

EFFECT OF SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS ON INFANT MORTALITY IN PURWOREJO, CENTRAL JAVA, INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: The infant mortality rate has been identified as one of the key indicators used to assess improvements in health development. Indonesia's programs have focused on reducing the high level of infant and childhood mortality with various efforts to achieve the goal of a healthy population by the year 2000.

OBJECTIVE: To study the effect of socio-demographic factors on infant mortality and survival in Purworejo district, Central Java, Indonesia.

MATERIAL AND METHOD: A cohort study with 90 days cycle was performed to follow mortality event of infants who were born in the study sample during the year 1995-96. A sample of 14,627 households was selected using probability proportional to estimated size. This study took advantaged from the surveillance system of the CHN-RL in Purworejo, conducting by Faculty of Medicine, Gadjah Mada University.

RESULTS: The number 1985 infants have been identified as a sample study. Infant mortality rate was 51.8 per 1,000 person years with 95% confidence interval ± 10.4 (41.4-62.2). Males have a higher mortality rate than female with RR 1.4 and 95%CI (1.0-2.2), most of mortality occurred before one month of age. Infant mortality was lowest (23.1 per 1,000 person-years) among females who were born after older brothers and increase among males with older brothers. Uneducated and low education level mother, farmers and living in highland was significantly contributed to higher infant mortality with IMR 113.8, 73.1 and 81.9 per 1,000 person years, respectively. Poor households had effected to infant mortality when was analyzed univariate with OR 2.2 95%CI (1.4-3.6), but it was not significant in multivariate analysis with OR 1.6 and 95%CI (0.9-2.8).

CONCLUSION: The infant mortality in Purworejo was classified as a high rate, and strongest risk factor was lower mother's education. It was no different infant mortality rate compared to Central Java Province level and national level (1996), but still higher than the target of WHO's strategy in health for all.

Key words: Infant mortality, socio-demography, health status, Indonesia