

The Association of Husband's Nutrition Knowledge and Support to The Maternal Nutritional Status and Health Seeking Behaviour

Ernesto Lorenzo Bornaes, Caryl Cleo Cabigao, Ma. Jannil Gesmundo, Freyja Bless Rebuyaco, Ma. Clarice Sanchez, Junelle Supelana

Nutrition and Dietetics Department, University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Maternal nutrition and practice play significant roles in improving health outcomes for both mother and child. Globally and in the Philippines, men greatly influence household decision including antenatal care, nutrition and workload during pregnancy, and health care for children. The study aimed to determine the association of husband's nutrition knowledge and emotional and financial support to the maternal nutritional status and health-seeking behavior. **METHODS:** A correlational research utilizing the enumerative sampling technique was conducted. A total of 160 respondents or 80 married couples participated from selected municipalities in the Philippines. Adapted questionnaires and forms were used to assess the husband's nutrition knowledge and financial and emotional support as well as the nutritional status and health-seeking behavior of the maternal woman. Linear and ordinal regression analysis were used to determine the significant association between variables. **RESULTS:** Results showed that husband's nutrition knowledge ($p < 0.001$) financial ($p = 0.082$) and emotional support ($p = 0.060$) have significant association to maternal nutritional status and health-seeking behavior. Further, husband's nutrition knowledge significantly affects protein intake ($p = 0.055$). **DISCUSSION:** Findings of the study revealed that husband's nutrition knowledge and support may have an impact on maternal nutritional status and health-seeking behavior. This suggests that involving fathers in maternal and child health program in the Philippines may empower women and improve their maternal practices. This may also increase husband's awareness about their importance in achieving optimal nutrition of both mother and the child particularly for the first 1000 days.

KEYWORDS: Nutrition Knowledge, Financial Support, Emotional Support, Maternal Nutritional Status, Health-seeking Behavior

The Effect of Temperature on The Development of Immature Stages of Aedes Spp. Against Breeding Containers

Mohd. Fadzil bin Awang, Nazri Che Dom

ABSTRACT

Temperature is often identified as the main environmental factor affecting the growth of the mosquito population. It is important to study the effect of temperature on the life parameters of *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* in the local environment using the local strains. This will subsequently provide an in-depth understanding on the biology of *Aedes* mosquitoes which will eventually affect the transmission of dengue viruses directly to human. In this study, we examined the effect of constant temperatures (25°C, 27°C, 30°C and 33°C) on the developmental period of local *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* strains using environmental chambers. Two categories of the containers (artificial - a glass jar, tire and plastic cup and natural - coconut shell) were used to examine the association of the types of containers to the development of both *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti*. Based on the developmental data, it was found that the increase in temperature reduced the developmental period of the mosquito except for the first instar larvae. In addition, both strains were found to be able to develop and survive at all selected temperatures up to 33°C. In terms of the types of breeding containers, shortest development was recorded in the coconut shells, followed by tires, glass jars and plastic cups for both *Aedes* species. These findings provided valuable baseline information on the potential effects of climate change on the bionomics of *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* in future projection of *Aedes* density towards an improve vector control.

KEYWORDS: temperature; climate; *Aedes*; *albopictus*; *aegypti*; development; survival; humidity; breeding container.