THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUSBAND'S SUPPORT AND EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING AMONG BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS AT JUWITA HOSPITAL, BEKASI

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ABSTRACT

Background: *Exclusive breastfeeding is the practice of feeding infants only breast milk from birth until the age of six months without providing any additional food or beverages. The success of exclusive breastfeeding is influenced by various factors, one of which is the husband's support, which plays an important role in enhancing the mother's motivation and confidence during breastfeeding.* ***Objective:*** *To determine the relationship between husband's support and exclusive breastfeeding among breastfeeding mothers at Juwita Hospital, Bekasi, in 2026.* ***Methods:*** *This study employed a quantitative research design with a cross-sectional approach. The sample consisted of 33 breastfeeding mothers with infants aged 7–12 months, selected using a random sampling technique. Data were collected using a questionnaire and analyzed through univariate and bivariate analyses using Fisher's Exact Test at a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$.* ***Results:*** *A total of 18 respondents (54.5%) received moderate husband support, while 15 respondents (45.5%) received good husband support. Most respondents practiced exclusive breastfeeding, with 25 respondents (75.8%) exclusively breastfeeding their infants and 8 respondents (24.2%) not practicing exclusive breastfeeding. Fisher's Exact Test showed a p-value of 0.004 ($p < 0.05$), indicating a statistically significant relationship between husband's support and exclusive breastfeeding.* ***Conclusion:*** *There was a statistically significant relationship between husband's support and exclusive breastfeeding among breastfeeding mothers at Juwita Hospital, Bekasi, in 2026 ($p = 0.004$). Better husband support was associated with a greater likelihood of mothers practicing exclusive breastfeeding.*

Keywords: *husband's support, exclusive breastfeeding, breastfeeding mothers.*