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Learning from home: Stories from public health students in Pekanbaru City, Indonesia

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Abstract

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has become a global pandemic. This made the government take a policy to change the learning system into Learning From Home (LFH). These changes led to several stories from students. The research objective was to find out students' stories during the LFH process during the Covid 19 pandemic. Methods, A cross-sectional survey-based study was completed in December 2020. Participants were recruited through an online survey via a google form. Participants came from all public health students in Pekanbaru City, Indonesia. There were 178 participants in this research. The sample selection uses proportional random sampling to represent the students of each class. The results showed that 74.2 percent felt

unfocused, 64.6 percent did not understand the material given, 95.5 percent said there was too many homework, 48.3 percent student said internet network disruption, 70.8 percent internet costs which are very expensive, 91.2 percent students began to get bored with e-learning, 90.4 percent said they could not interact directly with friends on campus, 98.8 percent felt it was more fun because they had a flexible time and place. In conclusion, the majority of public health students are starting to get bored with the home learning system. For public health institutions to be able to develop an e-learning system with a variety based on IT-education media.

Keywords: Learning from Home, Stories student, COVID-19

1. Introduction

The initial policy is taken by the State of Indonesia in suppressing the high spread of the Corona Virus through social distancing. Of course, this policy has an impact on all fields including the economic, social, tourism, entrepreneurial, self-employed including the education sector. However, there is still a lot of human traffic in Indonesia, which increases the number of cases of Corona Virus infection. To overcome this, the government issued a policy that urged people to do activities from home, including Learning From Home^[1]. The condition of students and teachers who cannot meet directly to maintain social distancing. This condition makes learning to be done through e-learning^[2].

Learning from Home (LFH) is learning that uses an internet network with accessibility, connectivity, flexibility, and the ability to generate various types of learning interactions. The use of the internet and multimedia technology can change the way of conveying knowledge and can be an alternative to learning that is carried out in traditional classrooms^[3]. E-learning is studying that can bring together students and lecturers to carry out learning interactions with the help of the internet^[4].

The use of mobile technology has a major contribution to educational institutions, including the achievement of distance learning goals^[5]. Various media can also be used to support the implementation of online learning. For example, virtual classes use Google Classroom, Edmodo, and Schoology services^[6-9]. Although online learning can support government calls, there are negative impacts that need our attention. In this research, we invite to listen to students' stories while undergoing learning from home.

Method

A cross-sectional survey-based study was completed in December 2020. Participants were recruited via an online survey by a google form. Participants came from all public health students at STIKes Hang Tuah Pekanbaru, Indonesia. There were 178 participants in this research. The sample selection used proportional random sampling to represent the students of each class. Some of the points that were asked were: focus on lectures, understanding of the material, the system of course assignments, the availability of the internet network, the internet costs, the saturation of online lectures, and the process of interacting with friends during learning from home during the Covid 19.

Result and Discussion

This study was followed by 178 participants. They are public health students in Pekanbaru City. The age range of

respondents 19-23 years. Each consisting of 80 girls and 98 boys. The following was a story told by students during the Learning from Home process.

Table 1: Recapitulation of public health student stories during learning from home

No	Student Stories	Yes		No	
		Total	%	Total	%
1	Does not focus during e-learning	132	74,2	46	25,8
2	Don't understand the topic	115	64,6	63	35,4
3	Too many tasks	170	95,5	8	4,5
4	Wifi network disruption	86	48,3	92	51,7
5	The cost of purchasing internet expensive	126	70,8	52	29,2
6	Feel bored	163	91,2	15	8,8
7	Difficulty interacting with friends	161	90,4	17	9,6
8	Flexibility of place and time	176	98,8	2	1,2

Total sample: 178 participant

Based on table 1. showed that 74.2 percent of student felt unfocused, 64.6 percent of students did not understand the study, 95.5 percent of students said there was too many homework, 48.3 percent of students said network disruption, 70.8 percent of students pulse costs the internet is very expensive, 91.2 percent of students began to get bored, 90.4 percent said they could not interact directly with friends on campus. The positive thing they feel is the flexibility of the place and time of studying.

The e-learning process has the flexibility of time, learning methods, and places that affect student satisfaction with learning ^[10]. If institutions and teaching staff have not been able to develop this learning system, it results in students being less satisfied with this system. Furthermore, the challenge of online learning is the availability of internet services. Some students access the internet using cellular services. Only a small proportion use the wifi service. When the online learning policy is implemented by the campus, students back home. They experience cellular signal difficulties when in their respective areas. Even if there is a signal you get is very weak. This is a challenge in itself in the application of this learning ^[11].

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Conclusion

Learning from Home (LFH) system provides many stories from public health students. Namely: focus on lectures, understanding material, a system of coursework, availability of internet networks, internet high costs, and the process of interacting with friends to learning from home during the Covid 19. The majority of students began to experience boredom with the system. In the future, public health institutions are required to be able to design learning activities more lightly and creatively. Utilizing the right tools or media, so that students remain enthusiastic about learning from home and do not become a psychological burden.

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