***ABSTRACT***

*Stunting is a condition of child development failure due to chronic malnutrition. The non-optimisation of exclusive breastfeeding contributes to the high incidence of stunting. Exclusive breastfeeding has an important influence in stunting prevention efforts because it can increase the baby's immune system and can also prevent the baby from various diseases that can threaten health. Low maternal knowledge about the benefits and goals of exclusive breastfeeding is thought to be a factor that inhibits exclusive breastfeeding. The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between the level of maternal knowledge about exclusive breastfeeding and the incidence of stunting in children aged 2-5 years in Abuan Village, Susut District. This study used a correlational method with a crosectional approach. The sample in this study used the Stratified Random Sampling technique. The number of samples in this study were 71 mothers who had children aged 2-5 years in the Abuan Village area. In this study, the majority of samples had a level of knowledge of exclusive breastfeeding that was classified as good (66.2%), while the least knowledgeable was less (8.5%). Bivariate analysis using the chi-square analysis method between the level of maternal knowledge about exclusive breastfeeding and the incidence of stunting showed significant results with a p-value of 0.000 (p<0.005). The results of the analysis using Cramer's V test obtained a correlation coefficient of 0.771.The importance of education and intervention through extension programmes is a strategic key in efforts to reduce stunting rates and improve the health of children under five.*

***Keywords:*** *Exclusive Breastfeeding, Maternal Knowledge, Stunting, Toddlers*