

ABSTRACT

Nivatusania, Virda Dwi. 2025. The Relationship between History of Early Marriage and Antenatal care (ANC) Visits with the Incidence of Stunting among Children Aged 24–59 Months in Pandesari Village, Pujon District, Malang Regency. Undergraduate Thesis. Bachelor of Applied Midwifery Study Program. Health Polytechnic of the Ministry of Health Malang. Main Supervisor : Ibnu Fajar, SKM., M.Kes.

Stunting is a growth disorder caused by chronic malnutrition that affects children's health and development in the long term. One factor that is thought to influence stunting is early marriage and low ANC attendance. This study aims to determine the relationship between a history of early marriage and ANC attendance with stunting in children aged 24–59 months in Pandesari Village, Pujon District, Malang Regency. This study employed a quantitative analytical design with a cross-sectional approach. A total of 38 mothers of children under five were selected using total sampling technique. Data were collected through structured interviews and measurement of children's height, then analyzed using chi-square test, Fisher's exact test, and binary logistic regression. The results showed that all respondents had a history of early marriage (<20 years), 47.4% did not attend ANC visits according to standards, and 60.5% of children experienced stunting. Bivariate analysis revealed a significant association between early marriage history ($p = 0.019$) and ANC visits ($p = 0.006$) with stunting incidence. Multivariate analysis showed that both variables explained 45.8% of the variation in stunting, with ANC visits as the dominant factor ($OR = 11.810$), while very early and early marriage had ORs of 0.091 and 0.104, respectively. These findings indicate that stunting is not only influenced by nutritional factors but also by social and behavioral aspects of the mother during pregnancy. The government and health workers need to conduct education and health promotion to delay marriage age and improve compliance with ANC visits.

Keywords: *Early Marriage, Antenatal care Visits, Stunting Incidence, Children Aged 24 –59 Months*