

# The Relationship of Childbirth Preparation Based on Childbirth Preparation Card with Maternal Morbidity and Fetal Outcomes

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## Abstract

This research aims to determine the level of primigravida childbirth preparation through childbirth preparation card (CPC) and its relationship with maternal morbidity, including postpartum hemorrhage and ruptured perineum, and fetal outcomes (APGAR score, Down score and infant mortality). The researcher used a descriptive-analytical method with a cross-sectional approach. Childbirth preparation is assessed using CPC. The research begins from January to April 2019. The sample in this study were mothers who gave birth in Ulin General Hospital of Banjarmasin, which was 100 respondents when the researchers conducted a study with sampling using a purposive sampling technique. There were 76 respondents (76%) stated that they were ready for the childbirth preparation, and 24 respondents (24%) were not ready for preparation. From 76 ready respondents, as many as 73 respondents were not bleeding (93.6%), 47 respondents did not experience perineal rupture (87.0%), 70 respondents with good APGAR score (97.2%), 70 respondents with good Down score (70%) and 74 respondents did not die (80.4%). Childbirth preparation was associated with the rate of postpartum hemorrhage ( $p < 0.0001$ ; OR 92.4), perineal rupture ( $p = 0.005$ ; OR 3.93), APGAR score ( $p < 0.0001$ ; OR 128.33), Down scores ( $p < 0.0001$ ; OR 128.33) and infant mortality ( $p = 0.002$ ; OR 12.33). Childbirth preparation is related to the incidence of postpartum hemorrhage, perineal rupture, APGAR score, Down score, and infant mortality.

**Keywords:** *Childbirth preparation, postpartum hemorrhage, perineal rupture, APGAR score, Down score, infant mortality.*

## Introduction

Pregnancy is a susceptible period in women's lives, which is vulnerable to the onset of physical and mental disorders. Maternal health care during pregnancy has been carried out for approximately 100 years. Maternal care during pregnancy is an essential part of the health system that aims to maintain maternal health during pregnancy and childbirth so that the health of the mother and baby are maintained.<sup>1</sup>

Based on observations of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2015, the maternal mortality rate (MMR) during pregnancy, childbirth, and childbed amounted to 303,000 people and the infant mortality rate (IMR) was 10,000,000 (WHO, 2015). The MMR in Indonesia is still very high compared to the Association Southeast Asia (ASEAN), wherein 2012 the MMR was 359 per 100,000 live births.<sup>2,3</sup>

Relationship between attitudes of pregnant women and pregnancy care as stated by Jenifer et al. who reported that poor maternal attitudes towards pregnancy care including pregnancy examinations had an impact on the emergence of negative health status in mothers and infants after childbirth.<sup>4</sup>

## Materials and Method

In this study, researchers used a descriptive-analytic method with a cross-sectional approach, namely

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by collecting data from the number of respondents in a particular time to determine the preparation of primigravida mothers about childbirth and assess outcomes in the mother and baby (fetal). The research instrument is the CPC questionnaire that has been tested for validity and reliability.<sup>5</sup>

The time of research begins from January to April 2019. This research was conducted at Ulin General Hospital Banjarmasin. The sample in this study were mothers who gave birth in Ulin General Hospital Banjarmasin, which was 100 people with a purposive sampling technique. Inclusion criteria were available to be respondents and Trimester III of primigravida. Exclusion criteria were incomplete history and domicile.

### Findings and Discussion



Figure 1. Childbirth Preparation Card

Table 1. Distribution and Frequency of Outcomes in Childbirth Preparation Status

Variable	Category	Frequency (n)		Percentage (%)	
		Ready	Not ready	Ready	Not ready
Postpartum Hemorrhage	Yes	3	19	3,99	79,2
	No	73	5	96,1	20,8
Perineal Rupture	Yes	29	17	38,1	70,8
	No	47	7	61,9	29,2
APGAR score	Good	70	2	92,1	8,3
	Poor	6	22	7,9	91,7
Down Score	Good	70	2	92,1	8,3
	Poor	6	22	7,9	91,7
Infant Mortality	Yes	2	6	2,6	25
	No	74	18	97,4	75

**Table 2. The Relationship of Childbirth Preparation with Postpartum Hemorrhage, Perineal Rupture, APGAR Score, Down Score, and Infant Mortality**

Variable		Readiness				P-value	OR
		Ready		Not			
		N	%	N	%		
Bleeding (Hemorrhage)	Not	73	93.6	5	6.4	p<0.0001	92.4
	Yes	3	13.6	19	86.4		
Ruptur	Not	47	87.0	7	13.0	p=0.005	3.93
	Yes	29	63.0	17	37.0		
Apgar	Good	70	97.2	2	2.8	p<0.0001	128.33
	Bad	6	21.4	22	78.6		
Down	Good	70	97.2	2	2.8	p<0.0001	128.33
	Bad	6	21.4	22	78.6		
Dead	Not	74	80.4	18	19.6	p=0.002	12.33
	Yes	2	25.0	6	75		

Childbirth preparation was associated with the rate of postpartum hemorrhage (p<0.0001 adjusted OR 92.4), perineal rupture (p=0.005 adjusted OR 3.93 APGAR score (p<0.0001 adjusted OR 128.33), Down scores (p<0.0001 adjusted 128,33) and infant mortality (p=0.002 adjusted OR 12.33).

Childbirth preparation was associated with postpartum hemorrhage rates (p<0.0001; OR 92.4). Clinical features of postpartum hemorrhage in the form of bleeding continues-constantly and the patient's condition gradually become more ugly. Pulse rate so fast and weak, decreased blood pressure, the patient turned pale and cold, and his breathing became congested, breathing-breath, sweating, and eventually coma and death. A dangerous situation is that the pulse and blood pressure only show slight changes for a few moments due to the vascular compensation mechanism. Then this compensation function cannot be maintained anymore, the pulse increases rapidly, blood pressure suddenly drops, and the patient is in a state of shock. The uterus can fill up with enough blood even if it looks just from the outside.<sup>5,7</sup>

Based on the results of the study showed that between childbirth preparation and the incidence of bleeding in the mother had a relationship. For women who are ready to give birth, most did not experience postpartum hemorrhage. It is because the physical and psychological readiness of the mother is getting better because the knowledge of childbirth that has been previously possessed, the experience for mothers can ultimately improve the psychological readiness of the mother. The better the preparation for maternity, the

risk of postpartum hemorrhage can be minimized so that the incidence of maternal mortality due to labor and childbirth can be reduced. Therefore, it is expected that couples of childbearing age can prepare childbirth well.

Childbirth preparation was associated with perineal rupture (p=0.005 adjusted OR 3.93). Perineal rupture is a tear that occurs when the baby is born, either spontaneously or by using a tool or action. Perineal rupture is divided into four levels, namely degrees I, II, III, and IV rupture. Perineal rupture generally also occurs in labor if the fetal head is born too quickly, labor is not led properly, scarring of the perineum, and shoulder dystocia.<sup>10,11,12</sup>

Childbirth preparation causes a relatively low rate of perineal rupture. It can happen because of many factors; one of them is preparation carefully of the mother who knows the correct pushing technique and the existence of exercises that cause the perineum, not to stiffen.<sup>11,12,13</sup>

Straining techniques can affect the occurrence of perineal rupture in spontaneous maternity. At the time of delivery, the midwife can provide care by teaching the mother to do the correct straining technique that is when the mother contractions are encouraged to follow the impulse naturally and when straining the mother does not hold back the feeling. When straining at the peak of the contraction, the mother is not allowed to lift the buttocks. In the second stage, when the expenditure occurs due to strong and frequent contractions. When the contraction or pressure occurs in the pelvic floor muscles, which can cause a feeling of wanting to strain, causing the perineum to protrude and become wide and

the anus open, followed by labia minor and major, then the fetal head that appears on the vulva. It is at this time that perineal rupture can occur especially in primigravida labor and to do the wrong straining technique.<sup>14,15,16</sup>

Maternal preparation was associated with APGAR scores ( $p < 0.0001$ ; OR 128.33). Based on Apgar score interpretation, if Apgar scores between 4-6, so the baby has not covered asphyxia. If Apgar scores 7-10, baby included in normal childbirth and have adaptations, which is very good with the outside environment. The lower scores on the first-minute test can show that the newborn baby needs medical attention continuously but not necessarily indicate the long term problems, especially if there is increasing scores on the fifth-minute test. If the Apgar score remains under 3 on the next tests (10, 15, or 30 minutes), then there is a risk that the child can experience long-term nerve damage. There is also a small but significant risk of brain damage. However, the purpose of the Apgar test is to determine quickly whether the newborn baby needs immediate medical treatment; and not designed to provide long-term predictions of the health of the baby.<sup>17,18,19,20</sup>

Women who received assistance in childbirth gave a good outcome to infant health with a first-minute APGAR score indicator. The research conducted by Liu J (2014) concluded that there were differences in labor with mentoring and without assistance with the baby's Apgar value in the first minute.<sup>20,21,22</sup>

Maternal delivery was associated with a Down score ( $p < 0.0001$ ; OR 128.33) and infant mortality ( $p = 0.002$ ; OR 12.33). Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS) is the difficulty or occurrence of respiratory dysfunction in neonates due to several reasons. Fetal period such as a baby born prematurely and multiple births; labor such as excessive blood loss, postmaturity, sectio); and the neonatal period due to neonatorum infection and asphyxia.<sup>20,22,23</sup>

It is because the unprepared mother has stiffness from the muscle or cervix that will provide a much larger prisoner and can extend labor while the mother who is ready to give birth is a setback of the flexural power (elasticity) of the tissue that has been repeatedly stretched through practice and exercise. Correlation of childbirth preparations with the complication of pregnancy and birth, namely in gestational age, body weight, premature, respiratory distress syndrome, fetal distress, and asphyxia. The risk of emergency breathing occurs in mothers who are not prepared more than ready

mothers. There is a relationship between maternal parity and knowledge of childbirth readiness with the incidence of respiratory distress syndrome in Bari General Hospital Palembang with a value of  $p = 0.028$ .<sup>8,15,17,23,24</sup>

The companion or presence of the second person in childbirth which is to find that mothers who are accompanied by a friend or close relative (especially husband) during labor take place, have a lower risk of complications that require medical action than those without assistance. Mothers with companions in undergoing labor take place faster and easier. In the study, it was also found that the presence of a husband or close relative would bring calm and keep the mother away from stress and anxiety that could complicate the birth and delivery process, the presence of the husband would bring positive psychological effects and had a positive impact on the mother's physical readiness.<sup>15,25,26,27</sup>

## Conclusion

Primigravida mother who gave birth at Ulin General Hospital Banjarmasin was 76% ready to give birth. As many as 73 respondents who did not experience bleeding (93.6%), 47 respondents (87.0%) did not experience perineal rupture, 70 respondents (97.2%) with good APGAR score, 70 respondents (70%) with good Down scores and 74 respondents (80.4%) have not died. Childbirth preparation is related to the rate of postpartum hemorrhage, perineal rupture, APGAR score, Down score, and infant mortality.

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**Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict interests.

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