



## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MOTHERS' KNOWLEDGE AND BEHAVIOR ABOUT NUTRITIONAL STATUS WITH THE INCIDENCE OF STUNTING

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### ABSTRACT

Child health problems that are currently the top priority that the government wants to improve are regarding child growth and development. Of the many growth and development problems that occur in children, one of the health problems is stunting. Stunting is short or very short based on height length according to age that is less than -2 standard deviations (SD) on the WHO growth curve that occurs due to irreversible conditions due to inadequate nutritional intake and/or recurrent/chronic infections that occur in the First 1000 Days of Life (HPK). This study aims to analyze the relationship between knowledge and behavior of mothers about nutritional status with the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan Village. The type of research in this study is quantitative research, with a cross sectional design, the population in this study is 101 mothers of people who have toddlers in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village. The sampling technique uses accidental sampling technique. The research instrument uses questionnaires. Validity test on the mother's knowledge variable of 15 questions there are 10 valid questions, on the mother's behavior variable of 12 questions there are 10 valid questions. After testing the reliability of the questions which were declared valid, all questions from the knowledge and behavior variables were declared reliable or (alpha symbol) >0.6. The number of samples in this study was 40 mothers who had toddlers at the sun posyandu. Data analysis was performed with the ChiSquare test. The results of this study showed that there was a significant relationship between maternal knowledge and the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan Village ( $p = 0.000$ ). There is a significant relationship between maternal behavior and the incidence of stunting in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village ( $p = 0.000$ ). It is recommended for Poskesdes to increase public knowledge through preventive measures and health promotion to the community and increase counseling on stunting to pregnant women, adolescents, or catin. And for the community, especially parents who have toddlers to participate more in every activity held by the Puskesmas.

Keywords: behavior; knowledge; stunting

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## INTRODUCTION

Toddler health problems that are currently the top priority that the government wants to improve are regarding child growth and development. The age of toddlers is a time when there is a very rapid growth and development process, so toddlers need adequate nutritional intake (Maharani, et al, 2018). Of the many growth and development problems that occur in children, one of the health problems is stunting. WHO (2020) Stunting is short or very short based on height length according to age that is less than -2 standard deviations (SD) in the WHO growth curve that occurs due to conditions irreversible due to inadequate nutritional intake and/or recurrent/chronic infections that occur within 1000 HPK (maternal care period from becoming pregnant until the child is 2 years old) (Harikatang et al., 2020). According to

WHO 2021, stunting where the condition of failure to thrive in children under five years old caused by chronic malnutrition, especially in the golden period starting from the time the child is still in the womb to the age of two years or what is often referred to as the period of the First 1,000 Days of Life, children are said to be stunting if their z-score length or height is below minus two standard deviations based on growth standards (Fitriani et al., 2022).

Based on the results of analysis data published by UNICEF, WHO and World Bank Group, Stunting is estimated to affect 22% or 149.2 million children under 5 years globally by 2020. This figure has increased from 2019 which shows that stunting globally affects 21.3% or 144 million children. In 2020, more than half of the global stunted children under 5 years old were in the Asian Region as the highest stunting case rate of 53%, followed by the African Region with 41%. The largest cases were found in the Asian Region, which was 79 million cases. (Unicef/Who/World Bank, 2021). Southeast Asia is the second highest number of stunting cases at 15.3 million below South Asia which reached 54.3 million cases. Indonesia is the second country with the highest stunting cases in Southeast Asia after Timor Leste. Indonesia is still included in the category of very high stunting cases with a percentage of 31.8% (Unicef/Who/World Bank, 2021).

Toddlers with stunting nutritional status will have a level of intelligence that is not optimal, making children more vulnerable to disease and can be at risk of decreasing productivity levels in the future. Stunting is an indicator of the success of people's welfare, education and income. The impact is very broad ranging from the economic dimension, intelligence, quality, and national dimension that has an effect on the future of children (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2020). The World Health Organization or WHO, said the incidence of stunting in the world reached 22% or as many as 149.2 million in 2020. Based on the Indonesian Nutritional Status Survey (SSGI) of the Ministry of Health, the prevalence of stunting in Indonesia decreased from 24.4% in 2021 to 21.6% in 2022. North Sumatra is a province with a prevalence of under-five children Stunting the 19th highest in Indonesia in 2022. There are 21 districts/cities in North Sumatra that have a prevalence of stunting above the provincial average, then 12 other districts/cities below the average. Pakpak Bharat district itself ranks 4th with a prevalence of 30.8% after South Tapanuli with a prevalence of 39.4%, Padang Lawas with a prevalence of 35.8% and Mandailing Natal with a prevalence of 34.2%. (Ministry of Health, 2022).

After conducting various research and more detailed mapping in Pakpak Bharat District, according to data collected from the Pakpak Bharat District Health Office, it was found that the number of infants aged two to three years was stunted and even included in the malnutrition category of 26.79%, namely Salak District with a percentage of 25.2% Stunting, Sukaramai District 29.6%, PGGS District 29.3%, Pagindar District 26.4%, STTU Julu District 29.4%, Tinada District 34%, Siempat Rube District 15.9% and STTU Jehe District 26.8% (Diskominfo Kab.Pakpak Bharat 2021). Salak is one of the sub-districts in Pakpak Bharat, where the sub-district has one puskesmas with 6 villages as its work area, namely Salak I, Salak II, Boangmanalu, Penanggalan Binanga Boang, Kuta Tiggi and Sibongkaras Village. Binanga Boang Dating Village is one of the villages located in Salak District. According to the Ministry of Health, maternal knowledge about nutrition in toddlers is still lacking. lack of good parenting in providing exclusive breastfeeding and complementary food to children, limited ANC services, lack of access to nutritious food intake to households, and lack of access to clean water and sanitation (Ministry of Health, 2018).

Stunting is a chronic nutritional problem because it is one of the malnutrition conditions that has a relationship with inadequate nutrition in the past. Stunting measurement itself is carried out by paying attention to the height or length, age and gender of toddlers. Stunting conditions are difficult to realize in the community because of the habit of not habitually measuring the height or length of toddlers, stunting conditions are difficult to realize in the community because of the habit of not measuring height or length of body in toddlers, because stunting is one focus for nutrition improvement targets in the world. Knowledge can be influenced by many factors, one of which is the level of education. The higher a person's level of education, the better the knowledge he has, and vice versa (Marjan et al., 2018). Knowledge about stunting is very important for a mother, because lack of knowledge about stunting can put children at risk of growth. Lack of knowledge, understanding of poor eating habits, and lack of understanding of parents about stunting can determine the behavior of mothers and their attitudes in serving food to children, including the right dose and type so that children's growth and development are ideal. Therefore, parental knowledge is very helpful in improving nutritional status in children to achieve growth maturity in children. Maternal knowledge allows mothers to choose the type of food according to the nutritional needs of the baby, which positively affects the nutritional status of the baby (Nindyna & Merryana, 2017).

The role of the family, especially a mother in nurturing and caring for children, can have an impact on children's growth and development. Maternal behavior includes playing a role in giving breast milk or giving complementary foods, teaching the right eating procedures, providing foods with high nutritional value, the ability to control the number of portions of food that must be consumed, preparing hygienic foods, the right diet, so that nutritional intake can be well received by children. Based on the theory of health behavior from Lawrence Green, it is stated that maternal behavior is influenced by three factors, namely predisposing factors: age, occupation, education, socio-culture, experience, knowledge and attitude; possible factors: family income, availability of time and health conditions of the mother, as well as distance from home to work; and reinforcing factors: family support, health worker support, and workplace institutional support (Notoatmojo, 2014; Munawaroh and Ramdhaniati, 2019).

Maternal behavior is seen in poor parenting practices due to the lack of knowledge about health and nutrition before and during pregnancy. At the age of 0-6 months the mother does not exclusively breastfeed, at the age of 0-24 months the child is not given food as a substitute for breast milk, lack of maternal awareness in hygiene as when the mother feeds the child. So that it can cause health problems in children. Based on the results of the initial survey conducted, in January 2024 information was obtained from the village midwife as the person in charge of the village health post Penanggalan Binanga Boang. It can be seen from the health monitoring of infants and toddlers affected by stunting in Pakpak Bharat district, Salak district, namely in Binanga Boang Penanggalan Village which has a stunting rate of around 25 children experiencing stunting events in 2023. In Binanga Boang Dating Village, there are 104 children under five, of which 61 men and 43 women from the data taken that those who are more vulnerable to malnutrition status are mostly men numbering 15 and women totaling 10 children. From the results of the data taken, the incidence of stunting is a condition where toddlers have less length or height when compared to age. The aim of this research is to investigate the factors contributing to stunting among infants and toddlers in Penanggalan Binanga Boang Village, Pakpak Bharat District, Salak District, and to assess the effectiveness of existing nutrition and health programs in reducing stunting rates, ultimately providing recommendations for community-level and local government interventions.

## METHOD

This study uses quantitative methods with a cross sectional design, which looks at the relationship between knowledge and community behavior about nutritional status with the incidence of stunting. Where data concerning independent variables and dependent variables and collected in the same time each research subject is only observed once and measurements are made on subject variables at the time of examination. Analysis of this data used univariate and bivariate analysis. The total population in this study was 101 mothers of people who had toddlers in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village. The sampling technique uses accidental sampling technique. This accidental sampling is done by taking a case or response and happens to be present and willing somewhere according to the research context. The research instrument uses questionnaires. Validity test on the mother's knowledge variable of 15 questions there are 10 valid questions, on the mother's behavior variable of 12 questions there are 10 valid questions. After testing the reliability of the questions which were declared valid, all questions from the knowledge and behavior variables were declared reliable or (alpha symbol) >0.6. The number of samples in this study was 40 mothers who had toddlers at the sun posyandu. This research was conducted at the Matahari Posyandu in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village.

## RESULTS

### Research Site Overview

Binanga Boang Dating Village is a village that has a Poskesdes or facilities where data and information are presented that describe the situation and health status in the community, especially for children under five. Binanga Boang Dating Village has an area of 12.7 km<sup>2</sup>, with a population of 1,106 people with an average population density of 294 people/km<sup>2</sup>. Binanga Boang Dating Village consists of 5 hamlets, namely, Hamlet I Penanggalan Jehe, Hamlet II Penanggalan Julu, Hamlet III Binanga Boang, Hamlet IV Aran and Hamlet V Kutarimbaru-Mungkur. The number of health facilities in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village in 2022 is 2 units, namely 2 auxiliary health center units (Pustu), located in Hamlets II and IV.

### Univariate Analysis

#### Characteristics of Respondents

Table 1.

Frequency distribution of respondent characteristics (n=40)

Characteristics	f	%
Mother's Biodata		
Age		
25-35	34	85
36-45	6	15
Work		
Farmer	31	77,5
Irt	2	5,0
Teacher/PNS	6	15,0
Businessman	1	2,5
Education		
elementary school	2	5,0
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	18	45,0
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	14	35,0
D3/S1	6	15,0
Toddler Age		
<1	9	22,5
1-2	5	12,5
3-4	26	65,0
Man	22	55,0

Characteristics	f	%
Woman	18	45,0
Toddler Body Height		
Very short	9	22,5
Short	31	77,5
Toddler Weight		
Very less	10	2,5
Not enough	28	70
Normal	2	5

Based on the findings presented in Table 1, it is evident that the majority of mothers in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village fall within the age group of 25-35 years, constituting 85% of the sample. Additionally, 77.5% of respondents are employed as farmers. Regarding education, most respondents completed junior high school. In terms of children's age distribution, the highest proportion falls within the 3-4 years age group. There is a slightly higher number of male toddlers compared to female toddlers. Furthermore, a significant percentage of children exhibit signs of stunting, with 77.5% having very short stature and 70% weighing less than average.

### Stunting Events

Table 2.  
Frequency Distribution Based on Stunting Events

Stunting Events	f	%
Stunting	15	37,5
Not Stunting	25	62,5

Table 2, it is known that 15 children are stunted in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village (37.5%).

### Mother's Knowledge

Table 3.  
Frequency Distribution Based on Mother's Knowledge

Mother's Knowledge	f	%
Not enough	16	40,0
Good	24	60,0

Table 3, it is known from the frequency distribution data that respondents with good knowledge are more than 24 people (60%) compared to respondents with less knowledge which is 16 people (40%).

### Mother's behavior

Table 4.  
Frequency Distribution Based on Mother's Behavior

Mother's Behavior	f	%
Not enough	13	32,5
Good	27	67,5

Table 4, it is known from the frequency distribution data that there are more respondents with good behavior, namely 27 people (67.5%) compared to respondents with good behavior, which is 13 people (32.5%).

### Bivariate Analysis

The relationship of knowledge with the incidence of stunting

Table 5.

Knowledge	Relationship between knowledge and the incidence of stunting						P- Value	PR 95% CI
	Stunting		Not Stunting		Amount			
	f	%	f	%	f	%		
Not Enough	12	75,0	4	25,0	16	100	0,000	21,000
Good	3	12,5	21	87,5	24	100		
Total	15	37,5	25	62,5	40	100		

Table 5, it can be seen that of the respondents who have less knowledge with children who are stunted as many as 12 people (75%) and those who are not stunted as many as 4 people (25%). While respondents who have a good level of knowledge with children who are stunted as many as 3 people (12.5) and those who are not stunted as many as 25 people (87.5%). Based on the results of statistical tests using *ChiSquare test*, get value  $p=0.000$  i.e. more Small from  $\alpha=0.05$  ( $p<0.05$ ) means that there is a relationship between maternal knowledge and the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village. And obtained a value of OR=21,000 means that respondents with less knowledge have more than 21,000 times more chances to cause children to be stunted than respondents with good knowledge.

### The relationship between behavior and the incidence of stunting

Table 6.

Behavior	Relationship between behavior and the incidence of stunting						P- Value	PR 95% CI
	Stunting		Not Stunting		Amount			
	f	%	f	%	f	%		
Not Enough	11	84,6	2	15,4	13	100	0,000	31,625
Good	4	14,8	23	85,2	27	100		
Total	15	37,5	25	62,5	40	100		

Table 6, it can be seen that of the respondents who have less behavior with children who are stunted as many as 11 people (84.6%) and those who are not stunted as many as 2 people (15.4%). While respondents who have a good level of behavior with children who are stunted as many as 4 people (14.8%) and those who are not stunted as many as 23 people (85.2%). Based on the results of statistical tests using *ChiSquare test*, get value  $p = 0.000$  which is smaller than  $\alpha = 0.05$  ( $p > 0.05$ ) shows that there is a relationship between maternal behavior and the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village. And obtained PR value = 31,625 means that respondents with less behavior have 31,625 times more chances to cause children to be stunted than respondents with good behavior.

### DISCUSSION

Based on the results of statistical tests using the *ChiSquare test*, it shows that there is a relationship between maternal knowledge and behavior about nutritional status with the incidence of stunting in this study is Maternal Knowledge ( $p = 0.000$ ), and Maternal Behavior ( $p = 0.000$ ).

### The relationship between mother's knowledge and the incidence of stunting in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village

Based on the results of statistical tests using the *ChiSquare test*, a value of  $p = 0.000$  is obtained which is smaller than  $\alpha = 0.05$  ( $p < 0.05$ ) meaning that there is a relationship between maternal knowledge and the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village. Parents have a very important role in handling and preventing stunting, especially mothers. Research in the field shows that respondents' knowledge is lacking due to lack of

information, respondents' misperceptions, and has something to do with respondents' education. 93.5% of mothers do not know the activities or things that contribute to reducing the incidence of stunting, mothers also do not realize that children have experienced stunting this is known because 86% of mothers do not know that stunting can be clearly seen when children turn 2 years old.

(Rohmatun 2014) Mother's knowledge about nutrition is the mother's ability to understand all information related to food ingredients that contain nutrients for toddlers. Knowledge of feeding in children can affect the behavior of mothers in feeding their children because the process of behavior formation is an evolution of knowledge that can shape attitudes and then can influence the creation of behavior. Good nutritional knowledge in mothers is expected to be able to provide food with the right type and amount according to the needs of the child's growth age so that the child can grow optimally and not experience problems in his growth period (Amalia et al., 2021) As is known that parents are the main indicator in determining children's growth and development. Where parents who have good knowledge, time, behavior, and habits will be able to prevent malnutrition for children where one of them is stunting. This is in accordance with the opinion of Rahmayana, et al. (2014) obtained results that show a relationship between maternal attention or support for children in feeding with the incidence of stunting in children aged 2-5 years. Therefore, it can be said that mothers who give more attention or support to children in feeding will have a positive effect on the state of nutritional status in children. Feeding toddlers and children is an important foundation in children's growth and development (Amelia & Fahlevi, 2022).

This study is in line with the research of Hamdin, et al showed that the incidence of stunting in toddlers aged 12-59 months has a close relationship with the level of knowledge of mothers. The results showed that stunting in toddlers with very short categories was dominated by mothers with less than 70% category knowledge. The incidence of stunting is dominated by toddlers with very short categories. The results of the study were obtained with the value obtained is  $p = 0.02$ . This states the p value is smaller than  $\alpha$  (0.05) (Hamdin et al., 2023). The results of this study are in line with the research of Erfiana et al, which states there is a relationship between maternal knowledge and stunting prevention behavior in toddlers. Mothers who have good knowledge allow to be able to update and add to existing knowledge, so that mothers can more easily accept new information that will be given as long as the information is in accordance with the facts and has a reliable source. (Erfian et al., 2021).

Research Aghadiati et al., 2023 also shows that there is a relationship between maternal knowledge and the incidence of stunting in toddlers aged 24-60 months in the working area of the Suhaid Health Center, Kapuas Hulu Regency, with values  $p=0.001$  by Because  $p 0.001 < 0.05$  ( $\alpha$ ). The level of maternal knowledge about nutrition in toddlers aged 24-60 months was 67.7% with less knowledge and 32.3% with good knowledge. There were 20.9% of short toddlers with good knowledge mothers and 11.2% very short toddlers with good knowledge mothers. There were 14.5% of short toddlers with less knowledge mothers and 53.2% very short toddlers with less knowledge mothers. Toddlers who are stunted in the very short category are more likely to occur in mothers who have less knowledge.(Aghadiati et al., 2023). The results of this study are in line with research conducted by B et al., 2022 which states that parents' knowledge about nutritional fulfillment affects the incidence of stunting. Another study that supports the results of this study is a study conducted by Tia Agustiningrum which states that mothers who have stunted children are given counseling on nutrition so that they have changes in the knowledge of providing nutrition to children.

Fulfillment of nutrition that mothers must know is important to adjust to the nutritional needs of different children.(B et al., 2022).

In line with research conducted by Ariani & Puspita (2021) entitled "The Relationship of Maternal Knowledge about Nutrition 62 Reduces the Risk of Stunting in Toddlers in Gianyar Regency", mothers do not have good knowledge in maintaining their children so that their nutritional needs are still met because the source of information obtained is little when mothers step on elementary school, because the cause of the lack of knowledge level consists of several influencing factors. The degree of health is also influenced by the level of education of mothers related to the most role of mothers in the formation of children's eating habits, because preparing food starting from arranging menus, shopping, cooking, preparing food and distributing food is carried out by mothers (Husnaniyah, et al., 2020). Knowledge about nutrition is influenced by several factors including age, where the older a person is, the process of mental development becomes good, intelligence or the ability to learn and think to adjust to new situations, then the environment in which a person can learn good and bad things depends on the nature of his group, culture that plays an important role in knowledge, and education is fundamental to developing knowledge and experience and also is the best teacher in honing knowledge (Notoatmodjo, 2010).

Based on the results of research conducted at the Matahari Posyandu, Binanga Boang Dating Village, frequency distribution data was obtained that respondents with good knowledge were more, namely 29 people (60%) compared to respondents with less knowledge, namely 11 people (40%). Generally, respondents have good knowledge, but stunting still exists. This happens due to lack of cognitive knowledge. As we know that cognitive domain knowledge has six levels (Knollmueller and Blum, 1975); (Badura and Kickbusch, 1991); (Gochman, 1988); (Irwan, 2017): Know, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation. Low knowledge of mothers about the importance of health such as the fulfillment of nutrition in toddlers is one of the causes of health problems. Knowledge of nutrition affects the availability of family food. Although a family has sufficient finances, due to lack of understanding about nutrition, the existing finances are not used for the provision of nutritious food. In addition, lack of knowledge about nutritional fulfillment also has an impact on wrong eating habits (Hidayat et al., 2023).

Every food and drink consumed must be halal in substance, manufacture and good way to obtain it. Allah says in surah al-Baqarah verse 168:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ كُلُوا مِمَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ

*O man! Eat of the lawful and good (food) found on earth, and do not follow the steps of Satan. Truly, Satan is a real enemy to you." (QS. Al-Baqarah verse 168).*

In Tafsir Al-Qur'an al-Azim, Ibn Kathir food available on earth can be consumed by humans on condition that it is halal and good to eat does not adversely affect the body or reason.

"So, for a Muslim, eating and food is not just a hunger reliever or just feels good on the tongue, but further than that it is able to make his body physically and spiritually healthy so that it can carry out its function as "caliph fil Ardhi". The Prophet (peace be upon him) once said in a hadith: "A servant of Allah will not move two legs on the Day of Judgment, until he is able to answer four things: how he is spent, how to practice his knowledge, how to earn his wealth and how to use or waste" (HR. Tirmidhi).



### **The relationship between maternal behavior and stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village**

Based on the results of statistical tests using the ChiSquare test, a value of  $p = 0.000$  is obtained which is smaller than  $\alpha = 0.05$  ( $p < 0.05$ ) meaning that there is a relationship between maternal behavior and the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village. Based on the results of filling out the questionnaire, mothers respond to daily behavior in caring for and caring for their babies. The role of the family, especially a mother in nurturing and caring for children, can have an impact on children's growth and development. Maternal behavior includes playing a role in giving breast milk or giving complementary foods, teaching the right eating procedures, providing foods with high nutritional value, the ability to control the number of portions of food that must be consumed, preparing hygienic foods, the right diet, so that nutritional intake can be well received by children.

Based on the results of research conducted on respondents that there are predisposing factors that occur such as the level of education of respondents more only spilling education until junior high school. The study also showed that the majority of respondents' jobs were farmers. Poor behavior can be caused by hygiene habits as seen from the answer score on this parameter is the dominant factor where the behavior of mothers who rarely wash their hands with soap before feeding their children. Hygiene of food, beverages, body, and environment is also an important factor to prevent various diseases that can affect the nutritional status of toddlers. Various behaviors that have been the focus of the WHO campaign, such as hand washing before and after defecation, can reduce the emergence of diarrheal diseases (Sulistijani, 2019). This research is also in line with research conducted by Manan & Lubis, 2022 shows from the results The analysis showed that there was a relationship between maternal behavior in feeding toddlers and stunting cases ( $p = 0.004$ ;  $p < 0.05$ ). This shows that the worse the mother's behavior in feeding toddlers, it will increase the incidence of stunting.(Manan & Lubis, 2022).

In accordance with Evy Noorhasanah's research, 2021, parenting behavior habits that have been implemented properly and correctly occur a lot in toddlers with normal height or not stunting compared to short toddlers who have the same family economic level (Evy Noorhasanah, 2021). This research is also in line with research conducted by Ismy and Wahyuni (2019) in Samarinda Sebrang District. The study with a quantitative design involving 79 respondents aimed to determine the relationship between parental behavior and the incidence of stunting. The results of the study found that  $p = 0.000$  which means that the results of the analysis show a significant relationship between parental behavior and the incidence of stunting (Ismy & Wahyuni, 2019). This research is in line with research Pricilya Margaretha Warwuru & Dalia Novitasari, 2022 shows that maternal action factors are risk factors and are associated with the incidence of stunting in toddlers in the Gogagoman Health Center Work Area. Based on the findings that there are still many mothers who are still lacking in terms of taking stunting prevention measures, this can be seen starting from pregnancy checks that have not been fulfilled properly and the parenting style of children whose nutritional needs have not been met besides that the use of local food around their homes has not been used properly. (Pricilya Margaretha Warwuru & Dalia Novitasari, 2022)

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of the research that has been described, the conclusions from the results of the research on the relationship of knowledge and behavior about the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village, Pakpak Bharat Regency are: There is a relationship

between maternal knowledge and the incidence of stunting in Binanga Boang Penanggalan village ( $p = 0.000$ ). There is a relationship between maternal behavior and the incidence of stunting in Penanggalan Binanga Boang village ( $p = 0.000$ ).

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