**Diphtheria’s Risk Factors: DPT-HB-Hib 3 Immunization and The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Diphtheria is an infectious disease that attacks the throat and can be transmitted through droplets, direct contact with the secretions of the patient’s respiratory tract or from carriers. The risk factors for diphtheria are the low coverage of DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization and the availability of integrated healthcare center.

**Objectives:** To describe the distribution of diphtheria in East Java and analyze the relationship between diphtheria and its risk factors.

**Methods:** This research evaluated the incidence of diphtheria in 38 districts or cities in East Java. The Pearson correlation test was used to analyze secondary data from the East Java Health Profile 2019-2021. The data was processed using Health Mapper and SPSS.

**Results:** There were a correlation between DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization and diphtheria incidence in 2019 (0.53), 2020 (0.27), and 2021 (0.34). Then there was a correlation between the availability of integrated healthcare center and diphtheria incidence in 2019 (0.34), 2020 (0.25), and 2021 (0.29).

**Conclusions:** The coverage of DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization and the availability of integrated healthcare center were related to diphtheria incidence in East Java in 2019 but not in 2020 and 2021.
INTRODUCTION

Diphtheria is a disease caused by the bacterium *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*. Symptoms of this disease include sore throat, fever, and pseudomembranes of the tonsils, pharynx, and nasal cavity. If not appropriately treated, diphtheria will cause complications such as airway obstruction, myocarditis, palate muscle paralysis, and pneumonia. Different transmission can be through droplets, direct contact with the patient's respiratory tract or from carriers. *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* can survive in the air for six months, while the incubation period for this disease is 2-6 days (Hartoyo, 2018).

Diphtheria is a global health problem. The South-East Asia Region (SEARO) is the WHO division region with the highest incidence of diphtheria each year (Tarigan and Manik, 2021). Indonesia is the second highest number of diphtheria cases with 3,203 diphtheria cases after India with 18,350 cases (Hamidah, Defrin and Rachmatawati, 2022). In 2019 in Indonesia, there were 944 cases of diphtheria spread across 25 provinces, while until May 2020, there were 129 suspected cases of diphtheria spread across 16 provinces. From December 2019–May 2020, the most diphtheria cases were reported in East Java, West Java, DKI Jakarta, East Kalimantan, and Aceh (Kemenkes RI, 2020). In East Java, diphtheria cases have decreased every year. In 2019, 358 cases were recorded (Dinkes Jatim, 2019). In 2020, it dropped to 94 cases (Dinkes Jatim, 2020). While in 2021, it again reduced to 45 cases (Dinkes Jatim, 2021).

Diphtheria is a disease that can be prevented by immunization. Diseases that can be prevented with immunization are expected to be eradicated in Indonesia by immunization programs aimed at increasing the body’s immunity against certain diseases. Immunization plays a role in achieving individual and environmental protection which is called herd immunity (Lusita, Syahrul and Ponconugroho, 2021). However, the low coverage of DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization and the availability of integrated healthcare center are the risk factors for diphtheria. Following the policy of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, diphtheria immunization is carried out in two stages. The first stage is three times (basic immunization when the child is two months, three months, and four months), while the second stage is given when the child is 18 months old, which aims to maintain the child's antibodies. Therefore, if the child does not receive the DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization, they will be at risk of contracting diphtheria (Rahma, Suryoputro and Fatmasari, 2019).

Integrated healthcare center is a comprehensive and integrated health service facility for infants and mothers so it was managed from, for, and with the community in carrying out health development, empowering the community, and making it easier for them to access health services. Five priority programs by integrated healthcare center are maternal and child health, family planning, nutrition improvement, techniques, and diarrhea control. Therefore, the availability of integrated healthcare center is crucial in the implementation of DPT-HB-Hib 3. The low availability of integrated healthcare center in the regions will also result in low coverage of the use of DPT-HB-Hib 3 (Theresia and Rikiy, 2020). Therefore, this study aimed to describe the distribution of diphtheria in East Java and analyze the relationship between diphtheria and its risk factors like DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization and the availability of integrated healthcare center.

METHOD

This research was a population correlation study conducted in 38 districts or cities in East Java. The incidence of diphtheria was the dependent variable, while the DPT-HB-hib 3 immunization coverage and the availability of integrated healthcare center were the independent variables. Secondary data on the incidence of diphtheria, DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization coverage, and the availability of integrated healthcare center in 38 cities or districts were accessed in the Health Profile Book of East Java Province for 2019 (Dinkes Jatim, 2019), 2020 (Dinkes Jatim, 2020), and 2021 (Dinkes Jatim, 2021). Secondary data collection has obtained research ethics permit with ethical number 966/HRECC.FODM/XII/2022 at Universitas Airlangga Faculty of Dental Medicine Health Research Ethical Clearance Commission. Descriptive data were analyzed using the health mapper version 4.3. Health mapper is an information and mapping application designed and developed by WHO’S GIS (World Health Organization’s Geographic Information System) Unit for public health. Health mapper depicts infectious disease surveillance at national and global levels. Variable data is presented in a regional distribution map.

To analyze the correlation between the incidence of diphtheria with DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization coverage and the availability of integrated healthcare center in every district or city in East Java, the Pearson correlation test was used because the research used ratio data. However previously the Kolmogorov-Smirnov was conducted normality data test and the result was stated that all
data were normally distributed because the error had a significant value was more than 0.05 (Table 1).

Table 2. Pearson Correlation Test between DPT-HB-HiB 3 Immunization Coverage and The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center in 2019-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Asymp. Sig (2-tailed)</th>
<th>Correlation Coefficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPT-HB-HiB 3 Immunization</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Integrated Healthcare Center</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPT-HB-HiB 3 Immunization</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Integrated Healthcare Center</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPT-HB-HiB 3 Immunization</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Integrated Healthcare Center</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Correlation between DPT-HB-HiB 3 immunization and the availability of integrated healthcare center with diphtheria incidence in 2019-2021 used the Pearson correlation test (Table 2).

Based on Roflin and Zulvia, (2021) if sig (2-tailed) < 0.05 it means correlation while if sig (2-tailed) > 0.05 it means no correlation. Coefficient correlation was classified into 0-0.25 is very weak correlation, 0.26-0.5 is sufficient correlation, 0.51-0.75 is strong correlation, 0.76-0.99 is very strong correlation and 1 is perfect correlation.

Diphtheria’s Risk Factors:...

Table 2. Pearson Correlation Test between DPT-HB-HiB 3 Immunization Coverage and The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center with Diphtheria Incidence in 2019-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Sig (2-tailed)</th>
<th>Correlation Coefficient</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>Significant-Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>Significant-Sufficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Insignificant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>Insignificant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>Significant-Sufficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.29</td>
<td>Insignificant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HB-Hib 3 immunization. The immunization DPT-HB-Hib 3 program aims to prevent the transmission of diphtheria in children (Lusita, Syahrul and Ponconugroho, 2021). Based on Riskesdas data, immunization coverage for HB-0 of 79.1%, BCG of 87.6%, DPT-HB-Hib 3 of 75.6%, polio 4 of 77% and measles of 82.1%. In the Riskesdas data, the lowest immunization coverage is DPT-HB-Hib 3. According to the Decree of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia Number 1611/MENKES/SK/XI/2005, the immunization program is one time for HB-0 immunization, one time for BCG immunization, three times for DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization, four times for polio immunization and once measles immunization (Rahmawati et al., 2018). The priority for all countries is to achieve 90% of child immunization coverage by giving three doses of DPT vaccine to children under 1 year of age. Diphtheria in developing countries is endemic, giving three doses of this therapy can prevent diphtheria epidemics (Fauziah, Notoadmodjo and Masyitah, 2018).

DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization is an immunization to increase active immunity at the same time against diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus. DPT is an immunization that contains diphtheria germ poison which has had its toxic properties removed but can still stimulate the formation of antibodies (toxoids) (Salmastuti, 2022). DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization in children is given in two stages. The first stage is given three times during basic immunization, and the second stage is at the vulnerable age of 18-24 months to maintain and increase antibodies in children. Children with complete immunization status have five times less chance of contracting diphtheria compared to those whose immunization status is incomplete (Rofiasari and Pratiwi, 2020). Research in Saudi Arabia (2017) explains that incomplete immunization status will result in severe diphtheria and death (Mohammed, Redwan and Almehdar, 2017). Based on Saputra, (2018) research, children who didn't get DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization will be more susceptible to diphtheria. In one family, if there is only one sufferer, it can infect other family members because with just a splash of saliva, diphtheria can infect a number of people in front of it (Saputra, 2018). The reduced coverage of DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization in East Java, in 2019-2021 is in line with Hamidah, Defrin and Rachmawati, (2022) research which

Figure 1. Graph of Diphtheria Incidence and DPT-HB-Hib 3 Immunization Coverage
stated that low immunization coverage could cause children to get an infectious disease, namely diphtheria. DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization can cause active immunity in the body and is expected to reduce the number of babies who die from diseases that can be prevented by immunization (Hamidah, Defrin and Rachmawati, 2022).

**Distribution and Correlation Between the Availability of Integrated Healthcare Center with Diphtheria Incidence in 2019-2021**

The availability of integrated healthcare center is essential in increasing the coverage of DPT-HB-Hib immunization as a step to prevent diphtheria. DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization is carried out at level 1 health facilities, like integrated healthcare center. If there is no integrated healthcare center in an area, it will be difficult for the community to get health services, especially the DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization. Out of 38 districts or cities in East Java, four districts had increased cases of diphtheria and decreased availability of integrated healthcare center as shown in Figure 2.

Tulungagung Regency had 2 diphtheria cases in 2019 and 2 cases in 2021. The availability of integrated healthcare center in Tulungagung Regency had decreased 17 integrated healthcare centers from 2019-2021. Magetan Regency had 4 cases in 2019 and 2 cases in 2021. The availability of integrated healthcare center in Magetan Regency had decreased 11 integrated healthcare centers in 2020 but increased 15 integrated healthcare centers in 2021. Bojonegoro Regency had cases every year, 9 cases in 2019, 1 case in 2020, and 2 cases in 2021. The availability of integrated healthcare center in Bojonegoro Regency had increased 29 integrated healthcare centers in 2020 and decreased 4 integrated healthcare centers in 2021. Lastly, Sampang Regency had 2 cases in 2019, 1 case in 2020 and 2 cases in 2021. The availability of integrated healthcare center in Sampang Regency had 224 integrated healthcare centers from 2019-2021. From the results of the Pearson correlation test on the availability of integrated health center with diphtheria cases (Table 2), it was a correlation.

**Figure 2. Graph of Diphtheria Incidence and The Availability of Integrated Healthcare Centers**

- Tulungagung: 2 cases in 2019, 2 cases in 2021
- Magetan: 4 cases in 2019, 2 cases in 2021
- Bojonegoro: 9 cases in 2019, 2 cases in 2020, 2 cases in 2021
- Sampang: 2 cases in 2019, 1 case in 2020, 2 cases in 2021

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Hamidah, Defrin and Rachmawati (2022)
there are still many parents who do not want their children to be immunized for the reason that they are afraid of having a fever after being immunized, immunization is illegal, and immunization doesn’t have benefit. Therefore, it is better for health cadres to provide education about complete immunization so that the coverage of immunization increases (Isnaini, Aidha, Khairunnisa, et al., 2023).

CONCLUSION

There was a significant relationship between DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization coverage and the availability of integrated healthcare center with diphtheria incidence in East Java in 2019, but no in 2020, and 2021. Four areas had increase in diphtheria cases in East Java, namely Tulungagung Regency, Magetan Regency, Bojonegoro Regency and Sampang Regency. In the future, it is necessary to educate the public about the function of integrated healthcare center to access health services such as DPT-HB-Hib 3 immunization so that the availability of integrated healthcare center and the coverage of DPT-HB-Hib 3 in East Java increases and diphtheria cases in East Java can reduce to zero.

Acknowledgement

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