ABSTRACT

The most vulnerable to nutritional problems is a group consists of 6-12 months old infants because during the first year, the infants’ weight increase by 3 times and their brains develop rapidly. Therefore, there is an increasing intake of nutrients. Nutritional problems will be manifested in the form of irregularities growth of children. Nutritional problems are not only influenced by the direct cause such as nutrition and infectious diseases, but also indirect cause such as parenting method. Meanwhile, the poor families find it hard to afford their basic needs due to the low economic level. That is the cause of nutritional problems for infants. This study was conducted to analyze the relationship between parenting with nutritional status of 6-12 months old infants of the urban poor families.

The study was conducted with cross sectional design. The sample was 58 infants and their caregivers, using simple random sampling technique. Data collection included the family characteristics, characteristics of 6-12 months old infants, and caregiving were collected using a questionnaire. Nutritional status was measured using W/H, H/A, and W/A index. Data were analyzed by chi-square test.

The results showed there was an association between parenting in complementary feeding variable with infant nutritional status based on H/A index (p = 0.049). There was no relationship between a history of giving colostrum, a history of exclusive breastfeeding, and breastfeeding to the nutritional status of infants at all indexes.

The conclusion of this research is complementary feeding could increase nutritional status of infants. For that, mother need to control complementary feeding to the infants in order to make their nutritional status categorized as normal.

Keywords: caregiving, nutritional status, 6-12 months old infants, poverty