

ABSTRACT**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MATERNAL NUTRITION DURING PREGNANCY AND THE WEIGHT OF PLACENTA IN MOTHER DELIVERING LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES IN HOSPITALS, IN SOUTH KALIMANTAN PROVINCE 2015**

Low birth weight babies (LBW) is defined as birth weight of less than 2,500 grams regardless of gestational age. Many factors cause LBW, maternal factor which has a dominant influence is related to fulfillment of nutrition. Placental factor is related to the function in food and hormones distribution. The purpose of this study was to analysis relationship between nutritional-related factors with the placental weight in babies suffering LBW. Maternal nutritional status was concerning to weight-gained during pregnancy, the size of the upper arm circumference, initial hemoglobin levels and hemoglobin levels at the time of birth. This study applied observational-descriptive design using cross sectional approach. This study showed the value of $\beta = -0.057$ for weight gain, $\beta = 0.360$ for the upper arm circumference, $\beta = 0.394$ for initial hemoglobin levels and $\beta = 0.100$ for hemoglobin levels at the time of birth, in relation to the weight of placenta in mothers who delivering babies with low birth weight. The strongest relationship was found between the initial hemoglobin levels and the size of the upper arm circumference, which revealed the importance of nutritional fulfillment at early period of pregnancy, since this period of developments in vital organs and placenta. Health workers should be required to measure the weight of the placenta and to recommend mothers for nutritious consumption during pregnancy. Further research concerning to placental weight among term and preterm labor towards low birth weight is needed.

Keywords : Low birth weight, hemoglobin level, mid upper arm circumference, weight gain, placenta weight.