

Association between Level of Knowledge about Trichuriasis and Demographic Characteristics among Orphans in East Jakarta in 2012

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Background

Trichuriasis is a worldwide problem for public health and estimated 25% of world population infected with *T. Trichiura* or Trichuriasis. Trichuriasis is an infection of the gastrointestinal tract caused by *T. trichiura*. Especially in Indonesia, trichuriasis has high prevalence because Indonesia located in tropical and subtropical regions that have a warm and humid climate. The prevalence of intestinal worms (including Trichuriasis) in Indonesia is still relatively high at 40% -60%, but in children the prevalence of infection can reach 90% it is caused by frequent contact with soil, poor sanitation, the type of soil and the lack of awareness to maintain hygiene. Trichuriasis can cause a variety symptoms, but in children can lead to failure growth and development. In East Jakarta, there is an orphanage that housed many orphans with varying characteristics demography and relatively poor hygiene, hence susceptible to get Trichuriasis and need to educate. Appropriate education depend by prior knowledge and demographic characteristics. Therefore need to understand the relationship between characteristics demographic and level of knowledge about Trichuriasis.

Aims & Objectives

To find out any association between Level of Knowledge about Trichuriasis and Demographic Characteristics among Orphans in East Jakarta in 2012

Material & Methods

This study used analytical cross-sectional design. Data were taken on June 10, 2012 in East Jakarta Orphanage by distributing validated questionnaires about morphology, life cycle and symptoms *T. trichiura*. The respondents (n = 153) were selected by total population sampling. Data processed with SPSS version 20 and analyzed using Kolmogorov-Smirnov test.

Results

In this study, the majority of subjects were aged under 13 years (54.2%), the level of education was dominated by elementary school (SD) and there were more female than male subjects. The study show that 2% respondent had good knowledge, 22.2% had fair knowledge and 75.8% had poor knowledge. There were no significant difference ($p > 0,05$) between the level of knowledge with demographic characteristics (age, gender, educational level, and experience Trichuriasis).

Conclusions

Level of knowledge about trichuriasis not associated with age, gender, level of education and experienced of Trichuriasis. Then, education about Trichuriasis can be done to all orphans regardless of characteristics demographics.

Keyword: Trichuriasis; Characteristics demography; Knowledge; Orphans