

Policy of Brebes Regency Government in Reducing Maternal Mortality

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Abstract—The objective of this study is to analyze the policies of Brebes Regency Government in reducing maternal mortality in 2017. As in 2017 (as many as 31 cases) Brebes Regency government was able to reduce maternal mortality compared to 2016 (54 cases) and 2015 (52 cases). The research used was a qualitative research method with data collection techniques from primary data and secondary data. Data collection was conducted by interviewing several informants, including: Health Office, Regional Development Research Planning Agency, Community Collaboration and Prosperity for Welfare (Kolaborasi dan Pelayanan untuk Kesejahteraan/KOMPAK), Civic Forum (Forum Masyarakat Madani/FMM) and the community in Brebes Regency. The data analysis method used was a triangulation method that aimed to validate the data found in research or based on theoretical studies. The decline in maternal mortality rates in Brebes Regency in 2017 was inseparable from the policies of Brebes Regency government and the involvement of several parties. The policies of Brebes Regency government in reducing maternal mortality included making a policy of “Maklumat Dukun Bayi”, a joint movement “Kawal Wong Metheng”, and a KOMPAK partnership in educating pregnant women to give birth in health services. The policy of “Maklumat Dukun Bayi” is a form of partnership between health workers and traditional midwife, midwife did not assist in childbirth but help plan births and prevent complications, help pregnant women with high risk to health workers and help care for mothers and babies after childbirth. The form of “Kawal Wong Metheng” policy was carried out by the community by allocating village budget and community voluntary donations to guard pregnant women. While the KOMPAK program was carried out by inviting the community to give birth at the Health Centers and will get a direct birth certificate and for free.

Keywords—maternal; mortality rate; government policies; health; Brebes

I. INTRODUCTION

The maternal mortality rate (MMR) is one indicator to see women's health status, because maternal mortality results the state losing a number of productive workers, increasing the level of child morbidity and mortality. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that more than 585,000 mothers die annually during pregnancy, unsafe delivery and abortion due to unwanted pregnancies (Depkes, 2008). Various efforts have been made by the government in dealing with maternal mortality, including through maternal Health Offices so that every pregnant woman can go through her pregnancy and

delivery safely through safe motherhood programs or efforts to improve maternal welfare and safety.

Many factors have caused the decline of MMR in Central Java, such as increasing public awareness in paying attention to maternal health. In addition, there is also a program of the 5 NG Movement namely “Jateng Gayeng Nginceng Wong Meteng” which was proclaimed by Ganjar Pranowo as the Governor of Central Java in 2016. The 5 NG Movement program continued, is a mutual cooperation movement that utilizes all potential in the community, starting from the upstream downstream. That is by mobilizing village midwives and PKK cadres to educate women from pre-pregnancy, during pregnancy, delivery, and post-delivery.

Brebes Regency in 2016 was still in top rank with 54 cases of maternal mortality, and it increased compared to 2015. As for 2017 the top five cases of maternal deaths among others were mostly Banyumas Regency (73 cases), Brebes Regency (31 cases), Grobogan Regency (28 cases), Pemalang District (25 cases) and Banjarnegara Regency (21 cases). The study of local government policies in the health sector, especially the reduction of maternal mortality is needed[1]. Brebes Regency, which is one of the regencies in Central Java which is the regency with the highest maternal mortality rate in Central Java in the last three years, namely in 2015 and 2016, while in 2017 experienced a significant decrease. The approach in this study is a qualitative approach. This departs from the meaning of qualitative research itself, as stated by (Bogdan and Taylor 1975: 5) in [2] that “the qualitative methodology” is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from observable people and behavior.

II. DISCUSSION

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are a global commitment to achieve a better level of health. The most important thing is the rate of the decline in infant mortality and improvement in maternal health. Improving maternal health or efforts to reduce maternal mortality in Indonesia is one of the main factors in achieving the MDGs. In an effort to realize health development goals, good management is needed as a basic step in decision making and policy at all levels of Health Office administration. Brebes Regency as one of the regions in Indonesia that becomes one of the regions that implementing policies established by the Central Government that is decentralized to Brebes Regency is the health sector.

Compared to other regencies/cities, indeed Brebes Regency still occupies a large maternal mortality rate. The cause of maternal mortality in Brebes Regency is influenced by many factors. Several factors that led to maternal mortality in Brebes include, among others:

A. Lack of awareness of pregnant women

Maternal mortality in Brebes Regency which is still quite high is influenced by education about low maternal pregnancy and lack of awareness of mothers and families towards check-up both before and after delivery. There are still many pregnant women in rural areas and some in urban areas who lack attention to routinely checks either to village midwives or Community Health Center. In addition, some still rely on traditional midwife in their villages to help delivery, so that for high-risk pregnant women (risti) and bleeding cannot be helped. Then in postdelivery period, medical teams care is needed, but many pregnant women still rely on the traditional midwife.

B. Environmental Factors

For onion producing areas in Brebes Regency, such as in Dokhulo Village, Bulakamba Sub-District, there are the large number of onions contaminated with pesticides and stored on a dining table and cooking stove. Pesticides found on onions will fall on food that is being cooked or served at the dining table. So that it will continuously affect the condition of pregnant women and other family members [3]. In addition, for women workers who choose and sort the onions using traditional methods that is by hand, indirectly pesticides will enter their nails and be used for eating (even though they have washed their hands) [4]. In addition to exposure to pregnant women, it also occurs to other family members such as many male infertility, goiter, for children there is inhibition of child growth (stunting) and below average IQ. Some policies of the maternal mortality decrease in Brebes Regency can be explained as follows.

1. Policy "Maklumat Dukun Bayi"

To overcome the problem of delivery by the traditional midwife, Brebes Regency government made a breakthrough by carrying out the Maklumat Dukun Bayi. Maklumat Dukun Bayi is the promise of traditional midwife signed by the Maklumat Dukun Bayi, the village head of the traditional midwife's domicile, the midwife coordinator of the Community Health Center and the head of the Community Health Center. The signing was witnessed by local sub-district and Koramil representatives.

The policy of the Maklumat Dukun Bayi in Brebes Regency is regulated in the Regulations of the Regent of Brebes Number 26 of 2015 on the Empowerment of Communities in Reducing Maternal Mortality and Infant Mortality through the Declaration of the traditional midwife. Based on the Regulation of Regent (Perbup), the content of the in the declaration of traditional midwife, among others:

- a. Help planning delivery and preventing complications.
- b. Help delivering pregnant women to go to a midwife or health care facility.

- c. Help delivering high-risk pregnant women to midwives or health care facilities.
- d. Help delivering pregnant women who will give birth, to midwives or health care facilities.
- e. Will not help delivery.
- f. Help caring for mothers and babies after delivery at health care facilities.
- g. If you disobeying the decree, willing to accept sanctions

Supervision in the implementation of the declaration of Traditional Midwife is carried out structurally. The Regent carries out supervision through OPD and sub-districts. While monitoring is carried out in stages, namely Community Health Center to village midwives, sub-district heads to village heads or lurah and village heads to traditional midwife. While the evaluation is conducted every three months by the Community Health Center, sub-district head, Health Office and Village Community Empowerment Agency (BPMDK).

2. Policy "Kawal Wong Metheng"

The policy of kawal wong metheng is a policy program which is a movement to guard pregnant women with the synergy between the government and society. Kawal wong metheng movement is a translation movement from the Central Java Provincial Government's movement, namely "5 NG", namely "Jateng Gayeng Nginceng Wong Metheng". The 5 NG movement is a mutual cooperation movement which utilizes the entire potential of the community from upstream to downstream, namely by mobilizing village midwives and PKK cadres to educate women from pre-pregnancy, during pregnancy, delivery, until post-delivery.

Kawal Wong Metheng movement was designed and launched in 2017 by the Health Office and the Brebes Regent. The kawal wong metheng movement involved elements of the Health Service, cadres of center for pre- and postnatal health care and information, traditional midwife, Forum Masyarakat Madani (FMM), the village government and the community. The Kawal Wong Metheng movement is outlined in the declaration of Brebes Kawal Wong Metheng Movement where the contents were as follow:

- a. Reporting to midwives if there are new pregnant women, motivating pregnant women, husbands and their families so that pregnant women carry out routine check-up on time.
- b. Assisting the implementation of the delivery program and complication revention.
- c. Taking pregnant women to check with the officer.
- d. Monitoring the development of the condition of pregnant women.
- e. Motivating to be willing to be referred if needed referred.
- f. Conducting counseling according to the message in KIA book.
- g. Monitoring the compliance of pregnant women in consuming blood-added tablets.
- h. Motivating to do Family Planning program after giving birth.
- i. Taking pregnant women to deliver at health facilities.
- j. Monitoring postpartum mothers and newborns baby.

The partnership of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in reducing maternal mortality in Brebes Regency in 2017 is limited to the role of educating and cross-sectoral. The NGOs that play a role in reducing maternal mortality rates in Brebes Regency are Kolaborasi dan Pelayanan untuk Kesejahteraan (KOMPAK) funded by the Australian Government. The role of KOMPAK in reducing maternal mortality rates in Brebes by educating the public if giving birth at health centers or health facilities from the government will immediately get a birth certificate for free [5]. The Partnership collaborates with the Health Office and the Population and Civil Registration Service of the Brebes Regency.

III. CONCLUSION

The decline in maternal mortality rates in Brebes Regency in 2017 is an integral part from the policies of the Brebes Regency government and the involvement of several parties. The policies of the Brebes Regency government in reducing maternal mortality include making a policy of "Declaration of Traditional Midwife", a joint movement "Kawal Wong Metheng", and KOMPAK partnership in educating pregnant women to give birth in Health Offices. The policy of "Declaration of Traditional Midwife" is a form of partnership between health workers and "local traditional midwife", local

traditional midwife do not assist in delivery but help planning delivery and prevent complications, help high-risk pregnant women to health workers and help caring for mothers and babies after delivery. The form of the "Kawal Wong Metheng" policy was carried out by the community by allocating village budget and community voluntary donations to guard pregnant women. While KOMPAK program is carried out by inviting the community to give birth at the Community Health Centers and will get a direct birth certificate and for free.

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