

Relationship Between Husband's Support and the Completeness of Basic Immunization

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Abstract: Immunization is one of the most important health activities necessary for improving children's health, helping prevent various infectious diseases. Despite its crucial role, many children still miss out on receiving complete basic immunization, a concerning public health issue. Among the various factors influencing the successful implementation of immunization programs, the support of family members, particularly husbands, plays a critical role. This study aims to explore the relationship between the support provided by husbands and the basic immunization status of children. A quantitative research design with a cross-sectional approach was employed in this study. The sample consisted of 40 respondents, selected through purposive sampling. The study used the Chi-Square test for data analysis to determine any significant associations between the variables. The results indicate a significant relationship between husband support and the basic immunization status, with a p-value of 0.02. The findings suggest that social support, especially from husbands, is essential in encouraging mothers to ensure their children receive complete immunization. The support not only involves emotional and informational backing but also practical assistance, such as accompanying the mother to health facilities or assisting in scheduling appointments. By involving husbands in the immunization process, mothers may experience less stress and greater encouragement, leading to higher rates of immunization compliance. These results emphasize the importance of engaging family members, particularly husbands, in health initiatives aimed at improving child health outcomes. Public health programs should consider strategies to enhance family involvement, particularly targeting husbands, to achieve better immunization rates and, consequently, improved public health among children.

Keywords: Basic immunization; Husband's support; Immunization status

1. Introduction

Immunization is one way to increase immunity by administering vaccines. Basic immunization is a mandatory immunization activity given to children with the aim of providing immunity, so that children do not get sick easily and reduce the risk of death (Darmin et al., 2023).

Many factors cause the implementation of basic immunization in children to be suboptimal and incomplete, one of which is the lack of knowledge of mothers about the importance of immunization. Mothers who do not understand the benefits of immunization tend to ignore the activity, so they do not provide complete basic immunization to their children. This condition certainly has a negative impact on children's health (Ikrimah Pohan et al., 2023).

In addition, another factor that also influences is the lack of social support received by mothers, so that mothers tend to ignore the importance of immunization and do not realize that immunization is a very important activity for children's health (Pandeiro & Wilujeng, 2015).

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These factors cause the implementation of basic immunization to be incomplete, which ultimately increases the risk of illness in children (Almeida et al., 2024). According to WHO, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on immunization activities, where around 80 million children from 65 countries are affected and have the potential to experience an increase in morbidity due to decreased immunization coverage. Meanwhile, nationally, immunization activities have decreased by 13% (Mukhi & Medise, 2021). This shows that the lack of public knowledge about the importance of immunization is still a challenge in Indonesia (Susanty et al., 2025).

Research conducted by Zuiatna (2019) shows that there are still many factors that cause incomplete basic immunization in children (Zuiatna, 2019). This is an indication that mothers' knowledge regarding basic immunization is still relatively low (Purnama et al., 2022).

The physical and mental readiness of mothers regarding the importance of immunization needs to be improved so that the problem of low immunization coverage can be resolved immediately and the number of cases decreases. Mental readiness can be built by increasing mothers' knowledge about immunization, so that they are ready to receive information that is useful for children's health (Rusidin et al., 2016).

In addition, physical readiness can be supported by those closest to them, such as social support from husbands or other family members (Lubis et al., 2024). Families who provide full support to mothers in carrying out immunization visits are very important. Mothers who lack knowledge, if accompanied by their husbands or family, will slowly understand the importance of immunization and be willing to provide basic immunization to their children (Lila Apriani et al., 2024).

Based on this background, researchers are interested in examining the relationship between husband's support and basic immunization status at the Arjasa Health Center.

2. Research Methods

This study used a quantitative method with a cross-sectional approach, which aims to determine the relationship between husband's support and basic immunization status. The population and sample in this study were 40 mothers who were randomly selected using a purposive sampling technique.

The research instrument used a questionnaire on family support consisting of 10 statements, as well as a basic immunization completeness checklist. The data collection procedure was carried out by providing informed consent to respondents regarding the research implementation process carried out by the researcher.

Research ethics are maintained by ensuring the confidentiality of respondent data. Data analysis used the Chi-Square test to determine the relationship between variable X (husband's support) and variable Y (basic immunization status).

This study received ethical clearance from the Research Ethics Committee of the Institute of Science and Health Technology RS dr. Soepraoen. Participation was voluntary, with informed consent obtained from each participant. Confidentiality and anonymity of respondents were strictly maintained throughout the study.

3. Results and Discussion

Based on the results of the research that has been conducted, the following are details about the variables studied:

Table 1. results

No	Variabel	Result	Value
1	Husband's support	Not good (25%) Good (75%)	0,02
2	Immunization Status	Complete (85%) Not complete (15%)	

3.1. Husband's Support

The results of the study showed that most respondents (75%) received good support from their husbands. This finding reinforces the understanding that support from husbands plays an important role in the success of basic immunization in children. Husband support can be in the form of providing information, assistance during visits to the integrated health post, reminding the immunization schedule, and providing emotional support to the wife.

Social support from a partner or nuclear family has a direct influence on health behavior, including in terms of utilizing preventive health services such as immunization. This support can increase mothers' motivation and confidence in making decisions related to their children's health. Mothers who feel supported by their husbands tend to be more proactive, consistent, and punctual in bringing their children to get complete basic immunization (Marbun, 2020).

This finding is in line with the results of a study by Fitriani (2024), which stated that mothers who receive emotional and instrumental support from their husbands are twice as likely to complete their children's immunizations than mothers who do not receive support. In this context, instrumental support includes real actions such as accompanying to health facilities, while emotional support includes psychological reinforcement and positive communication (Fitriani et al., 2024).

Basic immunization is very important as an effort to protect children from various infectious diseases that can be prevented by vaccines. When mothers receive strong social support, especially from their partners, this can reduce internal (such as fear, lack of confidence, or doubt) and external (such as limited time or transportation) barriers in accessing immunization services.

Social support also contributes to the formation of sustainable, healthy behavior. The PRECEDE-PROCEED model stated that predisposing, enabling, and reinforcing factors are

important determinants in changing health behavior. Husband's support is one of the reinforcing factors that can encourage mothers to actively fulfill their children's immunization schedule (Sutisna Sulaeman et al., 2017).

Thus, the results of this study strengthen the importance of the role of husbands as active partners in maternal and child health. Increasing awareness and participation of men in child immunization programs, both through education and public campaigns, needs to be strengthened in order to increase the coverage of basic immunization nationally.

3.2. Immunization Status

The results of the study showed that most respondents in the Arjasa area, Jember had complete immunization status (85%), while 15% of respondents did not complete their children's immunization. This achievement does show a positive trend, but the 15% figure that is incomplete remains a serious concern because incomplete immunization can have an impact on the child's vulnerability to infectious diseases that should be prevented.

Complete basic immunization is a form of initial protection against various infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis B, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, and measles. Children who receive complete basic immunization have better immunity compared to children who only receive partial immunization or none at all (Anasril et al., 2024).

According to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, the coverage of complete basic immunization nationally has not reached the expected target, especially in several remote areas or with limited access to health services. One of the main causes is the lack of knowledge of mothers regarding the importance of immunization and fear of side effects such as fever or fussiness after immunization (Wigunarti et al., 2025).

Another study by Susanty (2025) also showed that negative public perceptions of immunization are still a significant obstacle. Some mothers still believe that immunization can make children sick or interfere with growth, even though this information is not based on scientific evidence. This fear is exacerbated by the circulation of false information on social media that is not necessarily accountable (Susanty et al., 2025).

Lack of awareness and understanding of mothers about the schedule and benefits of immunization is one of the main causes of incomplete immunization. This is reinforced by findings from the National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) which states that the success of immunization is not only determined by the availability of health services, but also by the mother's behavioral factors in utilizing these services routinely and on time (Ikrimah Pohan et al., 2023).

Thus, comprehensive and sustainable health education efforts are needed to increase mothers' knowledge about the benefits and importance of basic immunization. Posyandu cadres, midwives, and health workers have an important role in conveying correct information, building trust, and providing motivation to mothers so that their children's immunizations are carried out completely and on time.

3.3. Relationship between Husband Support and Immunization Status

The results of the study showed that there was a significant influence between husband's support and basic immunization status in the Arjasa area, Jember, with a significance value of 0.02. This shows that the husband's support plays an important role in increasing the coverage of basic immunization in children. Husband's support as part of social support influences maternal health behavior, especially in terms of decision-making to bring children to complete immunization.

Social support from those closest to them, especially husbands, acts as a reinforcing factor in health behavior theory. Amhar (2023) in the PRECEDE-PROCEED model stated that social support can encourage someone to take health actions, including immunization. Husbands who accompany and are actively involved in the child's immunization process—both in reminding schedules, accompanying them to the integrated health post, and providing information and emotional support—will create a sense of security and confidence for mothers, so that the decision to complete immunization becomes more solid (Amhar et al., 2023).

Research by Wardayani (2021) stated that families, especially spouses, have a strategic role in the process of changing health behavior. In the context of immunization, the role of the husband is very important because it can strengthen the mother's belief in the importance of immunization. The husband can also help overcome obstacles faced by the mother, such as fear of side effects, access to transportation, or limited time (Wardayani, 2021).

In addition to direct support, the husband's role in supporting the mother also includes the aspect of knowledge. Husbands who understand the benefits of immunization will tend to provide accurate information and support positive decision-making. Research by Wulandari & Astuti (2020) shows that mothers who are supported by partners with good knowledge of immunization are 2.5 times more likely to complete their children's immunizations compared to mothers who do not receive support (Aliffah et al., 2025).

The low coverage of basic immunization in several areas indicates that husband support is not optimal. Incomplete immunization is often not only caused by lack of access to services, but also by low health literacy in the family and lack of motivation from the immediate environment. This indicates the need for active involvement of husbands in maternal and child health programs, especially through family-based education (Naddya Aprilia Marth Henuck et al., 2024).

Thus, husband support has proven to be an important determinant in the success of the implementation of basic immunization. Public health interventions need to consider family- and couple-based approaches to increase the effectiveness of childhood immunization programs.

4. Conclusions

This study shows a significant influence between husbands support and children's basic immunization status in the Arjasa area, Jember. Mothers who receive support from their husbands tend to be more consistent in visiting the integrated health post and completing their children's immunizations according to schedule. This support is not only emotional, but also instrumental and informational, which plays a role in increasing mothers' awareness, motivation, and positive behavior towards immunization. Thus, husband's support is proven to be an important factor in achieving optimal basic immunization coverage.

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