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Knowledge and attitude of accepting COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and third doses among postpartum women in Palembang, Indonesia

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Abstract

Background: Since the discovery of Covid-19, scientific developments, policies, and programs regarding Covid-19 have changed rapidly. In 2022 the Covid-19 vaccine arrived at the second booster. In Indonesia, various policies related to Covid-19 are also experiencing very rapid adjustments, such as the policy for travelling using public transportation, planes, trains, and ships that require the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccine up to boosters. These regulations make the Covid-19 vaccination a necessity that seems forced. Pregnant and postpartum women are also not free from the target of giving Covid-19. Various theories and research have proven that knowledge is related to attitude. Following this theory, knowledge and attitudes will align with the completeness of Covid-19. So if positive knowledge and attitudes affect the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccine, then it will not be affected by the Covid-19 vaccination obligation policy required by the Indonesian government.

Purpose: To find out the relationship between Knowledge and attitude of accepting COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and third doses among postpartum women in Palembang, Indonesia

Method: This study was quantitative. The design was analytical with a cross-sectional approach. The study samples consisted of 38 postpartum mothers in Independent Practice Midwife at Palembang. The complications of postpartum mothers were excluded. The sampling technique was accidental sampling.

Results: There is no relationship between knowledge and accepting COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and third doses ($p=0.348$), but in the analysis, there is a relationship between attitude towards vaccination readiness and accepting COVID-19 ($p=0.003$), there is a relationship between attitude towards government policy and completeness of vaccination Covid-19 ($p=0.004$), there is a relationship between attitudes towards vaccines and accepting COVID-19 ($p=0.015$)

Conclusion: There is no relationship between knowledge and accepting COVID-19, and there is a relationship between attitude and accepting COVID-19

Keywords: Knowledge; Attitude; COVID-19 Vaccine; Booster Doses; Third Doses; Postpartum

INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without

needing special treatment. However, some will become seriously ill and require medical attention.

Older people and those with underlying medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, or cancer are more likely

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to develop serious illnesses. Anyone can get sick with Covid-19 and become seriously ill or die at any age (Covid-19 Handling Task Force, 2021).

Since the discovery of the Covid-19 virus, the world has continued to adapt to avoid and control the Covid-19 virus, including in Indonesia. Adaptation of new habits is introduced, developed and disseminated to the wider community. In adapting new habits apart from health protocols and preventing and controlling the spread of the Covid-19 virus, one of the steps is the Covid-19 Vaccination (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2020; Suriadi, Firman, & Ahmad, 2021).

Various government efforts such as forming a task force and volunteers, making regulations for the mandatory wearing of masks, conducting outreach, appeals, and education related to the spread of Covid-19, homecoming restrictions, vaccination (Wandra, Cikusin, & Hayat, 2021; Mutharuddin & Hartanto, 2020; Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2021).

Vaccination for Covid-19 aims to reduce transmission/transmission of Covid-19, reduce morbidity and mortality due to Covid-19, achieve herd immunity in the community and protect the community from Covid-19 so that they remain socially and economically productive. Herd immunity can only be formed if vaccination coverage is high and evenly distributed throughout the region (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2021; Tambunan, Sidabukke, & Rajagukguk, 2022; Nurhayani, Hidayat, & Silitonga, 2022).

Vaccination is one way to prevent infectious diseases that are not only given to babies, but also to adults. It gives certain bacterial or viral antigens weakened or killed, stimulating the immune system to recognize, recommend, and remember foreign objects. So that the body can easily recognize and prevent foreign objects from entering and attacking the body. In the development of handling Covid-19 in various parts of the world, there have been several studies in the context of making vaccines and drugs to overcome Covid-19. Specifically, regarding vaccines, several vaccine brands have been made. Indonesia uses

many vaccine brands in the context of handling Covid-19 in Indonesia (Dai & Sindi, 2022).

The covid pandemic that has occurred since 2020 has indirectly caused many changes to occur in society. One of the policies pursued by the government is implementing the Covid-19 vaccination program, which consists of primary vaccination programs and booster vaccinations. One factor influencing community participation in booster vaccination programs is people's behaviour towards booster vaccinations (Dai & Sindi, 2022; Sakti, Sulistyaningsih, & Sulistyowati, 2021).

The implementation of the Covid-19 vaccination in Indonesia has resulted in various perceptions of different public attitudes, some can accept it easily, and some cannot accept it at all because of the large amount of hoax news spread on social media about the implementation of vaccinations. in Indonesia so that people panic and also raise perceptions and attitudes towards co-19 vaccination (Mutharuddin & Hartanto, 2020). Good knowledge about health, then the person will understand the importance of maintaining health. Better individual knowledge of the importance of health makes individuals aware of the importance of following the COVID-19 vaccination (Dai & Sindi, 2022).

The health of a person or community is influenced by two main factors, namely behavioral causes and non-behavioral causes. While behavioral factors (causes of behavior) are influenced by three factors, namely: predisposing factors which include age, occupation, education, knowledge and attitudes; enabling factors that are manifested in the physical environment and distance to health facilities, and reinforcing factors that are manifested in the support provided by families and community leaders (Green, 1991; Nursalam, 2014). Other behavioral theories explain that attitude is a variable that influences behavioral intentions (Azjen, 2005).

RESEARCH METHOD

This quantitative study uses a correlation analytic design to determine the relationship between knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of postpartum mothers regarding the completeness of Covid-19

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vaccination. The research instrument used was a questionnaire with an ordinal scale, and the type of data used was primary data which took data directly from the source. The data collection technique in this study was distributing questionnaires to obtain knowledge and attitude data on the behaviour of postpartum mothers complete with Covid19 vaccination. The questionnaire consisted of 10 knowledge statements and 12 questions about attitudes and the completeness of vaccination. Society and ten statements for community behaviour. The

attitude variable is measured by three categories: the attitude of willingness to vaccinate, the attitude towards the government, and the attitude towards the Covid-19 vaccine. The sample is calculated using the solving formula. The sampling technique used an accidental sampling technique. Data analysis in this study was univariate analysis to see the knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of the complete implementation of the Covid-19 vaccination. At the same time, the bivariate analysis used the Spearman statistical test.

RESEARCH RESULTS

Table 1. Demographic Characteristic of Respondents (N=38)

| Variables | Results |
|---|-----------------------|
| Age (Mean ± SD)(Range)(Years) | (27.13 ±5.662)(18-39) |
| Education Level (n/%) | |
| Higher education | 31/ 81.6 |
| Low education | 7/ 18.4 |
| Parity (n/%) | |
| Primiparous | 16 /42,1 |
| Multiparous | 22 /57.9 |
| Had COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and third doses (n/%) | |
| Yes | 20/52.6 |
| No | 18/47.4 |
| Knowledge (n/%) | |
| Good | 9/23.7 |
| Poor | 29/76.3 |
| An Attitude of Willingness for Vaccines (n/%) | |
| Positive | 29/76.3 |
| Negative | 9/23.7 |
| Attitudes Toward Government (n/%) | |
| Positive | 32/84.2 |
| Negative | 6/15.8 |
| Attitudes Towards Covid-19 Vaccines (n/%) | |
| Positive | 32/84.2 |
| Negative | 6/15.8 |

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Based on the table above, the characteristics of the respondents in this study were an average age of 27 years, higher education (81.6%), and multiparous parity (57.9%). The respondents who had completed the Covid-19 vaccination were 52.6%, only 23.7% had good knowledge, had a positive attitude towards their willingness to vaccinate against Covid-19 76.3%, had a positive attitude towards the government 84.2%, and those who had a positive attitude against the Covid-19 vaccine 84.2%.

Table 2. Knowledge and Attitudes of accepting COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses and Third Doses (N=38)

| Variables | Had COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses and Third Doses | | p. value | Koef |
|--|--|-----------|--------------|-------|
| | Yes (n=20) | No (n=18) | | |
| Knowledge (n/%) | | | | |
| Good | 6/30 | 3/20 | 0.348 | 0.157 |
| Poor | 14/70 | 15/80 | | |
| An Attitude of Willingness for Vaccines (n/%) | | | | |
| Positive | 19/95 | 10/66.7 | 0.003 | 0.463 |
| Negative | 1/5 | 8/33.3 | | |
| Attitudes Toward Government (n/%) | | | | |
| Positive | 20/10 | 12/80 | 0.004 | 0.456 |
| Negative | 0/0 | 6/20 | | |
| Attitudes Towards Covid-19 Vaccines (n/%) | | | | |
| Positive | 18/90 | 10/66.7 | 0.015 | 0.39 |
| Negative | 2/10 | 8/33.3 | | |

Based on the table above, knowledge is not related to completeness of Covid-19 vaccination ($p=0.348$). Meanwhile, the willingness to vaccinate correlates with the completeness of Covid-19 vaccination with $p=0.003$ and coefficient=0.463. This shows a moderate correlation. Attitudes towards government policies correlated with completeness of Covid-19 vaccination with $p=0.004$ and coefficient = 0.456 indicating a moderate correlation and attitudes towards the Covid-19 vaccine correlated with completeness of Covid-19 vaccinations with $p=0.015$, coefficient=0.39 indicating moderate correlation.

DISCUSSION

In this study there was no correlation between knowledge and the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccination, in contrast to research conducted at the

Banua Lawas Health Center in Tabalong Regency, there was a relationship between public knowledge and community interest in administering the Covid-19 vaccine. -19 vaccines using the Chi-Square Test. significant $p = 0.000$ ($p\text{-value}<0.05$). This shows that H_a (alternative hypothesis) is accepted and H_0 (nil hypothesis) is rejected, so that there is a relationship between public knowledge and community interest in implementing the Covid-19 Vaccine. Knowledge is the result of knowing what happens after someone senses a particular object. Knowledge of various ways to maintain health and prevent disease will increase public knowledge. Someone making decisions is closely related to knowledge, because with knowledge one has the basis for making choices (Khadijah, Rizal & Fauzan, 2022).

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However, this study obtained similar results to a study in Lompio Village which stated that there was no relationship between knowledge and behavior towards Covid-19 vaccination in residents aged 18-59 years, p-value 0.095 (Sakka & Indarjo, 2022). This can be caused by vaccination services that are not affordable by most respondents, lack of support from health workers, and no counselling from health workers regarding the Covid-19 vaccination. In his research, most of the people who took part in the Covid-19 vaccination because they needed a certificate of Covid-19 vaccination for work needs, while people who did not work felt that it was not important to take part in the Covid-19 vaccination (Khadija et al., 2022).

Research conducted on mothers giving birth at the Ankara City Hospital states that health authorities recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for nursing mothers. However, relatively low vaccination acceptance rates were observed in this study. For newly developed vaccines, concern over vaccine safety is the biggest obstacle to vaccine delivery. Therefore, the reasons that influence vaccine acceptance or rejection are important for developing targeted communication strategies and healthcare policies (Oluklu, Ayhan, Beser, Hendem, Tokalioglu, Turgut, & Sahin, 2021).

Research on active users of the Ovia parenting application (Ovuline, Inc. Boston, MA.) from the Ovia parenting and pregnancy application series available in the United States states that there is significant heterogeneity in vaccine uptake and attitudes towards vaccines during pregnancy according to sociodemography. and from time to time. Public health experts need to consider and test more tailored approaches to reduce vaccine hesitancy in this population (Kapinos, DeYoreo, Lawrence, Waymouth, & Uscher-Pines, 2022).

In this study, there was no relationship between knowledge and the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccination, contrary to research and theory that has been understood so far, that knowledge will affect health behaviour in the community. However, during the Covid-19 scientific pandemic, very much information was circulating in society, both true

information and hoaxes. This knowledge and information developed very quickly. In 2022 the journey of the Covid-19 pandemic was coming to an end. The incidence rate has also been sloping down, and the provision of covid-19 vaccinations in the community is already in the third or booster administration. Several government regulations direct the obligation of vaccination by the public for the formation of *herd immunity*, such as travel regulations on public transportation, trains, aeroplanes, and ships. So that people's behaviour ultimately chooses to follow this obligation for ease of travel and work without being accompanied by a significant addition of knowledge about the Covid-19 vaccine.

In this study, there is a relationship between respondents' attitudes towards their willingness to vaccinate against Covid-19, respondents' attitudes towards government policies, and respondents' attitudes towards the Covid-19 vaccine and the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccine vaccination. This is in line with previous research which stated that attitudes towards the Covid-19 vaccine affect vaccination intentions. This doubt explains why respondents decided to postpone registration to get vaccinated (Zahra & Husna, 2023). Research in Lompio Village shows that there is a relationship between attitudes and behavior towards the Covid-19 vaccination. Attitude is an awareness that arises from someone who wants to live a healthy life. So this can be related to a person's attitude in maintaining health so as not to contract various diseases such as Covid-19 (Sakka & Indarajo, 2022). The results of research in the working area of the Sidomulyo Health Center show that there is a relationship between attitude and willingness to be vaccinated against Covid-19 (Hutapea, Rizka, & Lestari, 2022). The results of the study follow the statement of Newcomb (1993) which states that attitude influences readiness or willingness to act (Notoatmodjo, 2014).

In this study, there is a relationship between attitude towards carrying out the Covid-19 vaccination with the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccination and respondents' willingness for the Covid-19 vaccine. At the same time, the positive attitude of respondents towards government policies indicates public trust in

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the regulations issued by the government, which will form immunity against Covid-19 in society. Likewise, the attitude of respondents towards the Covid-19 vaccine with the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccination indicates confidence in the vaccine's contents and the vaccine's ability to protect and prevent the spread of Covid-19.

CONCLUSION

The postpartum mother's knowledge did not correlate with the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccination. Still, the attitude of the postpartum mother correlated in the same direction with the completeness of the Covid-19 vaccination. This proves that the Covid-19 vaccination is quite well-received in Indonesian society.

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