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Influence of LBW Formula Feeding on the Growth of Low Birth Weight Infant

Abstract

High incidence of low birth weight (LBW) infant is still recorded in Indonesia. Good nutritional intervention would stimulate optimal growth and development. The chosen nutrition is breastfeeding. If it is not available, the alternative would be LBW formula for LBW infant. However, the research of its efficacy is limited. The objective of this study was to determine the influence of LBW formula feeding on the growth of LBW infant. A randomized controlled trial was conducted in Neonatology Division, Dr Soetomo Hospital Surabaya, from January 2005 to January 2007. The subjects appropriate to the criteria were divided into two groups. The first group (study) was fed by LBW formula and the other (control) was fed by adapted formula. The baby was followed until the age of 3 months. The body weight and height, head and chest circumference were measured every month. T test for independent sample was utilized for statistical analysis with 95% CI. The results of this study revealed that forty subjects were enrolled the study completely. The characteristics of the two groups were comparable at admission. In control group, the body weight increased from 2100 (SD 215.8) gram to 4180 (SD 726.8) gram. In study group, the body weight increased from 2064 (SD 264.5) gram to 4560 (SD 505.2) gram. There was significant difference of weight gain after 3 months nutritional intervention between study group compared to control (p = 0.048). There was no significant difference of body length (p = 0.227), head circumference (p = 0.543) and chest circumference (p = 0.182) between two groups. In conclusion, LBW formula enhances the weight gain of LBW infant.

Keyword : low, birth, weight, infant, LBW, formula, weight, gain

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