

## The Use Of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Masks For Visitors At DR Kariadi Hospital Semarang In The Next Normal Era

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**Abstract.** Hospitals are complex health care facilities and provide health care services aimed at improving the health of patients or clients and maintaining the health of hospital visitors. Visitors play a role in the transmission of diseases, particularly the Covid-19 virus, if they do not wear PPE masks when in contact with patients. The purpose of the study was to determine and understand the use of PPE masks for visitors at Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang in the Next Normal Era. The method used is descriptive qualitative research method with data explanation analysis method. This research data collection method uses semi-structured interviews. Participants in this study were selected using purposive technique. The total number of participants was four, the participants were doctors, nurses and visitors. The findings of this study, the four participants said that visitors at Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang wear PPE masks when someone is supervising and visitors' awareness of wearing PPE masks is influenced by age, knowledge and education factors.

**Keywords** Descriptive Qualitative, Personal Protective Equipment (Mask), Next Normal

### INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is currently preparing to enter a state of endemicity, which based on COVID-19 assessment parameters continues to decline. However, we must still be aware of the possibility of the virus mutating. Hospitals are complex health facilities that organize health services that aim to improve the health status of patients or clients and maintain the health of hospital visitors. The next normal period is a period where things return to normal after a crisis with changes in the order of life caused by the crisis. The next normal is about changes or new habits that we do during the pandemic and will continue after the pandemic is over.

We all know that COVID-19 has a systemic impact. The coronavirus pandemic has not only impacted the health sector, but also brought major changes to economic and social systems. Measures to prevent transmission, such as staying at home, maintaining social or physical distancing, and prohibiting gathering in public places, have changed people's lives. There are many new things we have to do, whether we like it or not. Public health efforts aimed at controlling the disease have brought about changes in practice. The economic impact of the public health system also contributes to behavior change. Behavior change is the result of health interventions and economic changes. These behavioral changes are part of the new normal.

Efforts to break the chain of the spread of Covid-19 require an understanding of all parties including the community, so that if public knowledge is good then compliance will also be good. Knowledge about various ways to maintain health and avoid disease will increase public knowledge. Knowledge about Covid-19 disease is very important so that the number of Covid-19 cases does not increase. Knowledge plays an important role because knowledge forms beliefs, beliefs perceive reality, create the basis for decision making and determine behavior towards certain subjects, so that it will affect a person's behavior.

Visitors play a role in the transmission of diseases if they do not wear PPE masks due to contact with patients, especially the Covid-19 virus. The results of the researchers' observations showed that 80% of visitors did not wear PPE masks when entering Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang.

Based on previous research conducted by S. Taurina et al. About the relationship between knowledge of Covid-19 and patient family compliance in the use of PPE (masks) in the isolation room of Husada Utama Surabaya Hospital in 2023, it was found that there was a relationship between the level of knowledge of the patient's family about Covid-19 and the level of compliance with the use of PPE (masks) of the patient's family at Husada Utama Surabaya Hospital. According to the research conducted by Ni Luh Putu Parwati (2022) on the relationship between COVID-19 knowledge and the behavior of using masks for visitors to Poly X Nusa Dua Hospital, it was found that there was a relationship between COVID-19 knowledge and the behavior of using masks for visitors to Poly X Nusa Dua Hospital. Based on research by Vendi Eko K et al (2022) on the relationship between knowledge of Covid 19 and patient family compliance in using PPE (masks) in the emergency room (IGD) of Ngimbang Lamongan Hospital, it was found that there was a relationship between the level of understanding of the patient's family about Covid 19 and the level of compliance of the patient's family in using PPE (masks) in the igd room of Ngimbang Lamongan Hospital.

According to Budiman and Riyanto, the factor that affects knowledge is that the more educated a person is, the faster he receives and understands information, so his knowledge is high. Information affects people's knowledge if they often receive information about a subject, it will increase their knowledge and understanding, while someone who does not receive information will not increase their knowledge and understanding.

The purpose of this study was to determine and understand how the use of PPE masks for visitors at Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang in the Next Normal Era.

## **METHOD**

The method used in this research is a qualitative method. Qualitative method is a research method that produces descriptive data in the form of text or human speech or observable behavior.

A research process that explains all the data or circumstances of the subject or thing under study, then analyzes and considers according to the existing reality, then tries to provide solutions to these problems and can provide new information so that it becomes a gift. useful for the development of science and can be further applied to various problems. Descriptive research in a broad sense is a research activity that seeks to explain or attempt to explain events or signs systematically, precisely, and with careful preparation.

Qualitative research is a method of questioning and understanding based on methods that study social phenomena and human problems. In this process, researchers create a complex picture, analyze problems and details from the point of view of respondents, and conduct research in natural situations. (Creswell, 2013).

According to Jane Richie (in Moleong, 2012), Penelitian kualitatif adalah upaya untuk merepresentasikan dunia sosial dan perspektifnya di dalam dunia dari segi konsep, perilaku, persepsi, dan persoalan tentang manusia yang diteliti. Metode kualitatif ini digunakan karena beberapa pertimbangan, yaitu metode kualitatif lebih dapat dan lebih mudah menyesuaikan diri apabila berhadapan dengan kenyataan ganda, metode ini menyajikan secara langsung hakikat hubungan antara peneliti dan responden dan metode ini lebih peka sehingga dapat menyesuaikan diri dan banyak melakukan penajaman pengaruh bersama terhadap pola-pola nilai yang dihadapi peneliti.

The application of qualitative methods pays attention to the possibility of obtaining data in the field in the form of data in the form of facts that require in-depth analysis. Then, qualitative methods will encourage more in-depth data collection, especially with the participation of researchers themselves in the field. In qualitative research, researchers are the main source of data collection that can be associated with research tools or materials.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The regulations in place at Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang still require visitors to wear masks while at Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang.

The first participant was a nurse in the class 3 inpatient room, who stated that visitors who wear PPE (masks) when visiting the inpatient room are mostly old people, and only use PPE (masks) when reprimanded.

The second participant was a nurse in the clinic room, she said that visitors to the clinic

room always wear PPE (masks) because the entrance to the clinic room is guarded by security and if visitors do not wear masks they are not allowed to enter the clinic room.

The third participant was a specialist doctor who explained that visitors to the clinic routinely wear masks, while there are still inpatient visitors who do not wear masks, only in the VIP class room they are disciplined to wear masks and are over 50 years old.

The fourth participant was a visitor with a bachelor's degree, 51 years old, who stated that he had just found out that it is mandatory to wear a mask when visiting Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang, he said that the government had announced that if you are healthy you can not wear a mask, and in open areas it is also allowed not to wear a mask.

Knowledge is the result of knowledge and occurs when humans understand something. Knowledge comes from the five human senses, namely: the senses of sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch. Much knowledge is gained through the eyes and ears. If this process is based on awareness of knowledge and positive attitudes, then the behavior will be sustainable. Conversely, if the behavior is not based on knowledge and awareness, then the behavior will not last long. (Notoatmodjo, 2014).

The results of this study, the four participants said that the guests and Dr. Kariadi Semarang Hospital wear PPE masks when treating them, and visitors' knowledge about the use of PPE masks is influenced by age, knowledge and education. This is in accordance with previous research conducted by S. Taurina et al on the relationship between knowledge about Covid 19 with the acceptance of the patient's family and the use of PPE (masks) in the remote room of Husada Main Hospital Surabaya in 2023 which states that there is a relationship between the level of knowledge of the patient's family regarding Covid 19 and the level of acceptance of the patient's family towards the use of PPE (masks) at Husada Main Hospital Surabaya.

Ni Luh Putu Parwati's research (2022) on the relationship between knowledge about Covid-19 and the behaviour of using masks of visitors to Poly Hospital X Nusa Dua obtained data that there was a relationship between knowledge about COVID- 19 and the behaviour of using masks of visitors to Poly Hospital X Nusa Dua and research by Vendi Eko K et al (2022) The Relationship Between Knowledge About Covid 19 with Patient Family Compliance in the Use of PPE (Masks) at the Emergency Department (IGD) of Ngimbang Lamongan Hospital that there is a relationship between the level of patient family knowledge about Covid 19 with the level of patient family compliance in the use of PPE (masks) at the IGD room of RSUD Ngimbang Lamongan.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research conducted on the four participants, it can be concluded that visitors to Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang wear PPE masks when someone supervises or reprimands them, visitors only know that visiting Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang is required to wear a mask, visitors over the age of 50 have a tendency to wear masks, and future researchers should further develop the scope of the research considering that the research conducted was not able to fully analyse the supporting factors for visitors to Dr Kariadi Hospital Semarang to wear PPE masks.

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