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Relationship of Ferritin Levels of Pregnant Women Who Had Fe Deficiency Anemia with Ferritin Levels and APGAR of the Neonates

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ABSTRACT

Iron deficiency anemia in pregnant women can have a negative impact on the baby, such as placental development, low birth weight, prematurity, baby health, hypoxia, decreased immune status, possibility of having physiological disorders and infant growth. The aim of this study was to determine the relationship of ferritin levels of pregnant women who had Fe deficiency anemia with ferritin levels and Apgar of the neonates. This was a cross sectional study in the population of pregnant women who had Fe deficiency anemia and neonates who met the inclusion criteria taken by consecutive sampling technique in the working area of Lubuk Buaya Health Center, Ambacang Health Center and Ikur Koto Health Center. Examination of ferritin levels was carried out in the Biomedical Laboratory of Faculty of Medicine, Andalas University using ELISA method. Data were analyzed by Pearson Test and Mann-Whitney Test. The results of this study showed there was no significant relationship between maternal ferritin levels on neonatal ferritin $r = 0.248$, $p = 0.204$. It also showed that there was no relationship between maternal ferritin levels on APGAR p value = 0.199 and there was a significant relationship between neonatal ferritin levels on APGAR p value = 0.002. The conclusion of this study is that there was a positive relationship between maternal ferritin levels with neonatal ferritin levels, there was no significant relationship between maternal ferritin levels and APGAR score, there is a significant relationship between neonatal ferritin levels with APGAR score. By improving nutrition, socioeconomic, qualitative antenatal care, early referral of risky cases and iron supplementation can reduce the incidence of anemia.

I. INTRODUCTION

Iron deficiency anemia is a public health problem that can cause morbidity and mortality. The prevalence of iron deficiency anemia attacks in almost all age. One is pregnant women. Iron deficiency anemia in pregnant women can have a negative impact on the baby, such as placental development, low birth weight, prematurity, infant health, hypoxia, decreased immune status, possible physiological disorders and infant growth and development.¹

Anemia Fe deficiency in pregnant women is still a problem in the health sector, because the prevalence is still high, namely the prevalence of anemia there are 48% of pregnant women from total anemia as much as 56%. Besides that the anemia suffered by pregnant women has a bad effect on the baby. The cause of anemia is clearly not yet known whether the cause of anemia is due to iron deficiency, parasitic infection, vitamin A, folate deficiency, Vitamin B12 or because of nutrition. However, iron deficiency is a major cause of anemia in the world.²

Maternal risk of iron deficiency anemia during pregnancy can cause bleeding, cardiovascular stress, symptoms of anemia (such as fatigue, reduced physical and mental abilities, headaches, dizziness, and fatigue), prolonged hospitalization, decreased production of breast milk (ASI) during childbirth, loss of iron reserves at postpartum and later on.³

Based on the profile of the West Sumatra Health Office in January to August 2016 the number of mothers with anemia was 23.8%. While the prevalence of anemic pregnant women in the city of Padang was 9.3%. According to data from the Padang City Health Office in 2016 the Puskesmas area with the highest percentage of anemia cases in pregnant women was 22.1% in Ambacang Health Center, 17.6% in Lubuk Buaya Health Center and 11.7% in Ikua Koto Health Center.

Iron has an important role in fetal growth. During pregnancy, iron intake must be added considering that during pregnancy

the volume of blood in the mother's body increases, so that to be able to continue to meet maternal needs and supply food and oxygen to the fetus through the placenta, more iron intake is needed. The intake of iron is used by the fetus for its developing body, development of the brain and stored in the liver as a reserve until the baby is 6 months old.⁴

In agreement with with study in pregnancy, iron is needed for the first thousand days of life until the first two years of a child's life. If iron deficiency occurs, it can result in a permanent deficit and cannot return to normal and reduce productivity capacity.⁵

One of the effects on iron loss in infants is asphyxia, due to lack of iron function as an oxygen carrier. Neonatural asphyxia is a state of newborns who fail to breathe spontaneously and regularly immediately after birth accompanied by hypoxemia (low O₂ pressure), hypercapnea (increased CO₂ pressure) and end with acidosis. In general, asphyxia of newborns is a continuation of fetal asphyxia. Fetal assessment during pregnancy and childbirth plays an important role for infant safety.⁶ Poor maternal nutrition and chronic diseases such as anemia, hypertension, heart disease and others can result in fetal asphyxia, and will affect the fetus, which causes oxygenation disorders and lack of food substances associated with impaired placental function.

According to a report from the World Health Organization (WHO) about 23% of all neonatal mortality rates worldwide are caused by neonatal asphyxia, with a greater proportion of stillbirths. An estimated 1 million children survive after experiencing asphyxia at birth with long-term morbidity such as cerebral palsy, mental retardation and learning disorders.⁴

The condition of neonatural asphyxia can be known by the APGAR score. APGAR score is a test used to assess the baby's asphyxia state. APGAR assessment uses five indicators consisting of heart rate, respiratory

effort, muscle tone, reflex sensitivity and baby's skin color.⁷

In conclusion of the Laflame study in El Alto, Bolivia, highlights the fact that the application of hemoglobin adjustment for the diagnosis of anemia is very useful in predicting pregnancy outcomes. Using this adjustment method, pregnant women with anemia are strongly associated with the low APGAR value of infants at 1 and 5 minutes after birth, and shorter gestational length and higher parity.⁸

Based on the data above, the studyer wants to know the relationship between ferritin levels of pregnant women who have Fe deficiency anemia with ferritin levels and neonatal APGAR.

II. METHODS

This study was carried out from June 2017 to October 2017 in the working area of the Ambacang Health Center, Lubuk Buaya Health Center, Ikur Koto Health Center and Biomedical Laboratory Andalas University Padang totalling 28 pregnant women who met the inclusion criteria. Blood sampling is done after the candidate respondent is given an explanation about background, purpose and benefits of the study and get written consent from the study subject.

Data processing is done by using editing, coding, entry and tabulating method. Data analysis was performed using Shapiro-Wilk normality test. Analysis of the relationship between ferritin levels of pregnant women with iron deficiency anemia with neonatal ferritin levels was performed using Pearson test. To determine the relationship of ferritin levels and APGAR was performed using Mann Whitney test.

III. RESULTS

Table 1. Characteristics of Respondents

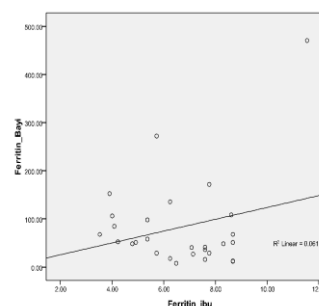
Characteristics	Mean ± SD
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Mother Age (years)	27.68 ± 3.345
Pariity	1.50 ± 0.793
Gestational Age	39.54 ±
Maternal ferritin (ng / ml)	6.65 ± 1.936
Neonates ferritin (ng / ml)	82.47 ± 95.951
APGAR	7.68 ± 0.476

The results showed that the mean age of mothers was 27.68 ± 3.345 years, mean parity 1.50 ± 0.793 people, the mean gestational age of 39.54 ± 1,105 weeks, mean ferritin of mothers 6,65 ± 1,936 ng / ml, mean ferritin of baby 82,47 ± 95,951 ng / ml and mean APGAR 7.68 ± 0,476.

Relationship of Ferritin Levels of pregnant mother with Ferritin Levels neonate can be seen in the following figure:

Figure 1. Relationship of Mother Ferritin Levels with Neonatal Ferritin Levels



*correlation test *Pearson*

Table 2. The Relationship Between Ferritin Level Mother's and APGAR

APGAR	n (%)	Maternal Ferritin (ng / ml) Mean ± SD	P value
Asphyxia	4 (14.3)	7.52 ± 1.337	0.199
No Asphyxia	24 (85.7)	6, 50 ± 2,003	*

*Test *Mann-Whitney*

Table 2 shows that there is no significant relationship between maternal ferritin levels with neonatal APGAR.

Table 3. Relationship Between Neonates Ferritin Level and APGAR

Value	n (%)	Ferritin Neonatal (ng / ml) Mean ± SD	P value
Asphyxia	4	12.37 ± 4.144	0.002

	(14.3)		*
Non	24	94.16 ± 99,037	
Asphyxia	(85.7)		

* test *Mann-Whitney*

Table 3 shows a significant relationship between levels ferritin of neonatal and APGAR.

IV. DISCUSSION

Relationship of Maternal ferritin levels with Neonatal Ferritin Level

The subjects of this study consisted of 28 pregnant women who experienced Fe deficiency anemia in the work area of Ambacang Health Center, Lubuk Buaya Health Center and Ikur Koto Padang Health Center in June 2017 until October 2017.

Based on the results of the study, there is no significant relationship between ferritin maternal with ferritin of neonates with $p = 0.204$. Pearson correlation value is 0.248 which indicates the direction of a positive relationship means that the higher the level, ferritin maternal the higher is the level ferritin neonatal where the strength with the strength of the relationship is weak. It was also found that the value of r^2 was linear = 0.061 which means that 6.1% of neonatal ferritin levels were influenced by maternal ferriticity, while 93.9% were influenced by other factors.

The same results were obtained by previous studies which found no relationship between serum ferritin maternal with serum ferritin. umbilical cord where there is no difference in the iron content of children in the group of women with iron deficiency anemia or non-iron deficiency.^{9 10}

Pregnancy is a condition that increases the mother's need for iron to meet fetal, placental needs and an increase in erythrocyte mass during pregnancy. Insufficient iron deposits before pregnancy and inadequate iron intake during pregnancy can lead to iron deficiency anemia in pregnancy.¹¹

Iron plays a role in determining the intelligence of a child from intra uterine. Iron plays a role in neurocognitive and neurobehavioral development during the last

two-thirds of pregnancy and the long-term consequences of iron deficiency in the perinatal period. Human and animal studies have shown that iron deficiency anemia that occurs since intra uterine is associated with the emergence of behavioral development disorders, nerve changes, which produce irreversible effects on the neurochemistry and neurobiology of the fetus.¹²

The basic principle of the biological process of iron in the fetus is that the use of iron in the body is prioritized for the formation of red blood cells compared to the need for other body tissues including the brain. Iron deficiency in the fetal brain will occur even though there is no anemia in the fetus if the need for iron exceeds the availability of iron in the body in pregnant women.¹³

Ferritin is currently considered the most important indicator in determining iron status in the iron deficiency stage where levels will decrease. However, it should be noted that ferritin will increase due to several factors including infection and inflammation, so that high values do not always show good iron status. Given the high prevalence of iron deficiency in pregnant women, the fetus and neonate are very at risk for iron deficiency.¹⁴

¹⁵ Previous

Studies have had different results where the iron content of newborn umbilical cord blood is lower in mothers who have less iron content. The study found that there was a positive relationship between ferritin maternal serum levels and iron reserves in neonates from mothers with advanced pregnancies with ferritin. low In addition, other studies also found that mothers with iron deficiency anemia could affect the iron reserves of newborns.^{16 17}

Previous experimental studies have indeed shown that iron transfer across the placenta occurs in contrast to the surge in iron plasma concentration and transferrin saturation, but the mechanism that makes this action regulates maternal to fetal iron transfer is not completely clear. In experimental animals given high doses of iron do not give birth to a fetus who has

excessive iron accumulation. In addition, there are other factors that can significantly influence levels ferritin newborns such as the time of cord clamping and birth weight.^{9,18}

Relationship of Maternal Ferritin Levels with APGAR

Based on the results of the study showed no association between levels ferritin maternal and APGAR in pregnant women who experienced Fe deficiency anemia with $p = 0.199$ ($p > 0.05$).

Similar results were also found where there were no differences between the groups of women who were anemic and not anemic to the mean APGAR score in the first minute (8.5 ± 1.15 vs. 8.3 ± 1.3 g / dl; $p = 0.15$) and fifth (9.7 ± 0.72 vs 9.6 ± 0.69 ; $p = 0.21$).¹⁹

The APGAR score is a test used to assess infant asphyxia. APGAR assessment uses five indicators consisting of heart rate, respiratory effort, muscle tone, reflex sensitivity and baby's skin color.⁷

The presence of anemia during pregnancy and after pregnancy is the most common problem that occurs which has a significant effect on the baby and infant development.²⁰ It has been reported that low hemoglobin levels increase the risk of low birth weight babies, preterm delivery and infants with SGA (Small for Gestational Age). Infants with SGA contribute a significant share of infant morbidity and mortality.^{20,21}

Iron reserves in newborns can depend on maternal iron status. In many studies found that iron deficiency during pregnancy affects iron reserves in the fetus. One effect on reduced iron in infants is asphyxia where the assessment can be done using the APGAR score. Asphyxia is an important part that contributes to morbidity and mortality in infants.⁷

Different study results found a significant relationship between maternal hemoglobin and pregnancy outcomes, one of which is APGAR. Women with anemia had a 1.7-fold increased risk of their babies experiencing a low APGAR score in the first minute and a 2.2-fold increased risk of

developing IUFD compared to non-anemic mothers.²²

The difference between this study and previous study is probably due to the different study methods and characteristics of the samples used by respondents. In addition, there are certain conditions that can cause neonatal asphyxia in addition to decreasing maternal iron levels.

Broadly speaking, there are two risk factors that can cause asphyxia neonatorum, namely perinatal and maternal risk factors. Low ferritin maternal levels are one of the risk factors included in maternal risk factors that can cause neonatal asphyxia. Other maternal factors suspected to be associated with asphyxia are maternal infections, multiple births and low socioeconomic status. The low level of paternal education, ethnicity, primipara, maternity facilities were also found to have a significant relationship with the occurrence of neonatal asphyxia.²³

Relationship of Neonatal Ferritin Levels with APGAR

Based on the results of the study showed there was a correlation between levels ferritin neonatal and APGAR in pregnant women who had Fe deficiency anemia with $p = 0.002$ ($p < 0.05$).

Nearly similar results were also found which assessed perinatal risk factors that could cause neonatal asphyxia. The study found that neonatal anemia had a significant relationship with the incidence of neonatal asphyxia (OR: 2.98; $p = 0.01$).²⁴

Iron has an important role in fetal growth. During pregnancy, iron intake must be added considering that during pregnancy the volume of blood in the mother's body increases, so that to be able to continue to meet maternal needs and supply food and oxygen to the fetus through the placenta, more iron intake is needed.⁴

Anemia in pregnancy occurs because of low Fe reserves before pregnancy, inadequate nutritional intake with increasing needs. Fetal growth will deplete Fe reserves and increased Fe demand continues until the birth of the baby.²⁵

One effect of reduced iron in infants is asphyxia where the assessment can be done using the APGAR score. This condition occurs due to lack of Fe function as an oxygen carrier. In general, asphyxia of newborns is a continuation of fetal asphyxia. Fetal assessment during pregnancy and childbirth plays an important role for infant safety.^{7 6}

Iron is one of the constituents of hemoglobin. In conditions where iron deficiency occurs, hemoglobin does not form, which in turn will cause low hemoglobin levels in the body. This condition is called anemia due to iron deficiency. Low Hb levels in an anemic mother cause oxygen levels that are bound by red blood cells in the lungs and brought to the body's tissues to decrease. Hb levels and iron levels in cord blood and placental tissue have a linear relationship with maternal hemoglobin levels. Anemia in the mother has a significant relationship with anemia in newborns. A decrease in Hb levels will cause a decrease in oxygen levels in body tissues, then anaerobic metabolism will occur. This condition can cause the fetus to experience hypoxia and acidosis which can affect the APGAR value of the baby.^{26 27}

Different study results found that there were no differences in APGAR scores in infants born to mothers with ferritin low or normal. The study also failed to find meaningful differences in terms of assessments outcome other infants such as infant BMI (Body Mass Index), placental ratio and gestational age despite a significant decrease in infant body weight, crown-heel length, and placental weight from the lowest quartile to highest level ferritin maternal.¹⁸

The difference between this study and previous study is probably due to the different study methods and characteristics of the samples used by respondents. In addition, there are certain conditions that can cause neonatal asphyxia in addition to a decrease in the baby's iron content.

Broadly speaking, there are two risk factors that can cause asphyxia neonatarum,

namely perinatal and maternal risk factors. Low ferritin baby levels are one of the risk factors included in perinatal risk factors that can cause neonatal asphyxia. Other perinatal factors are preterm birth, low birth weight (<2,500 grams), cord twisting, and impaired biophysical profile.^{24 28}

V. CONCLUSION

Ferritin levels of pregnant women who had Fe deficiency anemia with neonatal ferritin levels have a positive correlation and are not statistically significant.

Ferritin levels of pregnant women with iron deficiency anemia with neonatal APGAR did not have a meaningful relationship. While ferritin levels of neonates and APGAR born by pregnant women who have Fe deficiency anemia have a significant relationship.

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BIOGRAPHY

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