Author's response to reviews

Title: Factors Influencing Mothers' Participation in Posyandu for Improving Nutritional Status of Children Under-Five in Aceh Utara District, Aceh Province, Indonesia

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Prof. Herman Van Oyen
Prof. Oliver Bruyère
Editor-in-Chief
BioMed Central Public Health

Dear Professor,

Thank you for your kind consideration that our manuscript has been reviewed. With this cover letter, we will submit the revised manuscript entitled “Factors influencing Mother’s Participation in Posyandu for Improving Nutritional Status of Children Under-five in Aceh Utara District, Aceh Province, Indonesia” for publication in BMC Public Health Journal. We would like to thank referees for the careful and constructive reviews. Based the comments from the referees, we like to reply the comments, which are:

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  1. We’ve read carefully the abstract, but we didn’t find that we mentioned one of the activities on Posyandu. We have already concluded the result and recommendation based on our findings.
  2. The 5th paragraph has been already revised. We described Posyandu criteria.
  3. The main data collectors are us. There was no conflict of interest with nutrition staff because before collecting data we met up and explained our purpose. The staff have already accustomed in gathering Posyandu data as the monthly report to district health office.
  4. In methods part, we already mentioned the inclusion-exclusion criteria.
  5. We involve in linkage program Gunma University and Universitas Padjadjaran. We had ethics clearance from Gunma University because the study design and protocol were developed in the university which are known by Universitas Padjadjaran supervisors. We neither publish the raw data nor use them for others purposes that can harm or endanger Indonesia. Then, the raw data and questionnaire are discarded and shred. Based on that, the local government permitted to collect the data.
  6. Regarding to referee suggestions to revise the grammar, the English of this manuscript has been checked by an English editing service for scientific manuscripts and the style of the manuscript has a little revision.

- Minor Compulsory Revisions
  1. We revised “most” to “about half of respondents.
  2. Yes, it is true that education parameter has no significant association with mothers’ participation. However, we must show the data as well as the significant association.
  3. About the reasons of respondents attend Posyandu, such as near and free, come up from community itself. Regarding respondents’ view, distance and free are part of the Posyandu service. Some villages established more than 1 Posyandu to overcome the problem. Moreover because of poor people, they won’t access Posyandu if they have to pay (out of pocket)

- Discretionary Revisions
  1. We should describe shortly about the Posyandu history. We consider that our readers are not only Indonesians, but also foreigners.
2. We knew the percentage was too small after collecting and analyzing data. So, we have to include the variable, even though it has no given any importance.

3. We developed figures 2, 3, 4, and 5 in bar chart because it is a simple and understandable chart for categorical data.

We appreciate the comments of the reviewers. This manuscript has not been published and is not concurrently consideration elsewhere. There are no interest conflicts of the authors in this manuscript. All other authors have read the manuscript and have agreed to submit it in its current form.

We would be very grateful if this manuscript could be considered for publication in BMC Public Health Journal.

Sincerely,

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