

**ABSTRACT****Epidemiological Determinants of Leprosy among Children in Bangkalan District East Java Province**

Leprosy is a disease which still endemic in Bangkalan. The purpose of this study was to identify the epidemiological factors that affect of leprosy among children in Bangkalan district. This study was case-control analytic that begin with the selection of individuals into the case group and the control group during April-June 2013. The population in this study were all children aged 0-14 years with sample size of 129 childrens consisted of 43 children of the case group which is the total sample and 86 children from the control group were selected with random. Results of statistical tests using logistic regression showed that the influential variables of leprosy among children in Bangkalan was underweight nutritional status ( $p = 0.039$ ) with OR (95% CI) = 16.72 (1.15 - 242.08), contact time  $\geq 2$  years ( $p = 0.000$ ) with OR (95% CI) = 133.53 (10.40 - 1713.40), the use of clean water together with leprosy patients ( $p = 0.000$ ) with OR (95% CI) = 242.15 (16.41 - 3572.33) and ventilation  $<10\%$  of the extensive floor of the house ( $p = 0.0140$ ) with OR (95% CI) = 36.74 (2.09 - 643.57). Conclusion: The most specific variable to the leprosy among children is a factor of contact time  $\geq 2$  years with leprosy patients. To prevent the spread of leprosy among children, so far as possible to prevent children from getting too long contact with leprosy patients by providing treatment as early as possible to people with leprosy as a source of infection.

Keywords: leprosy, children, contact time