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41st APACPH Conference Oral Presentation Reply Form

Ref. No.	OJ-036
Title	<i>Arsenic levels exposure as risk factors to skin lesions at Peoples in North Sulawesi, Indonesia</i>
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Abstract	<i>Arsenic exposure can generate various skin lesions such as keratosis, hyperkeratosis, hyperpigmentation, hypopigmentation, and skin cancer. This study was intended to examine risk factors of rice, drinking water, urinary, and blood arsenic levels to skin lesions at peoples in North Sulawesi. This was a case control study whereas cases (n=54) were people suffering for skin lesion (keratosis or hyperkeratosis) living in Buyat Village (exposure areas) and controls (n=54) were normal people who were living in Buku Village (non exposure areas). Inclusion criteria was age more than 10 years and living at the areas more than 7 years. Arsenic levels was analyzed using AAS-GF while skin lesion diagnosed by a dermatologist. Data analysis was performed using logistic regression. There was significant difference before groups for age, sex, education and occupation $p > 0.05$. In the others, there were significant differences between case and control groups for arsenic levels in rice (0.61 ± 0.27 vs. 0.34 ± 0.12 mg/l, $p = 0.00$), drinking water (0.04 ± 0.03 vs. 0.01 ± 0.01 mg/l, $p = 0.00$), urine (0.13 ± 0.15 vs. 0.00 ± 0.01 mg/l, $p = 0.00$) and blood (0.99 ± 0.08 vs. 0.02 ± 0.03 mg/l, $p = 0.00$). Analyses with logistic regression showed that arsenic levels in rice, drinking water, urine and blood associated with skin lesions, respectively $OR = 4.14$, ($95\%CI, 1.18-14.51$), $OR = 36.79$ ($95\% CI, 10.44-129.66$), $OR = 5.94$ ($95\%CI, 1.6-21.53$), and $OR = 10.53$ ($95\%CI, 2.66-41.75$). We conclude that arsenic levels in rice, drinking water, urinary and blood were risk factors to skin lesions.</i>
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