

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH BIRTHWEIGHT

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ABSTRACT

Background: Birth weight is an important indicator of an infant's health. Birth weight represents a stable influence on brain development from childhood to adulthood, regardless of whether a child is little or large at birth, over or under the "normal limit" of 2500 grams. This study aimed to examine factors associated with birthweight.

Subjects and Method: A cross sectional study was conducted at Ngemplak Primary Health Center, Boyolali District, Central Java, Indonesia, from May to June 2018. A sample of 203 children under five years old were selected by simple random sampling. The dependent variable was birthweight. The independent variables were family income, gestational age, and maternal nutritional status (mid upper arm circumference/MUAC). The data was collected by questionnaire and were analyzed by multiple linear regression.

Results: Birthweight was positively associated with gestational age (b= 0.09; 95% CI= 0.03 to 0.15; p= 0.004), maternal MUAC (b= 0.14; 95% CI= 0.07 to 0.20; p<0.001), and family income (b= 0.09; 95% CI= 0.06 to 0.12; p<0.001).

Conclusion: Birthweight is positively associated with gestational age, maternal MUAC, and family income.

Keywords: birthweight, gestational age, maternal nutritional status, family income

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