

**The Relationship Between Knowledge and Attitudes of Early-Married Mothers and the
Nutritional Status of Children Aged 2–5 Years
at the Village Health Post Ledokombo**

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ABSTRACT

Nutritional problems among children under five remain a serious public health issue, particularly among mothers who marry at a young age, as they generally have limitations in knowledge and attitudes related to child nutrition. This situation can affect the nutritional status of under-five children, especially those aged 2–5 years, who are in a critical stage of growth. This study aimed to determine the relationship between the knowledge and attitudes of early-married mothers and the nutritional status of children aged 2–5 years at the Village Health Post (Pos Kesehatan Desa) Ledokombo. This study employed a quantitative method with a cross-sectional design. The population consisted of 167 mothers, with a sample of 97 respondents selected using non-probability sampling with a purposive sampling technique. Data were collected through questionnaires assessing knowledge and attitudes, as well as through measurements of the body weight of under-five children, and were analyzed using the Spearman Rank test. The results showed a significant relationship between maternal knowledge and the nutritional status of under-five children ($p = 0.000$), as well as between maternal attitudes and the nutritional status of under-five children ($p = 0.000$), with a moderate strength of correlation. In conclusion, there is a relationship between the knowledge and attitudes of mothers who married at an early age and the nutritional status of under-five children.

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitudes, Early Marriage, Nutritional Status of Under-Five Children.