

IMUNIZATION PROGRAM EMBRACEMENT OF CHILDREN 12-23 MONTHS OF AGE IN PURWOREJO, CENTRAL JAVA

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Abstract

A baseline survey was carried out in Purworejo district, Central Java. The survey was a baseline data collection as a part of the community health and nutrition research laboratory (CHNRL) in the district. The objectives of the study were to estimate the coverage and timeliness of BCG, second dose of DPT and Polio, and measles immunization among children aged 12-23 months. The findings of the study indicated that the proportion of children fully immunized was 83.7%, while the proportions of children immunized against tuberculosis, diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus, polio and measles were 91.1%, 85.6%, 85.4%, and 73.4% respectively. These figures were comparable to those reported based on the Indonesian Demographic and Health Survey in 1994 for Central Java. Village health post (*posyandu*) was the most frequently reported location for vaccine delivery, followed by primary health centre. The mean ages of vaccination were 63 days, 125 days and 278 days for BCG, both second dose of DPT and Polio, and measles respectively. The age of measles immunization was predicted by the age of DPT immunization with a regression coefficient of 0.49 (95% confidence interval 0.26-0.39). Similarly, the age of DPT immunization was significantly related to the age of BCG immunization, with a regression coefficient of 0.77 (95% confidence interval 0.58-0.67). The village health post was as good as the other facilities where the immunization took place in terms of the timeliness of vaccine delivery, except for BCG which was delivered at an age of one month older on the average, compared to the age when BCG vaccination was provided in a private clinic or doctor's private office. Village health posts and primary health centers will become the spearheads in achieving WHO target of 90% coverage of basic immunization. However, the role of private clinics and doctors and midwives in their private practices to deliver immunization services should be improved, taking possible contacts with children as opportunity for vaccine delivery.

Key words: expanded program for immunization - vaccine coverage - age of vaccination