

The Relationship Between Knowledge, Attitudes, And Behavior And Infection Prevention During The Postnatal Period At The Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency In 2025

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ABSTRACT

Postpartum infections are a major cause of maternal morbidity and mortality. Infection prevention is highly dependent on maternal behavior during the postpartum period, which is influenced by the level of knowledge and attitudes. At the Kelapa Community Health Center, challenges remain in optimizing self-managed infection prevention by postpartum mothers. This study aims to determine the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors and postpartum infection prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, West Bangka Regency, in 2025. This study was quantitative with a cross-sectional design. The sample consisted of 56 postpartum mothers, selected using a total sampling technique. The research instrument used a questionnaire that had been tested for validity and reliability. Data were analyzed using univariate and bivariate methods using the Chi-Square test ($\alpha = 0.05$). The bivariate analysis revealed a significant relationship between knowledge ($p = 0.000$), attitudes ($p = 0.000$), and behavior ($p = 0.000$) and postpartum infection prevention. A Cramer's V value of 0.522 indicates a strong relationship between behavioral variables and infection prevention measures. Mothers with positive behaviors were 16 times more likely to adhere to infection prevention measures than those with poor behaviors. There is a significant relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behavior and the prevention of postpartum infections at the Kelapa Community Health Center. It is recommended that healthcare workers enhance education for postpartum mothers regarding infection prevention through continuous counseling, as well as encourage mothers to adopt clean and healthy living behaviors during the postpartum period.

Keywords : Knowledge, Attitudes, Behavior, Postpartum Infection Prevention.

INTRODUCTION

The postpartum period, also known as the postpartum period, is the condition a woman experiences after giving birth. Biologically, the postpartum period begins after the placenta is expelled and ends when the uterus returns to its pre-pregnancy and pre-birth state. The postpartum period lasts for six weeks or 42 days. During this period, recovery occurs, during which the mother experiences various physical and physiological changes. The postpartum period can cause discomfort in the early stages. If not properly monitored and cared for, this condition can worsen and compromise the mother's health (Dewi et al., 2024).

Postpartum infections are a leading cause of maternal health problems and mortality worldwide. According to *World Health Organization* (WHO, 2023), approximately 295,000 maternal deaths occur annually worldwide, with 10 to 15 percent of these deaths due to postpartum infections and sepsis. In developing countries, this figure is higher due to limited access to health services and violations of infection prevention practices.

Report *United Nations Children's Fund* (UNICEF, 2025) The Indonesian Ministry of Health (Kemenkes) stated that the global maternal mortality rate (MMR) remains at 223 per

100,000 live births, with postpartum infections playing a significant role. In Indonesia, according to data from the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia (2024), the MMR reached 183 per 100,000 live births in 2024. The leading cause of maternal death in 2024 was non-obstetric complications during pregnancy, with 1,351 cases, followed by hypertension during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period (988 cases), and obstetric hemorrhage (955 cases) (Kemenkes, 2024).

Preventing infection during the postpartum period depends on maternal health behaviors, which are influenced by their knowledge and attitudes toward infection prevention practices. Good knowledge of the signs of infection, perineal wound care, personal hygiene, and early movement helps foster positive attitudes, which then lead to effective preventive behaviors. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2023) emphasizes in its postpartum care guidelines the importance of community-based health education and empowering mothers to recognize danger signs and practice proper hygiene. Research shows that mothers with good knowledge of infection prevention have a 3.5-fold lower risk of postpartum infections compared to those with less knowledge. Positive attitudes and behaviors, such as proper handwashing, breast care, and genital hygiene, have been shown to break the chain of infection and reduce postpartum complications. In the Bangka Belitung Islands Province, there were 98 cases of postpartum infections per 100,000 live births in 2023, with Bangka Regency contributing 23% of the total maternal deaths in the province (Babel Islands Provincial Health Profile, 2023).

Data from the Bangka Regency Health Office in 2024 showed that the coverage of complete postpartum visits (KF4) was only 78.6%, still below the national target of 90%. Of the 856 postpartum mothers monitored, 47 cases of postpartum complications (5.5%) were found, with 19 cases (40.4%) being postpartum infections, including perineal wounds, mastitis, and urinary tract infections. This high infection rate highlights gaps in infection prevention practices at the community level (Bangka Regency Health Profile, 2024).

Coconut Community Health Center, a primary healthcare facility in West Bangka Regency, serves an average of 560 postpartum mothers per year. Based on data from Kelapa Community Health Center medical records, there were three cases of postpartum infections in 2022. This decreased to one case in 2023, and by the end of 2024, there were two cases. From January to December 2025, 557 postpartum mothers were recorded. Of these, five cases of postpartum infection were found, consisting of one case of perineal infection, two cases of fever, and two cases of surgical wound infection (Kelapa Community Health Center Health Profile, 2025).

Several previous studies have shown a significant relationship between maternal understanding and concrete actions after childbirth in preventing health problems. Research by (Tupah et al., 2024) at the Campaka Community Health Center showed that maternal knowledge ($p = 0.002$), attitudes ($p = 0.002$), and behavior ($p = 0.001$) significantly influenced the healing time of perineal suture wounds. These results indicate that proper wound care, based on good knowledge and attitudes, directly impacts tissue recovery and prevents the risk of infection.

These findings are supported by research by (Hidayani et al., 2022), which showed that personal hygiene is significantly associated with preventing perineal wound infections in postpartum mothers ($p = 0.02$). This study explains that preventing infection during the postpartum period can be achieved through clean and healthy living behaviors, including maintaining personal hygiene, practicing proper vulvar hygiene, and performing appropriate perineal wound care. These results indicate that maternal health behaviors during the postpartum period are a crucial factor in preventing postpartum infections.

This is in line with research by Maryani et al. (2025) at the Payo Selincah Community Health Center, which found a significant relationship between knowledge ($p = 0.004$) and attitudes ($p = 0.001$) of postpartum mothers and their awareness of danger signs after delivery. Lack of knowledge makes it difficult for mothers to recognize potentially life-threatening medical

conditions, while a positive attitude encourages mothers to seek immediate medical attention when symptoms such as infection appear. Furthermore, awareness and adherence to postpartum health protocols are also influenced by maternal perceptions.

Research by Baby et al. (2025) at the Grogol Community Health Center showed that good knowledge and attitudes are closely related to adherence to postpartum visits (PPV). This second factor increases awareness of the benefits of routine check-ups, allowing for early detection of complications such as bleeding and infection. Mothers with a good understanding and positive attitudes tend to be more disciplined in completing postpartum visits, which is a crucial part of preventing infection at the community level. Based on this background, the author is interested in conducting research on "The Relationship Between Knowledge, Attitudes and Behavior with Efforts to Prevent Postpartum Infections at the Kelapa Community Health Center in 2025".

RESEARCH METHODS

The type of research used is quantitative. This study is a descriptive analytical study, which describes each variable and then examines the relationships between them. (Adiputra et al., 2021). This study uses a cross-sectional study design with the aim of determining the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors with postpartum infection prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center in 2025, observed over the same time period.

Research Population and Sample

1. Research Population

A population is all elements or subjects of research (e.g., humans) (Amin et al., 2024). The population sampled in this study was all postpartum mothers attending the Kelapa Community Health Center from December to February 2026, totaling 56 respondents.

2. Research Sample

The sample is the subject of the population studied by the researcher (Ariyani et al., 2023). Since the population size was less than 100, the entire population was used as the research sample. Therefore, the sampling technique in this study was total population sampling. The inclusion criteria for this study were:

- a. Postpartum mothers (days 1-42)
- b. Respondents who were willing to participate (signed informed consent).
- c. Postpartum mothers who were able to communicate well and could read/write.

The exclusion criteria for this study were:

- a. Postpartum mothers experiencing severe complications/emergencies that prevented them from being interviewed.
- b. Unwilling to be respondents

The data source in this study is primary data, which is a direct data source, that is, data sources that directly provide data to data collectors, such as during questionnaires and direct interviews (Ariyani et al., 2023). The primary data in this study were obtained by completing the questionnaire.

Data analysis used statistical data analysis, including descriptive data analysis (univariate) and bivariate analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Univariate Analysis

Based on research conducted on the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behavior with postpartum infection prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025, this study involved 56 mothers as respondents. The data obtained are presented in the form of a frequency distribution collected through a research instrument sheet, which includes the characteristics of the

respondents.berdasarkan umur, Last education, occupation, and parity. Based on the results of the data processing, the research analysis can be described as follows:

a. Frequency Distribution of Postpartum Infection Prevention

Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Mothers' Knowledge of Postpartum Infection Prevention

Prevention of Postpartum Infections	Frequency	
	n	%
Doing	21	37,5
Not Doing	35	62,5
Total	56	100,0

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 1 shows that 21 (37.5%) mothers took postpartum infection prevention measures, while 35 (62.5%) did not. This indicates that mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, had not optimally implemented postpartum infection prevention measures in 2025, including personal hygiene, perineal wound care, and nutritional needs.

b. Frequency Distribution of Mothers' Knowledge of Postpartum Infection Prevention

Table 2. Frequency Distribution of Mothers' Knowledge of Postpartum Infection Prevention

Knowledge	Frequency	
	n	%
Good	32	57,1
Not enough	24	42,9
Total	56	100,0

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 2 shows that 32 (51.7%) mothers had correct knowledge regarding postpartum infection prevention, while 24 (42.9%) had insufficient knowledge. This indicates that the majority of mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, had good knowledge regarding postpartum infection prevention in 2025, as indicated by their ability to understand the definition, danger signs, and methods of preventing postpartum infections.

c. Frequency Distribution of Attitudes Regarding Postpartum Infection Prevention

Table 3 Frequency Distribution of Maternal Attitudes Regarding Postpartum Infection Prevention

Attitude	Frequency	
	N	%
Positive	32	57,1
Negative	24	42,9
Total	56	100,0

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 3 shows that 32 (51.7%) mothers had a positive attitude toward postpartum infection prevention, while 24 (42.9%) had a negative attitude. This indicates that the majority of mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, had a positive attitude toward postpartum infection prevention in 2025, as reflected in their positive assessments and tendency to agree with and support infection prevention measures.

d. Frequency Distribution of Behaviors Related to Postpartum Infection Prevention

Table 4. Frequency Distribution of Maternal Behaviors Related to Postpartum Infection Prevention

Behavior	Frequency	
	N	%
Good	28	50
Not enough	28	40
Total	56	100,0

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 4 shows that 28 (50%) mothers exhibited good behavior toward preventing postpartum infections, while 28 (50%) exhibited poor behavior. This indicates that mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, in 2025 had a balanced distribution of good and poor behavior toward preventing postpartum infections. This condition illustrates that infection prevention practices are not yet evenly distributed, so improvements are still needed in the implementation of recommended postpartum care and consistency in maintaining cleanliness and sterility.

Bivariate Analysis

Bivariate analysis was conducted to determine the relationship between the variables of knowledge, attitudes, and maternal behavior in preventing postpartum infections.

a. The Relationship Between Maternal Knowledge and Postpartum Infection Prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Table 5. The Relationship Between Maternal Knowledge and Postpartum Infection Prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Knowledge	Prevention of Postpartum Infections				Total		Correlation Coefficient	p-value
	Do		Do not do		n	%		
	n	%	N	%				
Good	17	30,3	11	19,6	28	28	0,480	0,000
Not enough	4	10,5	24	17,5	28	28		
Total	21	21	35	35	56	56		

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 5 shows that of the 56 respondents, 28 had good knowledge and 28 had poor knowledge. Of the respondents with good knowledge, the majority (17 respondents (60.7%)) practiced postpartum infection prevention, while 11 (39.3%) did not. Meanwhile, of the respondents with poor knowledge, the majority (24 respondents (85.7%)) did not practice postpartum infection prevention, and only 4 (14.3%) did.

The statistical test results showed a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05), indicating a significant relationship between knowledge and postpartum infection prevention. The correlation coefficient of 0.480 indicates a moderate relationship. This suggests that the better a mother's knowledge, the better her postpartum infection prevention practices.

b. The Relationship Between Maternal Attitudes and Postpartum Infection Prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, 2025

Table 6. The Relationship Between Maternal Attitudes and Postpartum Infection Prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, 2025

Attitude	Prevention of Postpartum Infections				Total		Correlation Coefficient	p-value
	Do		Do not do		n	%		
	n	%	N	%				
Positive	19	12	13	20	32	32	0,522	0,000
Negative	2	9	22	15	24	24		
Total	21	21	35	35	56	56		

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 6 shows that of the 56 respondents, the majority (32) had a positive attitude, while 24 had a negative attitude. Among respondents with a positive attitude, the majority (19) practiced postpartum infection prevention (59.4%), while 13 (40.6%) did not. Meanwhile, among respondents with a negative attitude, the majority (22) did not practice postpartum infection prevention, and only 2 (8.3%) did.

The statistical test results showed a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05), indicating a significant relationship between attitude and postpartum infection prevention. The correlation coefficient of 0.522 indicates a moderate strength of the relationship. This suggests that the more positive the mother's attitude, the better the postpartum infection prevention measures.

c. The Relationship Between Maternal Behavior and Postpartum Infection Prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, 2025

Table 7. The Relationship Between Maternal Behavior and Postpartum Infection Prevention at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, 2025

Perilaku	Prevention of Postpartum Infections				Total		Correlation Coefficient	p-value
	Do		Do not do		n	%		
	n	%	N	%				
	Good	16	7,9	5	13,1	21		
Not enough	5	13,1	30	21,9	35	35	0,619	0,000
Total	21	21	35	35	56	56		

Source: SPSS V25 Data Processing, 2026

Table 7 shows that of the 56 respondents, the majority (35) had poor maternal health practices, while 21 had good maternal health practices. Of the respondents with good maternal health practices, the majority (16) practiced postpartum infection prevention (76.2%), while 5 (23.8%) did not. Meanwhile, of the respondents with poor maternal health practices, the majority (30) did not practice postpartum infection prevention (85.7%), and only 5 (14.3%) did.

The statistical test results showed a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05), indicating a significant relationship between maternal health practices and postpartum infection prevention. The correlation coefficient of 0.619 indicates a strong relationship. This suggests that the better the mother's maternal health practices, the better the postpartum infection prevention measures.

Discussion

Characteristics Based on Postpartum Infection Prevention at Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Based on the research results in Table 1, it is known that the majority of mothers, 35 (62.5%), did not take preventive measures against postpartum infections. Only 21 (37.5%) did. These results indicate that maternal practice of postpartum infection prevention remains relatively low.

This low level of preventive practice can be caused by several factors, such as a lack of knowledge, behavior, and attitudes, as well as a lack of information received by mothers regarding postpartum care. According to (Soekidjo, 2010), health behavior is influenced by predisposing factors such as knowledge, behavior, and attitudes, as well as supporting factors such as the environment and access to information. If mothers lack adequate understanding, the tendency to not take preventive measures is higher.

(WHO, 2023) states that the postpartum period is a period highly susceptible to infection. Infections during the postpartum period can occur due to poor personal hygiene, improper wound care, and inadequate postpartum health monitoring. Therefore, implementing preventive behaviors such as maintaining genital hygiene, proper perineal wound care, washing hands before and after care, and meeting nutritional needs are crucial to reducing the risk of infection.

The results of this study indicate that many mothers still do not properly practice postpartum infection prevention. This is a crucial concern for healthcare workers, particularly at the Kelapa Community Health Center in Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, to improve education and counseling for postpartum mothers. It is hoped that this education will not only increase knowledge but also encourage behavioral changes in mothers regarding personal hygiene, perineal wound care, and independent nutritional needs.

Characteristics Based on Knowledge of Postpartum Infection Prevention at Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Table 2 shows that 32 (51.7%) mothers had correct knowledge regarding postpartum infection prevention, while 24 (42.9%) had insufficient knowledge. This study measured knowledge levels based on mothers' understanding of postpartum infection and the signs and symptoms of infection during the postpartum period. These results indicate that most mothers had a fairly good understanding of the basic concepts of postpartum infection, although some still had insufficient knowledge.

These results align with the opinion (Notoatmodjo, 2010) that knowledge is a crucial factor influencing mothers' behavior in preventing postpartum infections. Mothers with good knowledge tend to be better able to recognize danger signs and understand the importance of infection prevention, thus potentially taking more appropriate preventive measures.

According to the WHO (2023), maternal knowledge regarding postpartum care is crucial in preventing infection, as postpartum infection is a leading cause of maternal death and can be prevented through proper hygiene and care practices.

The above findings are supported by research (Baby et al., 2025), which found a significant relationship between knowledge and postpartum prevention, with a moderate correlation ($p = 0.001$; $r = 0.432$).

These results also align with research by Hilin, Hanifa, and Hidayani (2024), which demonstrated a significant relationship between knowledge and respondents' health behaviors, with a p-value of 0.000 ($p < 0.05$). Good knowledge improves an individual's ability to understand health risks and determine appropriate actions, thus influencing preventive behaviors. These findings reinforce the findings of this study, which demonstrate that knowledge is a crucial factor in developing postpartum infection prevention practices.

Based on the above discussion, it can be concluded that the majority of mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, in 2025 had good knowledge of postpartum infections, particularly regarding their definition, signs, and symptoms. However, the fact that there are still mothers with insufficient knowledge indicates the need for increased education so that all mothers are able to recognize the risk of infection and take optimal preventive measures.

Characteristics Based on Attitudes to Prevent Postpartum Infections at Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Table 3 shows that 32 (51.7%) mothers had positive attitudes toward postpartum infection prevention, while 24 (42.9%) had negative attitudes. This study measured attitudes based on mothers' views or assessments of infection prevention efforts and their tendency to act (agree or disagree) toward recommended preventive measures. These results indicate that most mothers had positive views and a tendency to support postpartum infection prevention measures, although some mothers remained less supportive.

These results align with the opinion (Notoatmodjo, 2014) that attitude is a person's closed response to an object that involves both opinion and emotion. Therefore, a positive attitude will encourage someone to engage in better health behaviors.

According to the WHO (2023), maternal attitudes and behaviors in maintaining hygiene and care during the postpartum period play a crucial role in preventing infection, which is a major cause of maternal morbidity and mortality. The results of this study are also supported by research (Maryani et al., 2025), which obtained a chi-square test with a p-value of 0.001 ($p < 0.05$). Therefore, it can be concluded that there is a relationship between postpartum mothers' attitudes and postpartum danger signs in the Payo Selincah Community Health Center work area in Jambi City in 2025.

This finding is also supported by research by Hutabarat, Dewi, and Hidayani (2024), which showed a significant relationship between attitudes and health prevention behaviors in pregnant women, with a p-value of 0.008 ($p < 0.05$). This study explains that individuals with positive attitudes tend to be more ready to receive health information and apply it in concrete actions. This is in line with research findings showing that postpartum mothers with positive attitudes engage in more infection prevention efforts than those with negative attitudes. Based on the results of the above presentation, it can be concluded that the majority of mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, had a positive attitude toward preventing postpartum infections in 2025, particularly in terms of accepting and agreeing with the importance of preventive measures. However, the persistence of mothers with negative attitudes indicates the need for increased education and persuasive approaches so that

mothers not only understand but also have the willingness to consistently implement preventive measures.

Behavioral Characteristics of Postpartum Infection Prevention at Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Table 4 shows that 28 mothers (50%) exhibited good behavior toward preventing postpartum infections, while 28 (50%) exhibited poor behavior. These results indicate that maternal behavior straddles the good and poor categories. In this study, behavior was measured based on postpartum care practices carried out by mothers in accordance with health workers' instructions and consistency in maintaining cleanliness and sterility during the postpartum period. These results indicate that not all mothers consistently apply proper care practices in their daily lives.

This aligns with expert opinion (Notoatmodjo, 2014), which states that behavior is the result of an interaction between predisposing factors (knowledge and attitudes), supporting factors, and motivating factors. This suggests that even if mothers possess good knowledge and attitudes, not all are able to implement them in real-life behavior.

According to WHO (2023), clean and healthy living behaviors, including maintaining cleanliness and proper care during the postpartum period, are important efforts to prevent infections that can impact maternal health.

The results of this study are also supported by research (Tupah et al., 2024) which found that from 30 respondents it was known that mothers who had good knowledge were 22 people (73.3%), mothers who had positive attitudes were 22 people (73.3%), mothers who had good behavior were 23 people (76.7%). The results of the Chi-Square analysis test for the knowledge category obtained a p value = 0.002 ($p < 0.05$), for the attitude category obtained a p value = 0.002 (< 0.05) while for behavior obtained a p value = 0.001 (< 0.05). In conclusion, there is a relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behavior regarding perineal wound care and the duration of perineal wound healing in the Campaka Community Health Center (UPTD) work area in 2023.

Based on the results presented above, it can be concluded that mothers at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, in 2025, still exhibited suboptimal behaviors in preventing postpartum infections. The balance between good and bad behaviors indicates a gap between knowledge and attitudes and actual practice in the field. Therefore, efforts are needed to improve education that focuses not only on providing information but also on mentoring and monitoring so that mothers can consistently implement postpartum care in their daily lives.

Characteristics Based on the Relationship Between Knowledge and Prevention of Postpartum Infections at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025.

Based on Table 5, the chi-square test results indicate a relationship between knowledge and postpartum infection prevention, with a p-value of $0.000 < 0.05$. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is a significant relationship between knowledge and postpartum infection prevention. Meanwhile, the correlation coefficient of 0.620 indicates a strong relationship between knowledge and postpartum infection prevention.

Cross-tabulation results show that of the 56 postpartum mothers with correct knowledge, 17 (10.5%) took preventive measures, while 11 (17.5%) did not. Conversely, among postpartum mothers with inadequate knowledge, 4 (10.5%) took preventive measures, and 24 (17.5%) did not. This indicates that mothers with good knowledge tend to take more infection prevention measures than those with inadequate knowledge.

This is in line with the opinion (Notoatmodjo, 2014), who states that knowledge is a cognitive factor that forms the basis for developing health behaviors. Individuals with good knowledge are better able to understand the importance of disease prevention efforts, thus being motivated to take appropriate action to maintain their health. In the context of this study, postpartum mothers with good knowledge tend to be better able to implement infection prevention measures during the postpartum period.

According to (Green & Kreuter, 2022), knowledge is a predisposing factor that plays a crucial role in shaping health behaviors. This predisposing factor encompasses cognitive aspects that form the basis for determining attitudes and actions. Individuals with good knowledge tend to have a higher awareness of health risks, thus being better able to take appropriate preventive measures. In this study, postpartum mothers with good knowledge tended to implement infection prevention more optimally than those with less knowledge.

This finding is supported by research (Baby et al., 2025), which found a significant relationship between knowledge and postpartum prevention measures, with a moderate correlation ($p = 0.001$; $r = 0.432$).

Based on the data presented, it can be concluded that knowledge plays a significant role in shaping postpartum infection prevention behavior. Mothers with good knowledge tend to better understand the importance of maintaining personal hygiene, performing perineal wound care, and recognizing the warning signs of infection, thus being better able to take appropriate preventive measures.

However, mothers with less knowledge still fail to effectively practice infection prevention. This suggests that a lack of knowledge can be a barrier to adopting healthy behaviors, potentially increasing the risk of postpartum infection. Therefore, the active role of health workers in providing ongoing education, counseling, and support is essential to increase mothers' knowledge and lead to positive behavioral changes.

Characteristics Based on the Relationship Between Attitudes and Prevention of Postpartum Infections at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025.

Based on table 6, the results of the Chi-Square test analysis show that there is a relationship between attitude and prevention of postpartum infections with a p-value of $0.000 < 0.05$. This means that there is a significant relationship between attitude variables and prevention of postpartum infections. Meanwhile, the correlation coefficient value of 0.522 indicates that the level of relationship is in the medium category between attitudes and prevention of postpartum infections.

The cross tabulation results showed that of the 56 postpartum mothers, 19 of the respondents had a positive attitude in preventing infection, while 13 mothers did not take prevention. In contrast, of postpartum mothers with negative attitudes, only 2 mothers took precautions and as many as 22 mothers did not take precautions. This shows that postpartum mothers with a positive attitude tend to take more infection prevention measures compared to mothers who have a negative attitude.

This is in line with the opinion of (Notoatmodjo, 2014) which states that attitude is a person's closed response to a stimulus that can influence health behavior. A positive attitude will encourage individuals to act in accordance with their values and beliefs, including preventing infection during the postpartum period.

According to (Green & Kreuter, 2022), attitudes are included in the predisposing factors that play a role in shaping a person's health behavior. A good attitude will increase an individual's readiness in making decisions to take appropriate health actions. In this

study, postpartum mothers with a positive attitude tended to have a higher awareness of maintaining cleanliness and health during the postpartum period so they did more to prevent infection.

The results of this research are also supported by research (Maryani et al., 2025) which obtained chi-square test results obtained $p\text{-value} = 0.001$ ($p < 0.05$) so it can be concluded that there is a relationship between the attitude of postpartum mothers and the Danger Signs of Postpartum in the working area of the Payo Selincah Public Health Center, Jambi City in 2025.

Based on the data presented, it can be concluded that attitude is an important factor that influences the behavior of postpartum mothers in preventing infection. Mothers with a positive attitude tend to be more compliant in implementing clean and healthy living behaviors, such as maintaining personal hygiene, caring for wounds, and following the recommendations of health workers.

However, there are still mothers with negative attitudes who do not prevent infection properly. This shows that a lack of acceptance or belief in the importance of prevention can be an obstacle to changing behavior. Therefore, efforts are needed from health workers to increase positive attitudes of mothers through education, counseling and persuasive approaches so that mothers not only know, but also have the will to implement preventive measures consistently.

Characteristics Based on the Relationship Between Behavior and Prevention of Postpartum Infections at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency in 2025

Based on Table 7, the results of the Chi-Square analysis indicate a relationship between behavior and the prevention of postpartum infections, with a $p\text{-value}$ of $0.000 < 0.05$. This indicates a significant relationship between behavioral variables and the prevention of postpartum infections. Meanwhile, the correlation coefficient of 0.619 indicates a strong relationship between behavior and the prevention of postpartum infections.

The cross-tabulation results show that of the 56 postpartum mothers, 16 respondents with good behavior practiced infection prevention, while 5 did not. Conversely, among postpartum mothers with poor behavior, only 5 practiced prevention, and 30 did not. These results indicate that behavior plays a crucial role in the prevention of postpartum infections. Mothers with good behavior tend to be able to implement preventive measures effectively and consistently, such as maintaining personal hygiene, properly caring for perineal wounds, and following the recommendations of healthcare providers.

This aligns with the opinion (Notoatmodjo, 2014), which states that health behavior is the result of a learning process influenced by an individual's knowledge and attitudes. Good behavior is reflected in concrete actions taken by individuals to maintain their health, including efforts to prevent infection during the postpartum period.

(Green & Kreuter, 2022) emphasize an ecological approach to health behavior. In this case, good behavior indicates that an individual has sufficient readiness and support to optimally perform health actions. Postpartum mothers with good behavior tend to pay more attention to personal hygiene, wound care, and follow the recommendations of health workers, thus preventing infection.

The results of this study are also supported by research (Tupah et al., 2024), which found that out of 30 respondents, 22 (73.3%) had good knowledge, 22 (73.3%) had positive

attitudes, and 23 (76.7%) had good behavior. The Chi-Square analysis results for the knowledge category yielded a p-value of 0.002 ($p = <0.05$), for the attitude category a p-value of $0.002 < (0.05)$, and for behavior a p-value of $0.001 < (0.05)$. The conclusion is that there is a relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behavior regarding perineal wound care and the healing time of perineal wound stitches in the Campaka Community Health Center (UPTD) work area in 2023.

Based on the data presented, it can be concluded that behavior is a highly influential factor in preventing postpartum infections. Mothers with good behavior are better able to consistently implement preventive measures, thereby minimizing the risk of infection.

However, there are still mothers with less good behavior who do not optimally implement infection prevention. This indicates a gap between knowledge, attitudes, and practice in the field. Therefore, ongoing efforts by health workers through education, counseling, and direct monitoring are needed so that mothers not only know and agree with, but are also able to consistently implement preventive behaviors in their daily lives.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research conducted on the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behavior and the prevention of postpartum infections at the Kelapa Community Health Center, Kelapa District, West Bangka Regency, it can be concluded that:

- a. The results of the study revealed a significant relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and behavior and the prevention of postpartum infections, with each variable showing a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05). The correlation coefficient showed that knowledge ($r = 0.480$) and attitude ($r = 0.522$) had a moderate relationship, while behavior ($r = 0.619$) had a strong relationship. This indicates that the better the mother's knowledge, attitudes, and behavior, the better the postpartum infection prevention measures they implemented.
- b. The results of the study revealed that 28 respondents had good and poor knowledge, respectively. Respondents with good knowledge were more likely to take preventive measures (17) than those without (11), while respondents with poor knowledge were mostly absent (24). The analysis results showed a significant relationship between knowledge and postpartum infection prevention, with a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05) and a correlation coefficient of 0.480, indicating a moderate relationship strength.
- c. Based on the research results, it was found that the majority of respondents (32) had positive attitudes. Respondents with positive attitudes were more likely to take preventive measures (19) than those who did not (13). While respondents with negative attitudes were mostly not taking preventive measures (22). The analysis results showed a significant relationship between attitudes and postpartum infection prevention, with a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05) and a correlation coefficient of 0.522, indicating a moderate relationship strength.
- d. Based on the research results, it was found that the majority of respondents (35) had poor attitudes. Respondents with positive attitudes were more likely to take preventive measures (16) than those who did not (5). Respondents with poor attitudes were mostly not taking preventive measures (30). The analysis results show a significant relationship between behavior and the prevention of postpartum

infections, with a p-value of 0.000 (<0.05) and a correlation coefficient of 0.619, indicating a strong relationship.

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