



Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] Complete submissions. Temporary number [20180041]

2 messages

Prev Med Public Health <jpmph@gmail.com>

Tue, Feb 6, 2018 at 3:55 PM

To: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] Complete submissions.

Sender : The Korean Society for Preventive Medicine
Recipient : Sulistyawati Sulistyawati
Date Submitted : 06-Feb-2018 17:55
Temporary number: 20180041
Category of Submission : New
Type of Manuscript : Original Article
Subspecialty : Epidemiology

Abstract

Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study

Objectives Malaria still becomes public health concern worldwide, including in Indonesia. Purworejo is a district which entering Malaria elimination in 2015. Accordingly, action to maintain the status have to pursued through understanding the risk factor. Thus, we observed the Malaria risk factor on human and housing condition in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia. Methods A case-control study was carried out in Kaligesing subdistrict, Purworejo, Indonesia in July-August 2017. A structured questionnaire and checklist were used to collect the data among 96 participants, consisted of 48 controls and 48 cases. The analysis was performed using IBM SPSS Statistic version 24 through univariate, bivariate and multivariate analysis. Results Bivariate analysis shows that education level, the presence of cattle cage in 100 meters from the house, sleeping under the bednet in the previous night, and closing door and windows at 06.00 PM – 05.00 AM are significantly associated to Malaria. Among of which, only sleeping under the bednet in the previous night, closing doors and windows at 06.00 PM – 05.00 AM are the associated significantly with Malaria. Conclusions The finding of this research forces that even though in elimination status, the risk variable has to maintain.

Manuscript file:

- A_20180041_1_00.docx (52KBytes)	Manuscript
- A_20180041_2_00.docx (32KBytes)	Table
-	

Dear Dr. Sulistyawati Sulistyawati:

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health*.

Your manuscript titled "Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study" has been received by the electronic manuscript submission system of *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health* and has been numbered 20180041 temporarily.

A manuscript number will be assigned shortly, and we will be in touch with you in due course.

Sincerely,

Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD
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Tue, Feb 6, 2018 at 3:55 PM

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Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Thank you for your submission to Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health

1 message

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Wed, Feb 7, 2018 at 9:07 AM

To: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health

Manuscript ID : JPMPH-18-036
Date Submitted : February 07, 2018
Title : Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study
Corresponding Author : Sulistyawati Sulistyawati

Dear Dr. Sulistyawati Sulistyawati:

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health*.

Your manuscript titled, "Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study" has been received by the Editorial Office of *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health*. Your manuscript I.D. is JPMPH-18-036. Please refer to this number in future communications.

Your manuscript will be evaluated by reviewers and editors. The Editorial Office will inform you of the review outcome as soon as possible.
Please understand that at least 4 weeks are required for the first evaluation of most manuscripts submitted to *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health*.
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Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Manuscript ID [JPMPH-18-036] Letter of decision 1st - Major revision

2 messages

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 8:12 AM

To: "sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com" <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] Review result : 1st

Date sent : April 25, 2018
Date Decisioned : April 25, 2018
Manuscript ID : **JPMPH-18-036**
Title : Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study
Corresponding Author : Sulistyawati Sulistyawati
Review result : **Major revision**
Reviewer's Comments: Dear Dr. Sulistyawati Sulistyawati,
Thank you for submitting your valuable research to JPMPH.

I sent the manuscript to two experts in the field for specific comments. If you choose to re-submit the manuscript, please indicate in an accompanying letter the changes you have made in the new manuscript and respond to the comments or suggestions made by the referees in a point-by-point list. Please note that any re-submission must be made within 4 weeks of receiving this letter.

Thank you again for your contribution.

With best regards,

Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD
Editor-in-Chief
JPMPH

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2/14/2021

Gmail - Manuscript ID [JPMPH-18-036] Letter of decision 1st - Major revision

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>
To: sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com

Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 8:12 AM

[Quoted text hidden]



Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[1st Revision completed] JPMPH-18-036 was revised and submitted

1 message

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>

Thu, Apr 26, 2018 at 1:56 PM

To: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] 1st Revision completed.

Manuscript ID : JPMPH-18-036
Revision Date : 26-Apr-2018 15:56
Type of Manuscript : Original Article
Title : Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study
Corresponding Author : Sulistyawati Sulistyawati
Author's opinion : [M_20180041_11_1.docx](#) (19KBytes)
I put my comment in the attached file.

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Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Manuscript ID [JPMPH-18-036] Letter of decision 2nd - Accept with minor revision

2 messages

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>

Thu, May 3, 2018 at 2:53 PM

To: "sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com" <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] Review result : 2nd

Date sent : May 03, 2018**Date Decisioned :** May 03, 2018**Manuscript ID :** JPMPH-18-036**Title :** Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study**Corresponding Author :** Sulistyawati Sulistyawati**Review result :** **Accept with minor revision****Reviewer's Comments:** Dear Dr. Sulistyawati Sulistyawati,

Your manuscript has gone through the second review. It has been decided by the editorial board that the manuscript is acceptable given that some minor revisions are made. I would like to ask you to revise the manuscript according to the specified points.

Please check to ensure that your manuscript conforms to the JPMPH format when you resubmit the final version.

Thank you again for your contribution.

With best regards,

Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD
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Sincerely,

Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD
Editor-in-Chief

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To: sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com

Thu, May 3, 2018 at 2:53 PM

[Quoted text hidden]



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[2nd Revision completed] JPMPH-18-036 was revised and submitted

1 message

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>

Sat, May 5, 2018 at 2:55 AM

To: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] 2nd Revision completed.

Manuscript ID : JPMPH-18-036
Revision Date : 05-May-2018 04:55
Type of Manuscript : Original Article
Title : Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study
Corresponding Author : Sulistyawati Sulistyawati
Author's opinion : [M_20180041_22_2.docx](#) (16KBytes)
I have put my opinion in the attached file.

Sincerely,

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Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Manuscript ID [JPMPH-18-036] Letter of decision 3rd - Accept without revision

3 messages

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>
To: sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com

Wed, May 16, 2018 at 9:59 AM

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] Review result : 3rd

Date sent : May 16, 2018
Date Decisioned : May 16, 2018
Manuscript ID : **JPMPH-18-036**
Title : Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study
Corresponding Author : Sulistyawati Sulistyawati
Review result : **Accept without revision**
Reviewer's Comments: Dear Dr. Sulistyawati Sulistyawati,
Congratulations!
Your paper is now formally accepted for publication in the Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health.

Thank you again for your contribution.

With best regards,

Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD
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Sincerely,

Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD
Editor-in-Chief

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To: "sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com" <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Wed, May 16, 2018 at 9:59 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>
To: Prev Med Public Health <jpmphe@gmail.com>

Wed, May 16, 2018 at 10:24 AM

Dear Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD

I appreciate your work on my manuscript.
Kindly inform me when my article is online available.

Best regards,

Sulistyawati

Public Health Dept, Ahmad Dahlan University, Indonesia
Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umea University, Sweden

Find me with keyword "Sulistyawati Suyanto"

Scopus Author ID: 55956961800

ResearcherID: C-2748-2016

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-7299-0360>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sulistyawati-suyanto-36597223/>

Skype: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati

<https://scholar.google.co.id/citations?user=eCeURAKAAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=1>

[Quoted text hidden]



Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Final revision after English-proofreading : JPMPH-18-036

1 message

Prev Med Public Health <jmphe@gmail.com>

Mon, May 21, 2018 at 2:34 PM

To: "sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com" <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

[Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health] final revision after English-proofreading

Manuscript ID : JPMPH-18-036**Date Submitted :** 2018/05/21 16:34**Title :** Malaria Risk Factor in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case Control Study**Corresponding Author**

:

English-proofreading file: **Manuscript - A_20180041_1_22.docx (51 KB)**
- English-proofreading : **Eng_20180041_1_22.docx**Table - **A_20180041_2_22.docx (33 KB)**
- English-proofreading : **Eng_20180041_2_22_5893.docx**

Dear Dr. :

This attachment file is the final revision after English-proofreading.
Please answer your acceptance.

Please, attach the final manuscript after the revision according.

- 1. Yes, I agree the proofreading.**
- 2. No, I do not agree it.**

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Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

JPMPH-18-036

2 messages

Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>
To: scho@snu.ac.kr

Thu, May 24, 2018 at 12:00 PM

Dear Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD,
The Editor-in-Chief

Kindly accept my apologies, I sent this email to communicate about my inconsistency writing on Malaria elimination Purworejo (the year) when I did a final proof.

Kindly use this version to avoid the reader confused.

Best regards

Sulistyawati

Public Health Dept, Ahmad Dahlan University, Indonesia
Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umea University, Sweden

Find me with keyword "Sulistyawati Suyanto"

Scopus Author ID: 55956961800

ResearcherID: C-2748-2016

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-7299-0360>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sulistyawati-suyanto-36597223/>

Skype: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati

<https://scholar.google.co.id/citations?user=eCeURAKAAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=1>



Eng_20180041_1_22_Sulis_after final proof.docx
84K

JPMPH <jmpmpe@gmail.com>
To: sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com

Fri, May 25, 2018 at 10:22 AM

Dear Dr. Sulistyawati,

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Sincerely,

JPMPH

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sulistyawati Suyanto** <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Date: 2018-05-24 14:00 GMT+09:00

Subject: JPMPH-18-036

To: scho@snu.ac.kr

Dear Sung-il Cho, MD, ScD,

The Editor-in-Chief

Kindly accept my apologies, I sent this email to communicate about my inconsistency writing on Malaria elimination Purworejo (the year) when I did a final proof.

Kindly use this version to avoid the reader confused.

Best regards

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Public Health Dept, Ahmad Dahlan University, Indonesia

Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umea University, Sweden

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Scopus Author ID: 55956961800

ResearcherID: C-2748-2016

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-7299-0360>

[Quoted text hidden]



Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

JPMPH_1st page proof

3 messages

JPMPH <jmphe@gmail.com>
To: sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com

Fri, May 25, 2018 at 5:17 PM

Dear Dr. Sulistyawati,

We have completed the initial typesetting of the final version of your manuscript, which you will find attached. Please check and address the memos either directly on the PDF file or list your comments and revisions on a Word file, ensuring that all changes are clearly trackable. Then email your final proof back to us within 48 hours of receipt of this email.

Best regards,

Young-Ju Lee

Manuscript Editor

 **jmpmh 18-036.pdf**
288K

Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>
To: JPMPH <jmphe@gmail.com>

Sat, May 26, 2018 at 11:24 AM

Dear Young-Ju Lee,

Kindly find my revision on the final proof. Should you need additional information, please let me know.

Best regards,

SulistyawatiPublic Health Dept, Ahmad Dahlan University, Indonesia
Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umea University, Sweden

Find me with keyword "Sulistyawati Suyanto"

Scopus Author ID: 55956961800


ResearcherID: C-2748-2016

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-7299-0360><https://www.linkedin.com/in/sulistyawati-suyanto-36597223/>

Skype: Sulistyawati Sulistyawati

<https://scholar.google.co.id/citations?user=eCeURAKAAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=1>

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277K

JPMPH <jmphe@gmail.com>

To: Sulistyawati Suyanto <sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com>

Dear Sulistyawati,

I have checked 1st page proof you sent me. Please confirm the order of the citations again.

In the text, you must also modify it from the citation #12.


And #16 on page 4 is correct. The order is not correct when modified. If you edit to 19, the reference are cited out of order. I could not find #21-23 in the text..

Please give the ORCID ID of the first author.

Sincerely,

Young-Ju Lee

[Quoted text hidden]

 **jmpmh 18-036-Cor Auth.pdf**
269K

Malaria Risk Factors in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case-control Study

Pratiwi Cahyaningrum, Sulistyawati

The author's name must match the name of the ORCID. If you want to modify it, please edit ORCID first.

Department of Public Health, Universitas Ahmad Dahlan, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Objectives: Malaria remains a public health concern worldwide, including Indonesia. Purworejo is a district in which endemic malaria elimination was achieved in 2015. Accordingly, actions must be taken to maintain this status based on an understanding of the risk factors for malaria. Thus, we analysed malaria risk factors based on human and housing conditions in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia.

Methods: A case-control study was carried out in Kaligesing subdistrict, Purworejo, Indonesia in July to August 2017. A structured questionnaire and checklist were used to collect data from 96 participants, who consisted of 48 controls and 48 cases. Univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses were performed.

Results: Bivariate analysis found that education level, the presence of a cattle cage within 100 m of the house, not sleeping under a bednet the previous night, and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. were significantly ($p \leq 0.25$) associated with malaria. Of these factors, only not sleeping under a bednet the previous night and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. were significantly associated with malaria.

Conclusions: The findings of this study demonstrate that despite the elimination of endemic malaria, continued attention must be paid to its risk factors.

Key words: Malaria, Risk factors, Human, Housing condition, Purworejo, Indonesia

Please try to choose terms from the MeSH headings, when possible:
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>

INTRODUCTION

Malaria has received much attention from the public health sector in most tropical countries across the world due to the difficulties in eliminating malaria and the fluctuations in malaria cases each year. During 2015 to 2016, malaria cases in-

creased by 5 million, and were spread among 91 countries across the globe, with 445 000 deaths due to malaria in 2016 [1]. While Indonesia has generally succeeded in reducing the number of malaria cases over the last 5 decades [2], malaria still remains endemic in some regions, particularly in the eastern part of Indonesia, despite the unexpected achievement of malaria elimination [3]. Purworejo District is an area on the island of Java where malaria endemicity was eliminated by 2015. Nevertheless, due to the geographical position of Purworejo, which borders other endemic districts; environmental changes; and high mobility among residents, Purworejo needs regular assessments to maintain its malaria caseload below the requirement.

One strategy to combat malaria is through addressing the epidemiologic triad, which refers to the host, agent, and envi-

Received: February 6, 2018 Accepted: May 16, 2018

Corresponding author: Sulistyawati, PhD(??) ←
Department of Public Health, Universitas Ahmad Dahlan, UAD 3rd
Campus, Janturan, Umbulharjo, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

E-mail: sulistyawatisuyanto@gmail.com Please add zip code

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The academic degree of the corresponding author is needed.

ronment [4]. The agent of malaria is *Plasmodium* parasites, which consist of 5 species: *Plasmodium falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale*, *P. malariae*, and *P. knowlesi* [1,5]. These parasites are transferred to humans (the secondary host) through bites of female *Anopheles* mosquitos (the definitive host) [6]. Both the host and the agent are influenced by environmental factors, such as climactic conditions [7], housing conditions [8], soil type, vegetation index, distance to a water source [9], and movements of people (most notably, urbanization and migration) [10]. As a holistic system, the epidemiologic triad could be used in malaria eradication by targeting one of its elements to stop malaria transmission. However, although malaria interventions have been performed based on this method [11], transmission still occurs.

As a district in which targeted to entering malaria elimination in 2021, it is important to observe the risk factors for malaria in Purworejo, as such factors could contribute to continued transmission. With this background in mind, the present study explored malaria risk factors referring to the epidemiologic triad. Human and housing conditions were assessed in this case-control study in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia.

METHODS

Study Site

Extensive research has been conducted on malaria in Indonesia, including in Purworejo [12-14]. Despite eradication efforts, the disease still occurs due to human and environmental dynamics. Accordingly, this study analysed the risk factors for malaria in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia. Kaligesing consists of 21 villages with 34 028 residents spread out across 74.74 km². It is adjacent to Kulonprogo, Yogyakarta. The majority of Kaligesing comprises forest, moor, and copse areas that support the breeding of mosquitos that transmit malaria.

Study Design and Sample

This was a quantitative study with a case-control design. The case population comprised residents who were aged 17-55 years, had resided in Kaligesing for at least 1 year, and were confirmed to be positive for malaria through a blood sample analysis at the laboratory of the Kaligesing Public Health Centre (PHC) during January-December 2016. The control population included residents (with a minimum of 1 year of residence) who were confirmed to be negative for malaria through a blood sample analysis at the laboratory of the Kali-

gesing PHC during the same period and were able to participate in the study. We also required that the controls did not live with the cases to avoid information bias. Children and pregnant women were excluded.

Participant Selection

The sample size was calculated using the EpiTools epidemiological calculator for case-control studies (<http://epitools.ausvet.com.au/content.php?page=case-controlSS>), with a 0.33 expected proportion exposed in the controls, an assumed odds ratio [OR] of 3.13 according to the previous research [15], a confidence level of 0.95, and a desired power of 0.80. Using these assumptions, the minimum sample size for the case was calculated to be 48. We established a 1:1 ratio between cases and controls. Correspondingly, a total of 96 participants were recruited, consisting of 48 cases and 48 controls. Consecutive sampling was applied to select the participants.

[Genangan air \(OR, 3,13; 95% confidence interval \[CI\], 1,61 to 6,07\)](#)

Please check the sentence.

Research Instruments

A structured questionnaire and check-list, which were developed by the research team, were used to collect the data. The questionnaire was divided into 2 sections. Section 1 contained demographic information about the respondents, including name, age, sex, duration of residence, education, and occupation. Section 2 contained questions about risk factors, such as the presence of wire netting in the ventilation, the presence of a cattle cage, the condition of the ceiling of the residence, bednet utilization, behavior regarding closing windows and doors, and repellent utilization. A checklist was used to observe the real condition of variables such as wall type and condition, the presence of wire netting, the presence of a cattle cage, and ceiling condition.

Oral and written explanations were given to the participants about the study, including the freedom to discontinue participation in the study at any time without punishment. Written informed consent was obtained from the participants before the study was started.

Analysis

Univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses were performed using SPSS version 24.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA). Univariate analysis was used to visualize the proportional distribution of all variables. The bivariate analysis was performed

using the chi-square test and the Fisher exact test, with a significance level of $p < 0.05$. These tests were used to evaluate relationships between variables. For dichotomizing the characteristics of occupation and education level, we used the following classifications. At risk occupations included participants who worked as a laborer, sugar maker, farmer, or soldier, and low-risk occupations included being a housewife, student, trader, private-sector worker, tailor, or civil servant. People with no formal education or who had only graduated from primary school or junior high school were considered to have a low level of education. People who had graduated from senior high school or higher were considered have a high level of education.

The final step was multivariate analysis. Variables with $p \leq 0.25$ in the bivariate analysis were entered into the multivariate analysis. Logistic regression was employed to illustrate the relationships between malaria positivity and multiple risk factor variables.

Ethical Considerations

This research was approved by the Department of Public Health, Universitas Ahmad Dahlan. A research permit was requested from the local health authorities (the Kaligesing Public Health Service and the Purworejo District Health Office).

RESULTS

Socio-demographic Characteristics

A total of 96 people participated in this study, consisting of 48 controls and 48 cases. Among the participants, 50% were female and 50% male. The majority of the respondents were between 46 and 55 years of age. Most of the participants had graduated from junior high school (>30%) or senior high school (>30%). Almost 40% of the participants worked in the private sector. Detailed information is presented in Table 1.

Associations between malaria and risk factor variables

In this study, we explored the associations of 10 variables in 3 categories (human characteristics, house characteristics, and human behaviour) with malaria positivity. Four of these variables were statistically significantly associated with malaria positivity at the $p \leq 0.25$ level: education level, the presence of a cattle cage within 100 m from the house, not sleeping under a bednet the previous night, and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. Three variables were did not

Table 1. Characteristics of the participants in this study of malaria in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia

Characteristic	Case	Control
Sex		
Male	25 (52.1)	23 (47.9)
Female	23 (47.9)	25 (52.1)
Age (y)		
17-25	11 (22.9)	6 (12.5)
26-35	10 (20.8)	6 (12.5)
36-45	10 (20.8)	9 (18.7)
46-55	17 (35.4)	27 (56.2)
Education		
No formal education	3 (6.2)	8 (16.7)
Primary school	13 (27.1)	6 (12.5)
Junior high school	19 (39.6)	4 (8.3)
Senior high school	12 (25.0)	13 (27.1)
Diploma	1 (21.1)	17 (35.4)
Occupation		
Student	3 (6.2)	0 (0.0)
Housewife	8 (16.7)	9 (18.7)
Sugar-maker	8 (16.7)	5 (10.4)
Farmer	16 (33.3)	19 (39.6)
Civil servant	1 (2.1)	1 (2.1)
Labourer	6 (12.5)	7 (14.6)
Trader	0 (0.0)	3 (6.2)
Private-sector worker	5 (10.4)	3 (6.2)
Tailor	0 (0.0)	1 (2.1)
Soldier	1 (2.1)	0 (0.0)

Values are presented as number (%)

show any significant findings in the bivariate analysis (Table 2): occupation risk, the presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation, and the presence of the ceiling. The bivariate analysis is presented in Table 2. In the multivariate analysis, only 2 variables remained statistically significantly associated with malaria at the $p \leq 0.01$ level: not sleeping under a bednet the previous night and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. (Table 3).

DISCUSSION

Malaria is a major problem in public health across the globe, predominantly in tropical countries such as Indonesia, due to the climactic, environmental, and human characteristics that support malaria transmission. In Indonesia, Purworejo is a district on the island of Java in which malaria was endemic. This district is part of the Menoreh hill region, where malaria has

Table 2. Bivariate analysis of malaria positivity versus human characteristics, house characteristics, and human behaviours in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia

Variable	Case	Control	Crude OR (95% CI)	p-value
Human characteristics				
Occupation risk ¹				
At risk	31 (64.6)	31 (64.6)	1.00 (0.66, 1.52)	1.00
Low risk	17 (35.4)	17 (35.4)		
Education level ²				
Low	35 (72.9)	18 (37.5)	0.49 (0.32, 0.74)	<0.001
High	13 (27.1)	30 (62.5)		
House characteristics				
Presence of holes of at least 1.5 mm in the house walls				
Yes	33 (68.7)	30 (62.5)	1.32 (0.57, 3.07)	0.67
No	15 (31.2)	18 (37.5)		
Presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation				
No	47 (97.9)	46 (95.8)	-	1.00
Yes	1 (2.1)	2 (4.2)		
Presence of a cattle cage within 100 m of house				
No	14 (29.2)	7 (14.6)	2.41 (0.87, 6.65)	0.14
Yes	34 (70.8)	41 (85.4)		
Presence of a ceiling				
No	47 (97.9)	46 (95.8)	-	1.00
Yes	1 (2.1)	2 (4.2)		
Human behavior				
Engaging in outdoor activity at night (6 p.m.-5 a.m.)				
Yes	25 (52.1)	20 (41.7)	1.52 (0.68, 3.41)	0.41
No	23 (47.9)	28 (58.3)		
Not sleeping under a bednet the previous night				
No	40 (83.3)	25 (52.1)	4.60 (1.78, 11.86)	0.002
Yes	8 (16.7)	23 (47.9)		
Not closing door and windows at night (6 p.m.-5 a.m.)				
No	27 (56.2)	8 (16.7)	6.43 (2.49, 16.61)	<0.001
Yes	21 (43.7)	40 (83.3)		
Repellent use				
No	41 (85.4)	43 (89.6)	0.68 (0.20, 2.32)	0.76
Yes	7 (14.6)	5 (10.4)		

Values are presented as number (%)
OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

¹At risk: laborer, sugar maker, farmer, and soldier; Low risk: housewife, student, trader, private-sector worker, tailor and civil servant.

²Low: no formal education, only ever graduated from primary school or junior high school; High: senior high school or higher.

Table 3. Logistic regression analysis after bivariate analysis ($p \leq 0.25$) of risk factors for malaria positivity

Variable	β	p-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
Not sleeping under a bednet	1.492	0.006	4.44 (1.52, 12.93)
Not closing doors and windows at night (6 p.m.-5 a.m.)	1.865	<0.001	6.46 (2.30, 18.12)
High education level	-1.164	0.05	0.31 (0.09, 1.06)
Presence of a cattle cage within 100 m of the house	0.521	0.40	1.68 (0.50, 5.62)
Constant	-4.577	0.007	0.01

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

sometimes had a very high prevalence [13]. Kaligesing is a subdistrict of Purworejo that has been struggling with malaria, as it is adjacent to other endemic districts such as Kulonprogo, which also has a high prevalence of malaria [11]. This aspect of the location of Kaligesing makes it challenging to combat malaria in this subregion [14]. In this study, we assessed malaria risk factors through 10 variables. Based on our analysis, we established 2 variables as potential risk factors for malaria in Kaligesing-Purworejo: not sleeping under a bednet the previous night and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Sleeping under a bednet is a technique to protect against mosquito bites. In this study, people who slept under a bednet had lower odds (4.6 times) of having malaria than those who did not. In Purworejo, 3 malaria vectors have been reported: *Anopheles aconitus*, *An. maculatus*, and *An. balabacensis*. *An. maculatus*, which mostly feeds at night and is endophagic [14], has been found in Kaligesing [15]. This characteristic of the vector may explain why sleeping under a bednet was a significant risk factor in the research area. This finding is confirmed by malaria research in The Gambia that found that using a bednet the previous night significantly reduced the odds of contracting malaria [16].

Concerning bednet use, the Purworejo health office is already taking proper actions by providing the residents with bednets to prevent malaria. This is related to the policy of the Indonesian government through the Ministry of Health to eliminate malaria on Java Island by 2015, including in Purworejo. To achieve this goal, many actions were carried out, including the use of long-lasting nets for malaria prevention and vector control [17,18]. Accordingly, the ownership of bednets in the research area seems to be quite high. However, compliance with sleeping under a bednet must improve.

The second risk factor was closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. This variable relates to the habits of the vector and its likelihood of entering houses. In this study, 'keeping closed' was defined as ensuring the absence of any entrance access for the vector, including small holes in the windows and doors. Research into malaria vectors in the Asia-Pacific region has indicated that *An. maculatus*, which is the primary vector in Kaligesing, tends to rest outdoors (exophilic). Meanwhile, its activity starts in dusk, extending into the night [14]. Accordingly, keeping the windows and doors closed from dusk till the morning is essential to prevent the vector from entering the house.

An unexpected finding emerged from this research regarding protective factors. We discovered three variables did not show any significant findings in the bivariate analysis to: occupation, the presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation, and the presence of a ceiling in the house. Although occupation is usually found to be a risk factor for malaria, in this research it was found to be a protective factor. We surmise that this finding was due to information bias from the participants. As shown in Table 1, the majority of participants worked in the private sector or as farmers. Those two occupations usually do not involve permanent positions and are not seasonal. People in urban areas often switch jobs, suggesting that the information regarding the participants' occupation was not accurate. This suggestion is strengthened by research that stated that reported work histories often showed recall bias due to the interval between the exposure and the observation [19].

The next protective factors were the presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation and presence of a ceiling in the house. Similarly, we surmise that these 2 factors were found to be protective due to aspects of the data acquisition process. For these 2 variables, we asked about and made observations in the room that was most commonly used by the entire family member both in case and control. This potentially raises the issue of recall bias when the participant decided which room was most commonly used.

Malaria still exists in Kaligesing-Purworejo. Among the risk factors in this study, only not sleeping under a bed net and not keeping the windows and door closed from dusk till morning were significantly associated with malaria. However, this research may have 2 limitations. First, the risk factors included are related to human factors and a small part of the environment, while according to the concept of the epidemiologic triad, infectious disease transmission occurs due to 3 aspects:

host, agent, and environment [20]. The second limitation is related to unanticipated recall bias. As a result, some common risk factors became protective factors.

Education was evaluated in this study, as knowledge about malaria has been widely reported to be a risk factor. However, in this study, education level was not found to be a risk factor for malaria. People in Purworejo have been exposed to malaria for several decades, but they have also been exposed to many malaria programs. Accordingly, even though many did not have high levels of formal education, they may have had comparable levels of malaria knowledge. However, it seems that people do not turn their knowledge into practice in terms of malaria prevention. This is supported by research that has shown that knowledge does not necessarily translate into good practice [24].

Considering the results of our research, we suggest that future research should comprehensively assess the 3 components of the epidemiologic triad: host, agent, and environment. Second, anticipating recall bias is needed in retrospective studies, underscoring the importance of considering local social conditions. Finally, local health authorities must continue the bednet program because bednets were proven to help protect people from malaria.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the Purworejo District Health Office and Kaligesing Public Health Centre for helping us during the research. We also wish to thank all the participants who contributed to this study.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflicts of interest associated with the material presented in this paper.

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8 messages

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RESULTS

Socio-demographic Characteristics

A total of 96 people participated in this study, consisting of 48 controls and 48 cases. Among the participants, 50% were female and 50% male. The majority of the respondents were between 46 and 55 years of age. Most of the participants had graduated from junior high school (>30%) or senior high school (>30%). (this value is 25.0% in Table 1)

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Original Article

J Prev Med Public Health 2018; 51(3): 148-153.

Published online: May 16, 2018

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3961/jpmph.18.036>**Malaria Risk Factors in Kaligesing, Purworejo District, Central Java Province, Indonesia: A Case-control Study**Pratiwi Cahyaningrum , Sulistyawati Sulistyawati 

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Received February 6, 2018 Accepted May 16, 2018

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[\(http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/\)](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.**ABSTRACT**Go to: **Objectives**

Malaria remains a public health concern worldwide, including Indonesia. Purworejo is a district in which endemic of malaria, they have re-setup to entering malaria elimination in 2021. Accordingly, actions must be taken to accelerate and guaranty that the goal will reach based on an understanding of the risk factors for malaria. Thus, we analysed malaria risk factors based on human and housing conditions in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia.

Methods

A case-control study was carried out in Kaligesing subdistrict, Purworejo, Indonesia in July to August 2017. A structured questionnaire and checklist were used to collect data from 96 participants, who consisted of 48 controls and 48 cases. Univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses were performed.

Results

Bivariate analysis found that education level, the presence of a cattle cage within 100 m of the house, not sleeping under a bednet the previous night, and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. were significantly ($p \leq 0.25$) associated with malaria. Of these factors, only not sleeping under a bednet the previous night and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. were significantly associated with malaria.

Conclusions

The findings of this study demonstrate that potential risk factor for Malaria should be paid of attention all the time, particularly for an area which is targeting Malaria elimination.

Key words: Malaria, Risk factors, Human, Housing, Purworejo, Indonesia**INTRODUCTION**Go to: 

Malaria has received much attention from the public health sector in most tropical countries across the world due to the difficulties in eliminating malaria and the fluctuations in malaria cases each year. During 2015 to 2016, malaria cases increased by 5 million, and were spread among 91 countries across the globe, with 445 000 deaths due to malaria in 2016 [1]. While Indonesia has generally succeeded in reducing the number of malaria cases over the last 5 decades [2], malaria still remains endemic in some regions, particularly in the eastern part of Indonesia, despite the unexpected achievement of malaria elimination [3]. Purworejo District is an area on the island of Java where malaria becomes endemic. They have failed to achieve malaria elimination by 2015. After that, 2021 has set up as the next target for entering Malaria elimination in Purworejo [4]. Nevertheless, due to the geographical position of Purworejo, which borders other endemic districts; environmental changes; and high mobility among residents, Purworejo needs regular assessments to maintain its malaria caseload below the requirement.

One strategy to combat malaria is through addressing the epidemiologic triad, which refers to the host, agent, and environment [5,6]. The agent of malaria is Plasmodium parasites, which consist of 5 species: *Plasmodium falciparum*, *Plasmodium vivax*, *Plasmodium ovale*, *Plasmodium malariae*, and *Plasmodium knowlesi* [1,7]. These parasites are transferred to humans (the secondary host) through bites of female Anopheles mosquitos (the definitive host) [8]. Both the host and the agent are influenced by environmental factors, such as climactic conditions [9], housing conditions [10], soil type, vegetation index, distance to a water source [11], and movements of people (most notably, urbanization and migration) [9]. As a holistic system, the epidemiologic triad could be used in malaria eradication by targeting one of its elements to stop malaria transmission. However, although malaria interventions have been performed based on this method, transmission still occurs.

As a district in which targeted to entering malaria elimination in 2021, it is important to observe the risk factors for malaria in Purworejo, as such factors could contribute to continued transmission. With this background in mind, the present study explored malaria risk factors referring to the epidemiologic triad. Human and housing conditions were assessed in this case-control study in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia.

METHODSGo to: **Study Site**

Extensive research has been conducted on malaria in Indonesia, including in Purworejo [12-14]. Despite eradication efforts, the disease still occurs due to human and environmental dynamics. Accordingly, this study analysed the risk factors for malaria in Kaligesing,

Purworejo, Indonesia. Kaligesing consists of 21 villages with 34 028 residents spread out across 74.74 km². It is adjacent to Kulonprogo,

Yogyakarta. The majority of Kaligesing comprises forest, moor, and copse areas that support the breeding of mosquitos that transmit malaria.

Study Design and Sample

This was a quantitative study with a case-control design. The case population comprised residents who were aged 17-55 years, had resided in Kaligesing for at least 1 year, and were confirmed to be positive for malaria through a blood sample analysis at the laboratory of the Kaligesing Public Health Centre (PHC) during January-December 2016. The control population included residents (with a minimum of 1 year of residence) who were confirmed to be negative for malaria through a blood sample analysis at the laboratory of the Kaligesing PHC during the same period and were able to participate in the study. We also required that the controls did not live with the cases to avoid information bias. Children and pregnant women were excluded.

Participant Selection

The sample size was calculated using the EpiTools epidemiological calculator for case-control studies (<http://epitools.ausvet.com.au/content.php?page=case-controlSS>), with a 0.33 expected proportion exposed in the controls, an assumed odds ratio of 3.13 (confidence interval, 1.61 to 6.07) based on the the previous research [15], a confidence level of 0.95, and a desired power of 0.80. Using these assumptions, the minimum sample size for the case was calculated to be 48. We established a 1:1 ratio between cases and controls. Correspondingly, a total of 96 participants were recruited, consisting of 48 cases and 48 controls. Consecutive sampling was applied to select the participants.

Research Instruments

A structured questionnaire and checklist, which were developed by the research team, were used to collect the data. The questionnaire was divided into 2 sections. Section 1 contained demographic information about the respondents, including name, age, sex, duration of residence, education, and occupation. Section 2 contained questions about risk factors, such as the presence of wire netting in the ventilation, the presence of a cattle cage, the condition of the ceiling of the residence, bednet utilization, behavior regarding closing windows and doors, and repellent utilization. A checklist was used to observe the real condition of variables such as wall type and condition, the presence of wire netting, the presence of a cattle cage, and ceiling condition.

Oral and written explanations were given to the participants about the study, including the freedom to discontinue participation in the study at any time without punishment. Written informed consent was obtained from the participants before the study was started.

Analysis

Univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses were performed using SPSS version 24.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA). Univariate analysis was used to visualize the proportional distribution of all variables. The bivariate analysis was performed using the chi-square test and the Fisher exact test, with a significance level of $p < 0.05$. These tests were used to evaluate relationships between variables. For dichotomizing the characteristics of occupation and education level, we used the following classifications. At risk occupations included participants who worked as a laborer, sugar maker, farmer, or soldier, and low-risk occupations included being a housewife, student, trader, private-sector worker, tailor, or civil servant. People with no formal education or who had only graduated from primary school or junior high school were considered to have a low level of education. People who had graduated from senior high school or higher were considered have a high level of education.

The final step was multivariate analysis. Variables with $p \leq 0.25$ in the bivariate analysis were entered into the multivariate analysis. Logistic regression was employed to illustrate the relationships between malaria positivity and multiple risk factor variables.

Ethical Considerations

This research was approved by the Department of Public Health, Universitas Ahmad Dahlan. A research permit was requested from the local health authorities (the Kaligesing Public Health Service and the Purworejo District Health Office).

RESULTS

Go to: 

Socio-demographic Characteristics

A total of 96 people participated in this study, consisting of 48 controls and 48 cases. Among the participants, 50% were female and 50% male. The majority of the respondents were between 46 and 55 years of age. Most of the participants had graduated from junior high school (39.6%) or senior high school (25.0%). Almost 40% of the participants worked in the private sector. Detailed information is presented in Table 1.

Table 1.

Characteristics of the participants in this study of malaria in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia

Characteristic	Case	Control
Sex		
Male	25 (52.1)	23 (47.9)
Female	23 (47.9)	25 (52.1)
Age (y)		
17-25	11 (22.9)	6 (12.5)
26-35	10 (20.8)	6 (12.5)
36-45	10 (20.8)	9 (18.7)
46-55	17 (35.4)	27 (56.2)
Education		
No formal education	3 (6.2)	8 (16.7)
Primary school	13 (27.1)	6 (12.5)
Junior high school	19 (39.6)	4 (8.3)
Senior high school	12 (25.0)	13 (27.1)
Diploma	1 (2.1)	17 (35.4)
Occupation		
Student	3 (6.2)	0 (0.0)
Housewife	8 (16.7)	9 (18.7)

Characteristic	Case	Control
Sugar-maker	8 (16.7)	5 (10.4)
Farmer	16 (33.3)	19 (39.6)
Civil servant	1 (2.1)	1 (2.1)
Labourer	6 (12.5)	7 (14.6)
Trader	0 (0.0)	3 (6.2)
Private-sector worker	5 (10.4)	3 (6.2)
Tailor	0 (0.0)	1 (2.1)
Soldier	1 (2.1)	0 (0.0)

Values are presented as number (%)

[Download Table](#)

Associations between malaria and risk factor variables

In this study, we explored the associations of 10 variables in 3 categories (human characteristics, house characteristics, and human behaviour) with malaria positivity. Four of these variables were statistically significantly associated with malaria positivity at the $p \leq 0.25$ level: education level, the presence of a cattle cage within 100 m from the house, not sleeping under a bednet the previous night, and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. Three variables were did not show any significant findings in the bivariate analysis (Table 2): occupation risk, the presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation, and the presence of the ceiling. The bivariate analysis is presented in Table 2. In the multivariate analysis, only 2 variables remained statistically significantly associated with malaria at the $p \leq 0.01$ level: not sleeping under a bednet the previous night and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. (Table 3).

Table 2.

Bivariate analysis of malaria positivity vs. human characteristics, house characteristics, and human behaviours in Kaligesing, Purworejo, Indonesia

Variable	Case	Control	Crude OR (95% CI)	p-value
Human characteristics				
Occupation risk ¹				
At risk	31 (64.6)	31 (64.6)	0.91 (0.66, 1.52)	1.00
Low risk	17 (35.4)	17 (35.4)		
Education level ²				
Low	35 (72.9)	18 (37.5)	0.38 (0.32, 1.12)	<0.001
High	13 (27.1)	30 (62.5)		
House characteristics				
Presence of holes of at least 1.5 mm in the house walls				
Yes	33 (68.7)	30 (62.5)	1.32 (0.57, 3.07)	0.67
No	15 (31.2)	18 (37.5)		
Presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation				
No	47 (97.9)	46 (95.8)	-	1.00
Yes	1 (2.1)	2 (4.2)		
Presence of a cattle cage within 100 m of house				
No	14 (29.2)	7 (14.6)	2.41 (0.87, 6.65)	0.14
Yes	34 (70.8)	41 (85.4)		
Presence of a ceiling				
No	47 (97.9)	46 (95.8)	-	1.00
Yes	1 (2.1)	2 (4.2)		
Human behavior				
Engaging in outdoor activity at night (6 p.m.-5 a.m.)				
Yes	25 (52.1)	20 (41.7)	1.52 (0.68, 3.41)	0.41
No	23 (47.9)	28 (58.3)		
Not sleeping under a bednet the previous night				
No	40 (83.3)	25 (52.1)	4.60 (1.78, 11.86)	0.002
Yes	8 (16.7)	23 (47.9)		
Not closing door and windows at night (6 p.m.-5 a.m.)				
No	27 (56.2)	8 (16.7)	6.43 (2.49, 16.61)	<0.001
Yes	21 (43.7)	40 (83.3)		
Repellent use				
No	41 (85.4)	43 (89.6)	0.68 (0.20, 2.32)	0.76
Yes	7 (14.6)	5 (10.4)		

Values are presented as number (%).

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

¹ At risk: laborer, sugar maker, farmer, and soldier; Low risk: housewife, student, trader, private-sector worker, tailor and civil servant.

² Low: no formal education, only ever graduated from primary school or junior high school; High: senior high school or higher.

[Download Table](#)

Table 3.Logistic regression analysis after bivariate analysis ($p \leq 0.25$) of risk factors for malaria positivity

Variable	β	p-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
Not sleeping under a bednet	1.492	0.006	4.44 (1.52, 12.93)
Not closing doors and windows at night (6 p.m.-5 a.m.)	1.865	<0.001	6.46 (2.30, 18.12)
High education level	-1.164	0.05	0.31 (0.09, 1.06)
Presence of a cattle cage within 100 m of the house	0.521	0.40	1.68 (0.50, 5.62)
Constant	-4.577	0.007	0.01

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

 Download Table

DISCUSSION

Go to: 

Malaria is a major problem in public health across the globe, predominantly in tropical countries such as Indonesia, due to the climactic, environmental, and human characteristics that support malaria transmission. In Indonesia, Purworejo is a district on the island of Java in which malaria was endemic. This district is part of the Menoreh hill region, where malaria has sometimes had a very high prevalence [11]. Kaligesing is a subdistrict of Purworejo that has been struggling with malaria, as it is adjacent to other endemic districts such as Kulonprogo, which also has a high prevalence of malaria [11]. This aspect of the location of Kaligesing makes it challenging to combat malaria in this subregion [14]. In this study, we assessed malaria risk factors through 10 variables. Based on our analysis, we established 2 variables as potential risk factors for malaria in Kaligesing-Purworejo: not sleeping under a bednet the previous night and not closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Sleeping under a bednet is a technique to protect against mosquito bites. In this study, people who slept under a bednet had lower odds (4.6 times) of having malaria than those who did not. In Purworejo, 3 malaria vectors have been reported: *Anopheles aconitus*, *Anopheles maculatus*, and *Anopheles balabacensis*. *An. maculatus*, which mostly feeds at night and inside and outside the house [17], has been found in Menoreh Hills [18]. This characteristic of the vector may explain why sleeping under a bednet was a significant risk factor in the research area. This finding is confirmed by malaria research in The Gambia that found that using a bednet the previous night significantly reduced the odds of contracting malaria [19].

Concerning bednet use, the Purworejo health office is already taking proper actions by providing the residents with bednets to prevent malaria. This is related to the policy of the Indonesian government through the Ministry of Health to eliminate malaria on Java Island by 2015, including in Purworejo. To achieve this goal, many actions were carried out, including the use of long-lasting nets for malaria prevention and vector control [19,20]. Accordingly, the ownership of bednets in the research area seems to be quite high. However, compliance with sleeping under a bednet must improve.

The second risk factor was closing the doors and windows from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. This variable relates to the habits of the vector and its likelihood of entering houses. In this study, 'keeping closed' was defined as ensuring the absence of any entrance access for the vector, including small holes in the windows and doors. Research into malaria vectors in the Asia-Pacific region has indicated that *An. maculatus*, which is the primary vector in Kaligesing, tends to rest outdoors (exophilic). Meanwhile, its activity starts in dusk, extending into the night [17]. Accordingly, keeping the windows and doors closed from dusk till the morning is essential to prevent the vector from entering the house.

An unexpected finding emerged from this research regarding protective factors. We discovered three variables did not show any significant findings in the bivariate analysis to: occupation, the presence of wire netting in the in-house ventilation, and the presence of a ceiling in the house. Although occupation is usually found to be a risk factor for malaria, in this research it was found to be a protective factor. We surmise that this finding was due to information bias from the participants. As shown in Table 1, the majority of participants worked in the private sector or as farmers. Those two occupations usually do not involve permanent positions and are seasonal. People in urban areas often switch jobs, suggesting that the information regarding the participants' occupation was not accurate.

The next variable which found as a protective factor was the usage of repellent. Similarly, we surmise that factor was found to be protective due to aspects of the data acquisition process. We asked respondent with using mosquito repellent at night. It could be translated by respondent merely when they were sleep. Even though, repellent must also be applied if doing other activities at night. Accordingly, this potentially raises the issue of recall bias because we couldn't observe their practice on using mosquito repellent, particularly in how frequent they were.

Malaria still exists in Kaligesing-Purworejo. Among the risk factors in this study, only not sleeping under a bed net and not keeping the windows and door closed from dusk till morning were significantly associated with malaria. However, this research may have 2 limitations. First, the risk factors included are related to human factors and a small part of the environment, while according to the concept of the epidemiologic triad, infectious disease transmission occurs due to 3 aspects: host, agent, and environment [6]. The second limitation is related to unanticipated recall bias. As a result, some common risk factors became protective factors.

Education was evaluated in this study, as knowledge about malaria has been widely reported to be a risk factor. However, in this study, education level was not found to be a risk factor for malaria. People in Purworejo have been exposed to malaria for several decades, but they have also been exposed to many malaria programs. Accordingly, even though many did not have high levels of formal education, they may have had comparable levels of malaria knowledge. However, it seems that people do not turn their knowledge into practice in terms of malaria prevention. This is supported by research that has shown that knowledge does not necessarily translate into good practice [21].

Considering the results of our research, we suggest that future research should comprehensively assess the 3 components of the epidemiologic triad: host, agent, and environment. Second, anticipating recall bias is needed in retrospective studies, underscoring the importance of considering local social conditions. Finally, local health authorities must continue the bednet program because bednets were proven to help protect people from malaria.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Go to: 

We would like to thank the Purworejo District Health Office and Kaligesing Public Health Centre for helping us during the research. We also wish to thank all the participants who contributed to this study.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Go to: 

The authors have no conflicts of interest associated with the material presented in this paper.

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