' efforts to increase stunting prevention by knowing the factors that cause stunting. Improving efforts to provide nutrition education services at health centers related to stunting, namely the First 1000 Days of Life, Infant and Child Feeding Practices, and exclusive breastfeeding which is carried out routinely.

Keywords: infectious diseases, pregnant women, frequency of public health center services, stunting incidence, health promotion