Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 19 January 2015

Reviewer: Faisal Anwar

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

In Abstract, author stated that one of the activities on Posyandu is “Monitoring the Nutritional Status”. The term is quite unusual to be used. It should be “growth Monitoring”. On the conclusion part of abstract, the author did not “conclude” the research. The author just give a “suggestion” to the readers, which is the author doesn’t have or collect the data on those. Author is asked to revised this to more a “conclusion” sentences of their research.

The Introduction: 5th paragraph must be revised. In addition author are asked to add the description about Posyandu; the activity that includes in it, the people who are involved, and the classification of Posyandu itself (and please explain whether is it belongs to “independent Posyandu” or else, based on its’ daily activities, facilities and infrastructure, funds, readiness of voluntary workers, etc.). The reviewer questions the author whether the author have consider the classification, that is Posyandu has a variety of, when constructing its’ sampling frame, because in the practice, the classification of Posyandu is closely related to the participation level of subject.

In Materials and Method, it is stated that data collection was conducted by the staff from Primary Health Center. The reviewer is concerned whether the data collection was biased by the conflict of interest of the interviewers/data collector. Please author respond to this matter, in order to make the readers convinced that the data is valid without any bias.

In Materials and Method: 2nd paragraph on Subject of Research, it is stated that the author done a “multistage random sampling”. Reviewer suggest that the author should add more description about the sampling frame itself such as how many villages are involved, the sample size calculation (if any), and the inclusion-exclusion criteria of sample.

In Materials and Method: 3rd paragraph on Subject of Research, it is stated that ethical clearance was given by Research ethics committee from Japan and permitted from local Indonesia Government. Since the research was carried out in Indonesia, shouldn’t the author ask the approval from ethics committee in Indonesia first before conducting the research, rather than just had the author’s institution reviewed it? If any approval was reached with local government,
please state that the author was done so.

In general, the reviewer regard the paper has many flaw on its' grammar and structure. Reviewer assumed that the author translate the original text per each word without being proofread. Author is asked to revise it before it can be accepted.

- Minor Essential Revisions

In Results: 1st paragraph, it is kind of unfit that only 54.5% of respondent being 30 years old were called “most”. Author was asked to revise the statement.

In Results: 2nd paragraph, author stated that the percentage of mothers with higher education attended more than 6 times per year slightly higher than the other group. Being only 1% of difference (50.3% in higher education group as compared to 49.3% among basic education group , table 2), it is clearly inconclusive that the education parameter has any significance to the attended frequency to the posyandu.

In Results: 2nd paragraph, the attitude, satisfaction, and intention of mothers are being taken as conclusion. These three parameters are not as clear as it is stated. Author was relating these parameters with an uneven reason to come back to Posyandu, which is “free” being compared with “monitoring status”. Moreover, reviewer thinks these reasons are not related and not on the same level to each other, i.e.; “free” and “near” is not the service they got when going to Posyandu, on the other hand, “immunization”, “food supplement” and “growth monitoring” are one of those. In addition, these “reasons of coming back to Posyandu” shouldn't be only one. The later one is fit to be a “reason” of these satisfaction, attitude, and interest parameter since it tightly related to the service that Posyandu offers to these mothers and their children, rather than the first one being just a “trivia” reasons to come back to Posyandu. Author is asked to revise/divide these parameters and describe it more clearly to ensure there is no misunderstanding about these results.

- Discretionary Revisions

The Introduction: 4th paragraph is not needed. Author can dispose that part since it has no real correlation to the article.

In Data Analysis, author gave a variable of marital status. Reviewer asked whether it has given any importance, since the percentage of it was too small (5.5%).

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests