

ABSTRACT

Background: Tuberculosis (TB) rate among children in Indonesia in 2002 was 0-14%. Meanwhile, in 2007, the case of TB among children in Purworejo District was 27%. The high incidence of TB among children must take into consideration the transmission in community due to the fact that if TB is not cured well, it may lead to complications such as meningitis that frequently has sequelae symptoms. Perception toward the danger of disease plays an important role in health seeking behavior.

Objective: To improve the community's perception about TB in Purworejo District to increase the coverage of new case finding.

Method: This was a cross sectional study design with quantitative and qualitative study. Samples were 146 persons who had children 0-14 years of age in Purworejo District. Data were collected through closed questionnaire and indepth interview. Data were then analyzed with chi square test and binomial regression. Meanwhile, qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis.

Results: Multivariable analysis showed that the perception about TB was significantly related to health seeking behavior (RP=1.3; 95% CI=1.04-1.55). Higher Educational and high knowledge level were significantly related to health seeking behavior (RP=1.4; 95% CI=1.07-1.51; RP=1.3; 95% CI=1.04-1.71), education and knowledge were not a confounding factor. Meanwhile, age, family income, information source and motivation did not have a significant relationship with health seeking behavior. Meanwhile, results of qualitative analysis showed that TB had a greater severity than vleck.

Conclusion: Perception about TB, education and knowledge had a significant relationship with health seeking behavior for children.

Keywords: Perception, child tuberculosis, health seeking behavior.