

STD Knowledge and Treatment Seeking Behavior and Condom Use Among Selected High Risk Behavior Groups of Population in North Jakarta, Surabaya, and Manado

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Abstrak

The objective of this paper is to assess the extent of STD knowledge and treatment seeking behavior and condom use among selected high risk groups of population, notably, sailors and seaport laborers, trackers, and female commercial sex workers (CWS), in three seaport cities in 1996: North Jakarta, Surabaya, and Manado. The survey used a cross-sectional survey design with a structured questionnaire to collect, through interview, self-reported behavioral data related to STD/HIV. A two-stage cluster sampling was used to obtain sample of 200 to 400 respondents for each target group for each city. Most of respondents aged between 20 and 40 years, had low educational level. Two-thirds of male respondents were married and the majority of female CSW respondents were in divorced status. Respondents' STD knowledge was limited to syphilis, gonorrhea, and AIDS. The knowledge seemed to refer more to the "word" rather than to the disease, mixing up the word of syphilis or gonorrhea with other STDs. "Pain and hot when urinating" was perceived as a symptom related to STD. The practice of STD self treatment was common. More than half of those with STD related symptom sought medical treatment, particularly from private medical practice. Substantial proportion of those with STD related symptom did not see any medical treatment. About half of male respondents ever visited female CSW. The result of ever had STD was eight times higher for those who ever visited female CSW than those who never visited female CSW. Among male respondents, use of condom at last sexual contact with female CSW was very low, below ten percent. Among female CSW respondents use of condom at their last sexual contact varied between cities and between localization and non-localization from 15 to 50 percent, but consistent condom use was much lower, from one to 25 percent.