

## **ABSTRACT**

*Nutritional problems are a public health problem where the first two years of a child's life are a critical period to support optimal child growth and development. The two direct causative factors that affect the nutritional status of toddlers are nutritional intake and health status. Indirect causative factors that affect the nutritional status of toddlers are the care or parenting patterns of mothers towards children because they will affect the process of toddler growth and development. Families with low-income conditions and a large number of children can increase the risk of malnutrition and undernutrition in toddlers. This research design used a cross-sectional design. The sampling method used is cluster random sampling. The data analysis used includes univariate analysis and bivariate analysis with the chi square test. The results of the chi square test on family income and parity with health care obtained values of  $p = 0.310$  and  $p = 0.298$ , respectively; health care on the level of energy and protein consumption, respectively,  $p = 0.514$  and  $p = 0.321$ ; and the level of energy and protein consumption on the nutritional status of toddlers based on BB/PB or BB/TB, respectively,  $p = 0.684$  and  $p = 0.398$ . This shows that there is no significant relationship and that the positive deviance approach can affect the nutritional status of toddlers. Positive deviance behavior affects the nutritional status of toddlers, and mothers who engage in positive deviance behavior can improve the nutritional status of toddlers.*

**Keywords: Nutritional Status of Toddlers, Health Parenting, Family Income, Number of Children, Energy Consumption Level, and Protein**