

Factors Associated with Participation of Pregnant Women in Examination VCT (Voluntary Counseling and Testing)

Bunga Tiara Carolin¹, Dayan Hisni², Farida Afif¹

¹Midwifery Study Program, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universitas Nasional, Jakarta, Indonesia

²Nursing Study Program, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universitas Nasional, Jakarta, Indonesia

Correspondence should be addressed to:
Bunga Tiara Carolin
bunga.tiara@civitas.unas.ac.id

Abstract:

HIV/AIDS has become a big scary enemy in Indonesia. The incidence of HIV/AIDS in pregnant women also makes it difficult to achieve the 2015-2019 National Medium Term Development Plan targets in the health sector at 3 points at once, namely maternal mortality, infant mortality, and the prevalence of HIV cases. The Voluntary Counseling Testing (VCT) strategy is the core of all efforts to prevent and control HIV/AIDS globally. The aim is to identify factors associated with the participation of pregnant women in the examination VCT. The research design is an analytic method with a cross-sectional study approach. The population in this study were all pregnant women who had Antenatal Care. The sampling technique used in this study is to use a total sampling technique. Data analysis used univariate and bivariate analysis with the chi-square statistical test. The result of this study there were 10.0% pregnant women who did not perform VCT examinations, 70% of pregnant women who had good knowledge, 80% pregnant women who received support from their husbands, 82.5% pregnant women who get the role of health workers in a good category, 30% pregnant women who have a long distance from the place of health services. There is a significant relationship between knowledge (0.001), attitude (0.000), husband's support (0.000), the role of officers ((0.001) and the distance to HIV VCT examination in pregnant women. The conclusion is that many pregnant women have understood and done the VCT test. it is hoped that the health workers will continue to provide information and support so that the implementation of the VCT test in pregnant women reaches 100%.

Article info:

Submitted:
19-12-2022
Revised:
01-02-2023
Accepted:
02-02-2023

Keywords:

pregnant; HIV AIDS; VCT

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.53713/htechj.v1i1.1>

This work is licensed under CC BY-SA License.



INTRODUCTION

Health development is essentially an effort carried out by all components of the Indonesian nation which aims to increase awareness, willingness, and ability to live healthily for everyone in order to realize the highest degree of public health, as an investment for the development of socially and economically productive human resources (Kemenkes RI, 2015). One of the indicators used to measure the health status of mothers in a region is the maternal mortality rate (MMR). MMR is an indicator that is sensitive to the quality and accessibility of health care facilities. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for the 2015-2030 period are to ensure a healthy life and encourage prosperity for all people at all ages (Kemenkes RI, 2014). MMR again showed a decrease to 305 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births based on the results of the Inter-Census Population Survey (SUPAS 2015) (Kemenkes RI, 2017). Every day, 830 mothers in the world (38

in Indonesia, based on MMR 305) die from diseases/complications related to pregnancy and childbirth.

The direct causes of maternal death are bleeding (25%), eclampsia (13%) and sepsis (15%), hypertension in pregnancy (12%), obstructed labor (8%), complications of unsafe abortion (13%), and other causes other reasons (8%). Indirect causes of maternal death are the result of pre-existing diseases or diseases that arise during pregnancy that affect pregnancy, for example malaria, anemia, cardiovascular disease and Human Immunodeficiency Virus or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS). HIV/AIDS has become a big scary enemy in Indonesia. The incidence of HIV/AIDS in pregnant women also makes it difficult to achieve the 2015-2019 National Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMN) targets in the health sector at 3 points at once, namely maternal mortality, infant mortality, and the prevalence of HIV cases. HIV/AIDS in pregnant women causes more serious problems because it can endanger the safety of the mother's life and is transmitted to the baby during pregnancy, during childbirth and breastfeeding. HIV/AIDS disease, in addition to disrupting the productivity of productive-aged pregnant women, is also at risk of producing a generation of people who also suffer from this infectious disease (Marya, 2018).

Based on the policy of the Minister of Health number 21 of 2013 concerning HIV and AIDS prevention article 17 it is stated that all pregnant women who carry out their pregnancy checks are required to take part in an HIV diagnostic examination with testing and counseling (VCT) as an effort to prevent and transmit HIV to the mother and the child she is carrying. Ministry of Health, 2013). The VCT strategy is the core of all efforts to prevent and control HIV/AIDS in the world. Several studies confirm that the utilization of VCT by pregnant women is still low. Other studies also state that perceived barriers to VCT include social stigma, lack of support from male partners and fear of knowing their positive HIV status and the lack of the role of health workers (Zinash, 2011).

HIV AIDS is a serious concern in Banten province. Based on data collected from the Banten Provincial AIDS Commission (KPA), HIV sufferers from March 2018 to now are 1,162 people in Tangerang Regency, 955 people in Tangerang City, and 446 people in South Tangerang including pregnant women in it. The Karawaci Baru Health Center is one of the health centers that plays a role in efforts to prevent and transmit HIV from mother and child. There is one sub-district health center and 6 sub-district health centers that are integrated in serving VCT (Voluntary Counseling Testing) by pregnant women.

The behavior of accepting and rejecting VCT (Voluntary Counseling Testing) carried out by pregnant women is influenced by several factors. According to Skinner in Notoatmojo (2010), states that the factors that differentiate behavior, namely internal and external factors, where the internal factors are factors that are directly related to the perpetrator, namely age, gender, education, occupation. While external factors are factors from outside (environment) that influence for example the distance to the place of service or the role of the family.

Previous research conducted by Nurhayati (2016) VCT examination at the Puskesmas only 56.5% of pregnant women had VCT examinations, from this study 58.7% of respondents had low knowledge, 63.0% received poor husband support, 54.3% pregnant women with the role of good health workers. Research conducted by Azinar (2021) stated that the knowledge and attitudes of FSW regarding HIV/AIDS were quite good but the behavior related to HIV/AIDS prevention was still low. One of the obstacles is due to the costs that must be spent on STI and HIV screening tests.

The difference between this study and previous studies is that the research lies in the factors studied more broadly, namely the level of knowledge, attitudes of pregnant women, husband's support, the role of health workers and the affordability of service distance, the more factors

studied from pregnant women the more it describes the dominant factor that influencing pregnant women in the participation of pregnant women in VCT (Voluntary Counseling Testing).

Based on this background, the authors feel the need to conduct research to find out how many pregnant women take VCT tests and what factors make mothers participate in VCT (Voluntary Counseling Testing) examination at the Karawaci Baru Health Center, Tangerang, Banten.

METHOD

The research design is an analytic method with a cross sectional study approach. The population in this study were all pregnant women who had ANC (Antenatal Care) at the Karawaci Baru Health Center in August 2019, totaling 45 people. The sampling technique used in this study is to use total sampling technique. The inclusion criteria in this study were a normal pregnancy where the mother was healthy, no bad obstetric history, the size of the uterus was the same for gestational age, normal physical and laboratory examinations, data obtained from medical records. based on these criteria, the sample in this study amounted to 40 respondents.

The dependent variable is the VCT examination. the independent variables are the level of mother's knowledge, mother's attitude, husband's support, the role of health workers, and affordability of service distance. research instrument using a questionnaire that has been tested for validity and reliability. Data analysis used univariate and bivariate analysis with the chi-square statistical test.

RESULT

Univariate Analysis Results

Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Respondents

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
The VCT examination		
No	4	10.0
Yes	36	90.0
Knowledge		
Not enough	12	30.0
Good	28	70.0
Attitude		
Negative	4	10.0
Positive	36	90.0
Husband's support		
No	8	20.0
Yes	32	80.0
The role of health workers		
Not enough	7	17.5
Good	33	82.5
Affordability of service distance		
Far	12	30.0
Not far	28	70.0
Total	40	100.00

Based on table 1, there were 4 respondents (10.0%) pregnant women who did not perform VCT examinations, 28 respondents (70%) pregnant women who had good knowledge, 32

respondents (80%) pregnant women who received support from their husbands, 33 respondents (82.5%) pregnant women who get the role of health workers in a good category, 12 respondents (30%) pregnant women who have a long distance from the place of health services.

Bivariate Analysis Results

Table 2. Variables Associated with the Participation of Pregnant Women in VCT Examination

Variables	The VCT examination				Total		p-value
	No		Yes		f	%	
	f	%	f	%			
Knowledge							
Not enough	4	33.4	8	8.4	12	100	0.001
Good	0	0	28	33.7	28	100	
Total	4	57.8	36	42.2	40	100.0	
Attitude							
Negative	3	7.5	1	2.5	4	100	0.000
Positive	1	2.5	35	87.5	36	100	
Total	4	10.0	36	90.0	40	100.0	
Husband's support							
No	4	10	4	10	8	100	0.000
Yes	0	0	32	80	32	100	
Total	4.0	10.0	36	90.0	40	100.0	
The role of health workers							
Not enough	3	7.5	4	10	7	100	0.001
Good	1	2.5	32	80	33	100	
Total	4	10.0	36	90.0	40	100.0	
Affordability of service distance							
Far	4	10	8	8.4	12	100	0.001
Not far	0	0	28	33.7	28	100	
Total	4	10.0	36	42.2	40	100.0	

Based on table 2 there is a significant relationship between knowledge ($0.001 \leq 0,05$), attitude (0.000), husband's support (0.000), the role of officers (0.001) and the distance to HIV VCT examination in pregnant women at The Karawaci Baru Health Center.

DISCUSSION

Knowledge

Knowledge is the content of knowing and this content occurs after people sense a certain object, sensing occurs through the five senses of sight, smell, feeling and touch, most of the knowledge is obtained through the eyes and ears. Knowledge or cognitive is a very important domain in shaping one's actions, the process of adopting behavior based on knowledge will be better than behavior that is not based on knowledge. Knowledge is needed as a physical boost in growing self-confidence so that it is said that knowledge is a stimulus to one's actions (Notoatmodjo, 2010).

The results of another study found that 51.5% of mothers who had good knowledge used VCT services and 94.6% of pregnant women who had less knowledge did not use VCT services. The results of the statistical test obtained a p value of 0.000, meaning that there was a significant relationship between knowledge and the use of VCT services (Mulyanti & Nuraeni, 2019). This research is also in line with research conducted by Sari (2014) entitled Factors that related to the

intention of pregnant women to utilize VCT services in the working area of the Ciputat Public Health Center, Tangerang Selatan City.

Research conducted by Irmaati et al (2019) that women's knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS in Lampung is still low. The majority of them have a wrong understanding of HIV/AIDS and how it is transmitted. Even though knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS is still low, they have high motivation to take an HIV test because by participating in VCT they will gain more knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS.

Based on the author's assumption that there is a significant relationship between knowledge and HIV VCT testing. When viewed from the questions asked in the questionnaire, some pregnant women knew about HIV VCT testing, both from the definition, purpose, and requirements for HIV VCT testing. This shows that the knowledge possessed by some pregnant women is good so that it will raise awareness of the mother about the HIV VCT program (Fikrie et al, 2021). However, there are still many pregnant women who are not willing to carry out VCT HIV examinations, this is because pregnant women are waiting to get permission from their husbands and waiting for their husbands or family to be able to accompany them during the examination. Mother's knowledge about HIV/AIDS and the VCT program will form a positive attitude towards early detection of cervical cancer. This is also a dominant factor in HIV VCT. The knowledge possessed by pregnant women will lead to mother's trust about the HIV VCT Program.

Attitude

Attitude in the opinion of Krech and Crutchfield is a relatively long-lasting organization of motivational, perceptual, and cognitive processes that are relatively settled in the individual and related to aspects of his life (Wawan and Dewi, 2010).

This research is in line with other studies which show that the majority (59.3%) of respondents have a supportive attitude and (40.7%) have a less supportive attitude. In this study it was found that respondents who had a less supportive attitude, the proportion who did not carry out HIV testing (50%) was greater than the respondents who were supportive (9.4%). The results of the bivariate analysis showed that the statistical test obtained a p value of 0.002, which means that there is a relationship between attitudes and HIV testing behavior (Halim et al, 2016).

Based on the author's assumption that there is a significant relationship between attitude and HIV VCT testing. In the research conducted, researchers found that the attitudes of pregnant women in the new Karawaci area were still lacking. In general, individuals tend to have a conformist attitude or in line with the attitudes of people who are considered important. This tendency is partly motivated by the desire for affiliation and the desire to avoid conflict with people who are considered important. The implementers of the VCT program are health workers at the local FKTP. Provide counseling before and after HIV detection is carried out.

Husband's support

The role of the husband referred to by the husband plays an important role in women's reproductive health in efforts to prevent HIV transmission from mother to baby. Husbands who provide support by conveying the importance of family health increase efforts in health for antenatal care and child immunization as well as improve communication. The lack of a husband's role in visits to ANC services was caused by the respondent's perception that prenatal care is an activity that is only carried out specifically by women, so that the husband does not feel the need to accompany his wife for prenatal checks (Halim et al, 2016).

The results of this study are also in line with another study, it was also found that respondents with good husband support, the proportion who took an HIV test (75.7%) was greater

than that of respondents with poor husband support (18.2%). Statistical test results p value 0.000, which means statistically there is a relationship between husband's support and HIV testing behavior (Legiati, 2012).

Based on the author's assumption that there is a significant relationship between husband's support and VCT examination. In the research conducted. According to the author's assumption, husband's support for pregnant women is physical and psychological support given by husbands in the form of encouragement/motivation or encouragement and advice to pregnant women.

The role of health workers

The role of a health worker is an activity that is expected of a health worker who provides health services to the community to improve public health status. Health workers are an important component in the various health care approaches to patients with HIV/AIDS. Therefore, health workers must have the ability to analyze a problem and formulate effective planning action formulations. Moreover, in providing services to people infected with HIV so that they can take the right steps and prevent them from progressing to an advanced stage. The lack of information and sub-optimal health services are increasing cases of HIV/AIDS every year. This problem requires more serious handling from various related parties, including health workers whose roles and contributions need to be increased (Satiti, 2016).

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Nurhayati (2016) entitled Factors Associated with the participation of pregnant women in VCT examinations at the Puskesmas, the results of this study obtained a p value = 0.000 and OR 69.00, namely there is a significant relationship between the role of health workers and the status of VCT examinations in pregnant women.

According to the assumptions of the researchers, respondents who carried out VCT examinations were greatly influenced by the role of health workers, especially midwives. Pregnant women will carry out HIV VCT examinations on the advice of health workers, especially midwives.

Affordability of service distance

Geographical location is also very decisive for health services, in remote places it is difficult for pregnant women to have their pregnancies checked, this is because transportation is difficult to reach to remote places (Bobak, 2014). Factors where health services are far enough away making it difficult for them to check themselves and their pregnancy (Rukiah & Yulianti, 2014).

The results of this study are in line with the research conducted by Vitasari (2015) with the title Relationship Between Level of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Motivation of midwives with the willingness to carry out the Prevention Of Mother To Child Test Of HIV Transmission in Pregnant Women at the Campurejo Health Center, Kediri Regency, from the results In this study, it was found that the p value = 0.001 OR 20.58, which means that there is a significant relationship between service distance and the status of VCT examinations in pregnant women.

Based on the author's assumption that there is a significant relationship between the affordability of service distance and the status of HIV VCT examinations in pregnant women. The more affordable the distance to health services, the fewer pregnant women who do not have HIV VCT examinations.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study entitled Factors Associated with the Participation of Pregnant Women in VCT Examination at the Karawaci Baru Health Center, the researchers

concluded that 70% pregnant women who had good knowledge, 80% pregnant women who received support from their husbands, 82.5% pregnant women who get the role of health workers in a good category, 30% pregnant women who have a long distance from the place of health services. There is a significant relationship between knowledge, attitude, husband's support, the role of officers and the distance to HIV VCT examination in pregnant women. That many pregnant women have understood and done the VCT test. It is hoped that the health workers will continue to provide information and support so that the implementation of the VCT test in pregnant women reaches 100%.

REFERENCES

- Azinar, M. (2021). Perilaku Pencegahan Penularan HIV/AIDS pada Wanita Pekerja Seks (WPS) Usia Remaja. *HIGEIA (Journal of Public Health Research and Development)*, 5(1), 63-71.
- Bobak. (2014). *Buku Ajar Keperawatan Maternitas*. EGC.
- Fikrie, A., Rifai, A., & Kurniawan, D. E. (2021). Improving Pregnant Mothers' Intention toward HIV Testing through Home-based HIV Test and Education (HOPE) in Jember, Indonesia. *NurseLine Journal*, 6(1), 18-23. doi:10.19184/nlj.v6i1.18521
- Halim, Y., Syamsulhuda, B. M., & Kusumawati, A. (2016). Faktor-faktor yang berhubungan dengan perilaku ibu hamil dalam pemeriksaan HIV di wilayah kerja Puskesmas Halmahera Kota Semarang. *Jurnal Kesehatan Masyarakat (UNDIP)*, 4(5), 395-405.
- Irmayati, N., Yona, S., & Waluyo, A. (2019). HIV-related stigma, knowledge about HIV, HIV risk behavior and HIV testing motivation among women in Lampung, Indonesia. *Enfermeria Clinica*, 29, 546-550.
- Kementerian Kesehatan RI. (2014). *Info Data dan Informasi*. Kementerian Kesehatan Republik Indonesia.
- Kementerian Kesehatan RI. (2013). *Surat edaran No. 129 Tahun 2013 Tentang Pelaksanaan Pengendalian HIV-AIDS dan Infeksi Menular Seksual (IMS)*. Kementerian Kesehatan Republik Indonesia.
- Kementerian Kesehatan RI. (2015). *Pedoman Pelayanan Konseling dan Testing HIV/AIDS secara Sukarela (Voluntary Counseling and Testing)*. Kementerian Kesehatan Republik Indonesia.
- Legiati, T., Shaluhiah, Z., & Suryoputro, A. (2012). Perilaku ibu hamil untuk tes HIV di kelurahan Bandarharjo dan Tanjung Mas kota Semarang. *Jurnal Promosi Kesehatan Indonesia*, 7(1), 74-85.
- Mulyanti, S., & Nuraeni, N. (2019). Faktor-faktor yang berhubungan dengan pemanfaatan voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) pada ibu hamil di wilayah kerja Puskesmas Karanganyar Kota Tasikmalaya. *Jurnal Medika Cendikia*, 6(01), 33-43.
- Notoatmodjo, S. (2010). *Promosi Kesehatan dan Ilmu Perilaku*. Rineka Cipta.
- Nurhayati. (2016). Faktor-faktor yang berhubungan dengan keikutsertaan ibu hamil dalam pemeriksaan VCT di Puskesmas. *Jurnal Human Care, STIKes Fort De Kock, Bukittinggi*, 1(3).
- Rukiah, A. Y., & Yulianti, L. (2014). *Asuhan Kebidanan Kehamilan Berdasarkan Kurikulum Berbasis Kompetensi*. CV. Trans Info Media
- Sari, A. W. (2014). *Faktor-Faktor Yang Berhubungan dengan Niat Ibu Hamil Untuk memanfaatkan Layanan VCT (Voluntary Counseling and Testing) Di wilayah Kerja Puskesmas Ciputat, Kota Tangerang Selatan Provinsi Banten Tahun 2014*.
- Vitasari, R. N. (2015). Hubungan antara tingkat pengetahuan, sikap tentang penyakit menular seksual dan motivasi dari bidan dengan kesediaan melakukan tes prevention of mother to child of hiv transmission pada ibu hamil (Di Puskesmas Campurejo, Kota Kediri). *Doctoral dissertation*. UNS (Sebelas Maret University).

Wawan, A., & Dewi, M. (2010). *Teori dan pengukuran pengetahuan, sikap dan perilaku manusia*. Nuha Medika.