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**APPRCIATIVE INQUIRY INTERVENTION TO ENHANCE FATHER’S KNOWLEDGE AND BEHAVIOR IN PROVIDING EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS**

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Fathers have an important role in determining the success and continuity of mothers to breastfeed the infant. The father can be the one who supports breastfeeding mother or even becomes the main factor that inhibits breastfeeding process. Emotional support given by the father can influence mother’s decision to breastfeed her infant and encourage them to breastfeed for a longer duration. This study aimed to increase father’s knowledge and awareness about breast milk and breastfeeding and to enhance father’s behavior in providing emotional support for breastfeeding mother. The characteristics of participant for this study are 20-40 years old male (father) who have infant aged between 0 to 24 months and graduate at least from junior high school. 39 fathers are involved in the baseline research and 11 fathers participated in one day Appreciative Inquiry workshop. In this study, one group pre test - post test design is chosen as research design, while snowball sampling technique is used to obtain the research participants. Based on the post-test result using Wilcoxon signed-rank test, the finding shows that the score of knowledge about breast milk and breastfeeding increases after attending the Appreciative Inquiry workshop ($z = -2.81; p = 0.005 < \alpha = 0.05$). Although knowledge of the participants increases, the post-test result indicates that there is no significant difference in providing emotional support to their partner after the participants attend the Appreciative Inquiry workshop ($z = -1.54; p = 0.122 > \alpha = 0.05$).

**Keywords:** emotional support, breastfeeding mothers, role of the father, Appreciative Inquiry

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