

# The Relationship of Participation in Early Childhood Education Activities at the Integrated Healthcare Center Park with the Development of Toddler Children in NgadiRenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Integrated healthcare center park is a government effort in optimizing Integrated healthcare center activities so that they do not only carry out monitoring functions but are also promotive efforts to stimulate child growth and development better, but in fact there are still many children who have not participated in Taman Integrated healthcare center either due to limited facilities and there are still many parents who doubt the benefits. **Method:** The design of this study was observational with a cross sectional approach. The population of this study were all toddlers in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District-Trenggalek totaling 399 toddlers, with a proportioned random sampling technique obtained a sample of 40 respondents. The independent variable is the participation of Taman Integrated healthcare center with the dependent variable being child development. Data analysis using Spearman rank test at  $\alpha=0.05$ . **Results:** The results showed that all respondents who participated in Taman Integrated healthcare center had the appropriate category development, namely 8 respondents (100.0%) and most of the respondents who did not participate in Taman Integrated healthcare center had development in the appropriate category, namely 22 respondents (55.0%). The results of the analysis showed that there was a relationship between participation in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at the Integrated healthcare center Park with the development of children under five in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency ( $p = 0.005 \leq 0.05$ ). **Conclusion:** Children who participate in the integrated healthcare center park will get better monitoring of growth and development, besides that they will also get developmental stimulation through group activities. Existing play and learning activities are useful in honing children's development so that children who participate in Integrated healthcare center parks tend to have more appropriate developments.

## I. Introduction

Toddler period is a golden period for parents to develop their child's potential optimally. In toddlerhood almost all brain cells develop rapidly. There is no person who is most meaningful in a toddler's life other than his parents who can fulfill all his growth and development. The ability of parents to meet the need for care, love, and sharpening will affect the quality of the child's personality in the future (BKKBN, 2014). Problems arise when parents are preoccupied with work and their own routines so that the provision of stimulation and child development is not properly monitored. According to Martani (2012) children who experience obstacles or developmental problems will not develop optimally and affect their lives in the future.

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The government's effort to overcome the problem of lack of monitoring and providing stimulation for children's growth is to revitalize the Integrated healthcare center, while in East Java the revitalization program is called a Integrated healthcare center park. The purpose of the program is to increase the use of integrated healthcare center by the community, especially in the effort to check and stimulate the growth and development of infants and toddlers (Ardani, 2010). The reality on the ground is that not all areas in East Java have integrated healthcare center parks and not all communities are willing to include their children in the program, so it is suspected that it affects children's development.

In 2018, 38.6% of children in Indonesia experienced delayed development and 24.6% of children experienced global delayed development, and experienced growth irregularities. This deviation is also marked by growth disorders with a percentage of 17.5% of children experiencing malnutrition, 12.3% of microcephaly children and 12.3% not experiencing weight gain in the last few months (Kemenkes RI, 2018). The East Java National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) (2018) estimates that 21% of children in East Java experience developmental delays. Growth and development checks in East Java in 2018 were carried out on 2,321,542 children under five and preschool or 63.48% of 3,657,353 children under five. This coverage decreased compared to 2017 of 64.03% and is still below the 80% target (East Java Health Office, 2018). The data on developmental deviations in early childhood in Trenggalek Regency is not yet known, but based on data on the coverage of DDTK implementation, in 2019 the coverage of DDTK in Trenggalek Regency was 46.45% of the 80% target.

Data in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency, there are 399 children under five registered in 7 Integrated healthcare center units and 3 Taman Integrated healthcare center units. There were 323 children (81%) who attended Integrated healthcare center, while 76 children (19%). The results of a preliminary study through observations made on 5 toddlers who attended Taman Integrated healthcare center found that children were able to express their desires by conveying easy-to-understand words, besides that children also had a good attitude when dealing with new people. Different circumstances are shown in the observations of children who do not attend Taman Integrated healthcare center, from 5 children observed there are 3 children who are less able to express their wishes well, which tend to speak unclearly and end up crying. They also have an attitude of avoiding or being afraid of new people, while the other 2 children do not have problems where children are easy to interact with and are able to carry out simple commands given by the teacher, such as placing objects on the table or on the floor properly.

According to Septiani (2016) in Indonesia there are still many children who do not attend early childhood education because there are still parents' assumptions that children aged less than 5 years still need to concentrate their activities at home with parents and other families or caregivers because parents are busy working. Parents assume that at the age of pre-school children, parents feel they can take care of themselves, without having to involve other people, and educate their children without having to attend early education.

From a medical-neurological, psychosociocultural, and educational point of view, early childhood education is essential. Medical-neurologically, Early Childhood Education Programs activities greatly affect the growth of the structure and function of the child's brain so that it can have a lasting influence on the subsequent development of behavior and personality of the child. Psycho-educationally, early childhood is also seen as a critical period for intellectual development, personality, and social behavior so that the stimuli at that time have a long-lasting impact on a person. Educational experience is seen as a continuous one so that early educational experience will underlie the process and results of further education (Kemendikbud RI, 2016).

Taman Integrated healthcare center is one of the Community-Based Health Efforts (UKBM) which is an extension of the full-time or independent Integrated healthcare center with the addition of Early Childhood Education Programs and parenting services for the Toddler Family Development (BKB). The place of implementation and the management system of these 3 components coordinate and work together in providing services to the community in the fields of health and education. The management

and implementation of health development originates and is carried out by the community. It aims to make it easier for the community to obtain basic health services.

According to Alisjahbana (2016) in a comparative study between attitudes and learning achievements of children who participate in Taman Integrated healthcare center activities and those who do not. Measurements were taken when the children were in grade one to grade three of elementary school. The results show that children who participate in Taman Integrated healthcare center activities have higher adjustment, competence, independence and learning achievement than children who do not participate in Taman Integrated healthcare center activities. This finding is corroborated by the school readiness evaluation report conducted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Atmajaya University Jakarta team in 2011.

Childhood from the age of 0-8 years is called the golden age (Golden Age) which only occurs once in the development of human life where all body growth, especially the nerves of the brain develops very rapidly so it is very important to stimulate the growth of children's brain intelligence by paying more attention to aspects of the brain. health, adequate nutrition and education services (Priyanto, 2014). Children who get maximum stimulation, then the potential for growth and development of children will be awakened to the maximum. At each stage of child development there will be an integration of child development as a whole. This can be supported through stimulation, detection and early intervention of child developmental deviations so that the development of movement, speech and language skills, socialization and independence in children takes place optimally according to the child's age (Ngastiyah, 2015).

Santrock (2014), suggests that in child development, education is a very important dimension in child development. Therefore, early childhood education services are the basis that greatly influences the subsequent development of children into adulthood. Early education at Taman Integrated healthcare center if implemented properly will create children who have good growth and development indicators, including cognitive, motor, social and language development. This condition will be a provision for children to take the next level of education (Apriana, 2015).

Soetjningsih (2014) states that a lack of stimulation in toddlerhood can inhibit all other aspects of growth and development. Therefore, all aspects of development must be considered equally important and all endeavored to develop optimally. In order for individual development to occur as optimally as possible, it is necessary to provide stimulation according to the level of development because lack of stimulation can cause deviations in child development and even permanent disorders (Soetjningsih, 2012). The government through the local health office would be able to socialize the importance of involving children under five in the Taman Integrated healthcare center program so that children's growth and development can always be monitored and children also get stimulation for good growth and development. In addition, the government is also expected to immediately distribute integrated healthcare center parks in the regions because there are still some areas that do not yet have integrated healthcare center parks (Febrianti, 2018).

## II. METHODS

The design of this research is observational with a cross sectional approach, namely research in which independent variables and dependent variables are measured simultaneously and carried out for a moment or once.

The population in this study were toddlers in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency with a total of 399 toddlers, with a proportioned random sampling technique obtained a sample of 40 respondents.

The independent variable in this study was the participation of the Taman Integrated healthcare center, the participation of the Taman Integrated healthcare center, while the dependent variable in this study was child development. The instruments used in this study were questionnaires and observations.

The statistical test used in this study is the Spearman rank test. at the deviation level of 5% ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )

### III. RESULTS

Development of Toddlers Participating in Integrated healthcare center

The development of toddlers who participate in the Integrated healthcare center Park in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency is as follows:

Table 1 Variable Characteristics of Toddler Development Participating in the Integrated healthcare center Park in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency

No	Development Park	F	%
1	Deviation	1	2,5
2	Doubtful	17	42,5
3	Appropriate	22	55,0
Jumlah		32	100,0

Based on table 1, it is known that most of the respondents have developments in the appropriate category, namely 22 respondents (55.0%).

Development of Toddlers Participating in Integrated healthcare center Park

The development of toddlers who participate in the Integrated healthcare center Park in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency is as follows:

Table 2 Characteristics of Variable Development of Toddlers Participating in Taman Integrated healthcare center in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency

No	Development Integrated	F	%
1	Deviation	0	0,0
2	Doubtful	0	0,0
3	Appropriate	8	100,0
Jumlah		8	100,0

Based on table 2, it is known that all respondents have developments in the appropriate category, namely 8 respondents (100.0%).

The results of the analysis of the relationship between participation in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at Taman Integrated healthcare center with the development of children under five in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency, obtained the following results:

Table 3 Results of Analysis of the Relationship between Participation in Early Childhood Education Programs Activities at the Integrated healthcare center Park with Toddler Child Development in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency

	Value
<i>Correlation Coefficient</i>	0,448
<i>Sig. (2-tailed)</i>	0,004
<i>N</i>	40

Based on the results of the Spearman rank analysis above, it is known that the p-value is  $0.004 < (0.05)$ , so  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_1$  is accepted which means that there is a relationship between participation in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at the Integrated healthcare center Park with Toddler Child Development in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency.

#### IV. DISCUSSION

##### **Development of toddlers who participate in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at the Integrated healthcare center Park**

The development of children under five who participate in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at the Integrated healthcare center Park in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency is known that all respondents have development in the appropriate category, namely 8 respondents (100.0%). Based on its characteristics, it was found that almost half of the respondents who participated in the integrated healthcare center park had mothers who were private and self-employed, namely 3 respondents (37%). The results of the cross tabulation revealed that mothers of children under five with secondary education had normal development of children under five, namely 7 respondents (87.5%).

Early education if implemented properly will create children who have good growth and development indicators, including cognitive, motor, social and language development. This condition will be a provision for children to take the next level of education (Apriana, 2015). One of the components in Taman Integrated healthcare center is early childhood education (early childhood education programs). this program is a form of holistic integrative early childhood education programs type, namely early childhood education that not only provides education but also fulfills nutrition, health, care, care, welfare and protection aimed at maximizing the level of child development (Directorate General of Early Childhood Education, 2012). Parental education is one of the important factors in the growth and development of children, with good education parents can receive all information from outside, especially about good parenting, how to maintain their children's health, education and so on (Soetjningsih, 2015).

The results of this study found that all respondents who participated in the integrated healthcare center park had developments in the appropriate category, because children received a good and directed stimulus while attending the integrated healthcare center park. Children who receive education in Integrated healthcare center parks are primarily able to socialize, because children are used to gathering with other people in a different social environment from the social environment at home which only socializes with their parents or family. This condition causes the tendency of children who attend the integrated healthcare center park to be more cooperative and able to carry out developmental tests well.

The work of mothers on children who participate in the integrated healthcare center park is more dominated by mothers who work in the private sector and are entrepreneurs. Most parents include their children in the integrated healthcare center park because parents are busy at work so that parents cannot meet their children's needs for information and learning so that generally parenting is assisted by grandmothers and child caregivers. In addition, the reasons for parents to include children in the Integrated healthcare center park include increasing children's socialization skills, getting more complete and educative play facilities for both cognitive, motoric or character education skills, this is what ultimately hones children's development so that they have the appropriate category. .

The education factor of parents, especially mothers, is very influential in the development of children under five, because a mother is the main subject in child care. This is in line with this study that almost all the education of parents of children under five who participate in the aintegrated healthcare center is secondary education with normal development category. A mother with low education is easier to understand and understand the needs of children in supporting child development according to their age stages. In contrast to parents who are highly educated, or have extensive knowledge, parents understand how to position themselves in the stages of child development and make every effort to support the child's growth and development process so that it is optimal.

##### **Development of toddlers who do not participate in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at the integrated healthcare center park**

The development of toddlers who do not participate in Early Childhood Education Programs activities at the Integrated healthcare center Park in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek

Regency is known that most of the respondents have development in the appropriate category, namely 22 respondents (55.0%). The results of the cross tabulation showed that the respondents were female with the development of children under five in the doubtful category, namely 9 respondents (18.8%).

The low percentage of children who do not get early childhood education in Indonesia is still a lot due to the assumption that parents still need to focus their activities at home with parents and other families or caregivers because parents are busy working (Septiani, 2016). Lack of stimulation during infancy can inhibit all other aspects of growth and development. Therefore, all aspects of development must be considered equally important and all endeavored to develop optimally. In order for individual development to occur as optimally as possible, it is necessary to provide stimulation according to the level of development because lack of stimulation can cause deviations in child development and even permanent disorders (Soetjiningsih, 2012).

Growth and development in girls has progressed more significantly than boys. This progress exists from the period of birth to the end of the pubertal period. These factors must be considered and given properly according to the age of the child because it will greatly affect the process of growth and development of children (Marmi, 2012).

In the opinion of the researcher, respondents who did not participate in the integrated healthcare center park had the development of the appropriate category, but almost half of the respondents had the development of the doubtful category. This shows that children who do not participate in the Integrated healthcare center park get less stimulation from their parents, where many parents do not realize that child development is a process of change that goes step by step and will increase on its own with age.

The sex of the child also influences the level of development of the child in this study. The theory states that from birth to puberty, children grow and develop more quickly than boys. However, the reality in this study is the opposite where there are more female toddlers who have the development of dubious categories. Growth is different from development, growth is strongly influenced by nutritional intake but development requires stimulation according to the stages of age in order to reach the optimal stage. Mothers who cannot provide developmental stimulation independently will cause the development of toddlers, especially groups who do not participate in the Integrated healthcare center park to experience delays.

The development of children in this group has not been maximized because parents are not usually directed and structured in educating children so that children in their daily lives play more with their surroundings and make their own perceptions of everything with minimal explanation. This condition can be a separate note that cognitively and psychosocially children are still hampered as a result of which their development is not monitored. This is certainly detrimental to the development of the child onward, especially if it is associated with the condition of the child's stimulation needs. Without knowing the stage of development, the stimulation given to children is not optimal. This of course requires the role of the family, especially the mother to detect the stage of child development in collaboration with local health workers, so that the stimulation process can be given optimally according to the child's developmental stage.

### **The Relationship of Participation in Early Childhood Education Activities at Integrated healthcare center Parks with Toddler Child Development**

The results of the analysis of the relationship between participation in early childhood education programs activities at the integrated healthcare center park with the development of children under five are known  $p\text{-value } 0.005 < (0.05)$ , so  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_1$  is accepted which means that there is a relationship between participation in early childhood education programs activities at the integrated healthcare center park with the development of children under five in the village. ngadirenggo, pogalan district, trenggalek regency. the results of cross tabulation showed that respondents who participated in integrated healthcare center had developments in the dubious category, namely 17 respondents (42.5%). In addition, it was also known that almost half of the respondents in the group that did not participate in Taman Integrated healthcare center but had a normal level of development, namely 14 respondents

(35.0%).

The holistic integrative implementation design at Taman Integrated healthcare center that is implemented in early childhood education programs with Toddler Family Development and Integrated healthcare center is also very effective compared to services that are only carried out by Integrated healthcare center or toddler family development independently. This can be seen from the interest of parents to come to the Early Childhood Post which is integrated with the Integrated healthcare center and family development for toddlers to find out about early childhood services (Sabarini, Zahraini, & Dewi, 2013). Hyoscyamina and Dewi (2012) add that various theories explain that child care has a major influence on the development and formation of children's character in the future.

The results showed that there was a significant effect between the participation of the integrated healthcare center park and the development of children. This of course can also be seen that in the Taman Integrated healthcare center group, all children have a better level of development, namely in the normal category. Monitoring growth and development does not only cover the health sector but also the education and social fields, furthermore in this study the measured aspects are all aspects of development including gross motor development, fine motor, speech and language as well as aspects of socialization and independence.

Integrated healthcare center Park is a development of the full moon strata integrated healthcare center. At the Integrated healthcare center park, complete child development is carried out, so that guidance for toddlers is not only carried out by parents alone but there is intervention and getting facilities from the government through collaboration with institutions or across sectors, in this case the Health Office and the Early Childhood Education Office.

Children who participate in the integrated healthcare center park will get better monitoring of their growth and development. In addition, children will also get developmental stimulation through group activities, play and learning activities, all of which have been designed to hone development so that children who participate in Integrated healthcare center parks in this study have a more appropriate level of development than children who do not participate in Integrated healthcare center parks. The obstacle that occurs is the lack of facilities and capacity of the Integrated healthcare center Park so that not all children in a village area can participate in the Integrated healthcare center Park. This condition needs attention from the relevant agencies so that every child can get equal facilities.

Children under five who do not get the opportunity to participate in early childhood education programs activities in Taman Integrated healthcare center should not be discouraged because the opportunity to have an age-appropriate level of development is still open. This is also supported by the results of this study, where almost half of the respondents who did not participate in Taman Integrated healthcare center still had a normal level of development in the category. This situation is certainly influenced by various factors such as environmental factors, family, friends, parenting and developmental stimulation provided by parents at home. Based on the above conditions, every parent should always take the time to increase their knowledge of the needs for child development so that they can carry out developmental stimulation activities and immediately consult with health workers if developmental delays are identified.

## V. CONCLUSION

All respondents who participated in early childhood education programs activities at taman integrated healthcare center had developments in the appropriate category, namely 8 respondents (100.0%).

Most of the respondents who did not participate in early childhood education programs activities at Taman Integrated healthcare center had developments in the appropriate category, namely 22 respondents (55.0%).

There is a relationship between participation in early childhood education programs activities at the Integrated healthcare center park with the development of children under five in Ngadirenggo Village, Pogalan District, Trenggalek Regency ( $p$ -value  $0.005 < 0.05$ ).

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