

## Health Education about the Importance of Implementing Health Protocols for the Prevention of Covid-19 Transmission at Wonokarang Elementary School, Sidoarjo, East Java

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### ABSTRACT

COVID-19 which began to emerge in the world in 2019 has had a fantastic impact on all institutions, especially education system. The disease that is transmitted through droplets can be prevented by wearing a mask, washing hands with water and soap before or after doing something, also maintaining distance between individuals. Based on the observation and in depth interview, there are still many students of Wonokarang Elementary School who have not complied with the health protocol. Therefore, the activity of providing health education was carried out with the aim of increasing students' knowledge about the importance of implementing health protocol to prevent COVID-19 transmission. The socialization method applied is lecture and discussion with hand puppets media during the face to face learning system. The result of this socialization can be concluded that there is an increase in students' knowledge about the importance of the health protocol for preventing COVID-19 transmission.

**Keywords:** covid-19, elementary school students, health protocols

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### INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic that has been going since the beginning of 2020 has changed the lives of all Indonesian peoples. Education system is the one that heavily impacted by COVID-19 pandemic. Based on government policy in circular letter Number 4 of 2020 Regarding the Implementation of Educational Policies on the Emergency Period of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Transmission, school student learning is carried out remotely online by zoom, google meeting, or whatsapp. The online learning system is a system when teachers and students do the learning activities using the internet networks. This is one of the efforts to prevent and avoid COVID-19 transmission which is hitting all countries include Indonesia. Therefore during the COVID-19 pandemic, education is an important aspect that we can see develop in order to improve the education level in Indonesia (Nafrin & Hudaidah, 2021).

But over time, the COVID-19 pandemic began to be controlled and the number of confirmed cases has decreased. At this time the new normal phase was begins. The world of education began to find a bright spot with the implementation of face to face learning or as known as PTM. This face to face learning activity is only held by schools that are able to commit to maintaining and ensuring that all school residents comply with health protocols. The schools must also be in cities or districts with PPKM (Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions) status levels 1 and 2. This situation is according to the regulations that made by the 4 ministries (Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Religion, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Home Affairs). In this Joint Decree of 4 Ministers on 2021 it is regulated about the implementation of face to face learning to the implementation of health promotion

in schools, which must involve all school residents and the community around the school.

Wonokarang Elementary School is the one of all schools that has implemented face to face learning. This B-accredited school is located at Kenanga Street, Wonokarang, Balongbendo, Sidoarjo, East Java. Wonokarang Elementary School is a combination of two previously existing schools, namely Wonokarang 1 and Wonokarang 2. There are 13 educators and 181 students who are part of Wonokarang Elementary School. During the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, the learning process was conducted completely online. No students are allowed to enter or attend at school except for project based assignments that must be submitted physically. Until August 2021, the Ministry of Education and Culture, through the Sidoarjo Regency Education Office announced that face to face learning can be carried out with very strict health protocols, and restrictions on the number of students who entered every day.

Based on observation and in depth interviews with school health worker on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, there are informations that before entering the school building, the students' body temperature is checked. After that, the students were directed to wash their hands with water and soap in the sink in front of their class. But sadly, only a few of all students heed this directive. Even though they have been reprimanded by the teachers, most of the students do not want to wash their hands and still take of their mask when they are inside and outside the classroom. The low compliance with the use of masks is related to a lack of knowledge about COVID-19 prevention (Sari et al., 2020).

One way to increase a person's knowledge about health is by providing health education (Mawardika et al., 2019). Therefore, the activity of providing health education using hand puppet media with lecture and discussion methods at Wonokarang Elementary School aims to increase students' knowledge about the importance of implementing health protocols to prevent COVID-19 transmission in schools. It is hoped that after the provision of health education is carried out, students can apply health protocols to prevent transmission of COVID-19 such as using masks, washing hands with water and soap, and not crowding while in the school or community environment.

## METHOD

This community service is carried out in the form of providing health education directly at Wonokarang Elementary School. During the face to face learning implementation, the students who were the targets of the activities entered alternately every day. So that the implementation of providing health education is carried out for 4 days from 1<sup>st</sup> until 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The media material used in this activity is hand puppet with lecture and discussion methods. The hand puppets were used to tell stories about the importance of implementing health protocol to prevent COVID-19 transmission to 27 students who are in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to make them easier to accept and understand the message. While the lecture and discussion methods for 27 students who are in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Wonokarang Elementary School.

## RESULT

Tabel 1: Table of distribution of student knowledge about health protocols to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 before health education

Before Health Education			
No.	Category	Amount	Percentage (%)
1.	Good	14	25,9
2.	Enough	5	9,3
3.	Less	35	64,8
	Amount	54	100

Based on the results of the table above, it can be seen that more than half of the students of Wonokarang Elementary School still have less knowledge about health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission in schools.

Tabel 2: Table of distribution of student knowledge about health protocols to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 after health education

After Health Education			
No.	Category	Amount	Percentage (%)
1.	Good	40	74,1
2.	Enough	14	25,9
3.	Less	-	-
	Amount	54	100

Based on the results of the table above, it can be seen that after being given health education, almost all the students of Wonokarang Elementary School have good knowledge about health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission in schools

## DISCUSSION

The Socialization of health education about health protocols for prevent COVID-19 transmission in schools was carried out after observation. Observation of student behavior on health protocols has been implemented from September to November 2021. After finding that the problem is students' lack of knowledge about the importance of implementing health protocols in schools, then the socialization activities were carried out. In 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class, the students were given socialization using hand puppets with a tale tittle "David Knows COVID" (in picture 1). While in 6<sup>th</sup> grade class, the students were given socialization with lecture and discussion methods (in picture 2).

Picture 1. Implementation of health education with hand puppets in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class



Picture 2. Implementation of health education with lecture and discussion in 6<sup>th</sup> grade class



The activity of providing health education at Wonokarang Elementary School using hand puppets media with lecture and discussion methods has been proven to increase the knowledge of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. We can see the truth of this statement from table 1 which shows that most of the students' knowledge about health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission is still in the less category. While in table number 2 after the socialization of health education, almost all of the students have a good level knowledge about health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission in schools. This is in line with previous research conducted by Luthfi, et al. (2021) that there is a significant effect between health education on increasing knowledge of preventing COVID-19 transmission.

The implementation of socialization about health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission in schools must be carried out in all elementary schools in Indonesia. This is because the school has started

the implementation of face to face learning system which all students are expected to be able to comply with the health protocols. The health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission in schools, especially wearing masks, washing hands with water and soap, also maintaining social distance.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the result of socialization at Wonokarang Elementary School, it can be concluded that there was an increase in students' knowledge about the importance of implementing health protocols for preventing COVID-19 transmission in schools. We hope that all of the teachers will always remind the students to use their mask, wash their hands with water and soap, also keep their distance in the school or community environment.

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