



The relationship between behavioral risk factors and the incidence of pneumonia in toddlers at the regional general hospital, Martapura, Indonesia

Ulfah, Agustine Ramie, Nurhayati, Muhammad Rasyid and Vonny Khresna Dewi

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Abstract

Pneumonia is the leading cause of death from infectious diseases among children worldwide. Indonesia ranks seventh in child mortality due to infectious diseases^[8]. South Kalimantan Province ranks eighth, with 6,454 reported cases. At the Martapura Regional General Hospital (2024), pneumonia ranked sixth among the ten most common diseases, and in February 2025 it dominated pneumonia cases in the pediatric ward. This study aimed to determine the relationship between behavioral risk factors and the incidence of pneumonia in toddlers. The study employed an analytic survey with a cross-sectional approach involving 45 toddlers (aged 12-59 months) presenting with cough symptoms. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire for behavioral risk factors and pneumonia incidence based on medical record data. Significant associations were found between nutritional status ($p = 0.036$), exclusive breastfeeding ($p = 0.031$), parental smoking habits ($p = 0.031$), vaccination status ($p = 0.002$), handwashing habits ($p = 0.027$), and the incidence of pneumonia in toddlers. Behavioral risk factors were significantly associated with the incidence of pneumonia among toddlers at the Martapura Regional General Hospital.

Keywords: Pneumonia, toddlers, behavioral risk factors