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Subject: Re: Definition of prelacteal feed in Indonesia DHS

Posted by [lhuri](#) on Fri, 16 Oct 2020 13:38:21 GMT

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Thank you Tom and Bridgette for replying.

I have also noticed that the English version of previous IDHS are the same with the translated Indonesian version of 2017 IDHS, where the "before milk part" is included i.e. "In the first three days after delivery, before your milk began flowing regularly, was (NAME) given anything to drink other than breast milk?". So it is the English version of 2017 IDHS that seems to be different from previous IDHS reports and versions, but is consistent with other countries' DHS reports and guidelines.

Another question that I would want to clarify in 2017 IDHS is question number 466 about breastfeeding initiation (which refers to variable m34 in Stata dataset). In p.483 of the English version, it reads "How long after birth did you first put (NAME) to the breast?". The same question number 466 in Indonesian version (p. w-35) asks about timing but with different wording and translates to "How long after birth did you breastfeed (NAME) for the first time?". These sentences are not exactly similar in meaning.

In the DHS guide ( [https://dhsprogram.com/data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/Initial\\_Breastfeeding.htm](https://dhsprogram.com/data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/Initial_Breastfeeding.htm)), variable m34 is defined as when child put to breast but it is also used to define timing of breastfeeding. In my understanding, putting a baby to breast doesn't technically equal to starting breastfeeding. Please correct me if I'm mistaken, but in this context, can I interpret this question as the timing of breastfeeding for the first time?

Thank you again and have a nice weekend,  
Lhuri

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