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**COMPLIANCE LEVEL OF THE WEAR OF MASKS OF STREET VENDORS  
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

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**ABSTRACT**

The number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 is increasing. Prevention efforts are carried out by wearing personal protective equipment, one of which is wearing a mask. The study aims to identify the wear of masks of street vendors as an effort to prevent COVID-19. This study involved 90 street vendors selling in the District X area in Indonesia. The results showed that the majority of street vendors were taught to wear masks.

Keywords: masks; street vendors; the COVID-19 pandemic

**INTRODUCTION**

The world health problem that is currently in the highlight and very important to get the attention by health scientists and the public is a disease caused by the coronavirus and finally declared as a Pandemic on March 11, 2020 (Keliat et al, 2020). Coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19 is an acute respiratory infectious disease caused by the coronavirus strain severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2 which was first identified at the end of 2019 in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China (Beiu et all, 2020). The spread from human to human has become the main source of transmission so the spread of this virus occurs from positive COVID-19 patients through droplets that come out when coughing and sneezing (Han Y, 2020).

The Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, has threatened the world with increasing numbers of deaths. The process of the course of this disease is still not widely known, but it is suspected that it is not much different from the course of the disease from other known respiratory viruses (Li X in Susilo, 2020). The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared Coronavirus Disease 2019 or COVID-19 as a global pandemic. Data on April 30, 2020, COVID-19 has been confirmed in 3,096,686 people with 72,955 new cases worldwide, while the death toll is around 9,859, bringing the total death toll from COVID-19 to 223,198. This figure has increased considerably when compared to data on April 28, 2020, where the number of Covid-19 sufferers was 2,957,350 people with a death toll of 207,961 people (WHO, 2020). The case of the coronavirus appeared and attacked humans for the first time in the province of Wuhan, China. Initially, it was suspected that it was pneumonia, with symptoms similar to the flu in general, resulting in more severe infections and organ failure, and death. (Mona, 2020).

In Indonesia, the first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on March 2, 2020, with two cases (Conscience, 2020). In May 2020, the death rate also continued to occur even though it was offset by the number of recovered patients. Globally, there were 4,170,424 cases of COVID-

19 with 287,399 deaths (WHO Report, 2020). In Indonesia, the number of confirmed cases continues to increase, whereas in May it was still at 10,551 cases with 800 people dying, but until June 16, 2020, the cases increased significantly to 40,400 cases with a death toll of 2,231 (Ministry of Health RI, 2020).

In Central Java Province, this case also jumped sharply, especially in Kendal District, whereas of July 20, there were 147 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There are several sub-districts in Kendal District with more than 10 cases, including Kaliwungu, South Kaliwungu, and Brangsong Sub-District. The spread of the COVID-19 virus is being understood every day. The main feature of COVID-19 is a respiratory disease and the spectrum of infection with this virus ranges from people experiencing very mild non-respiratory symptoms to severe acute respiratory disease, sepsis with organ dysfunction, and death. Some infected people reported having no symptoms at all (District Health Office of Kendal, 2020).

Prevention carried out by the government itself has been intensively implemented, one of which is the wear of cloth masks, where the communities must obey when leaving the house and must wear cloth masks. However, the wear of masks alone is not sufficient to provide an adequate level of protection for the people. Therefore, other measures at the individual and community level should also be adopted to suppress the spread of respiratory viruses. Whether a mask is worn or not by the people, compliance with hand hygiene, physical distancing, and other infection prevention and control (PPI) measures are very important to prevent person-to-person transmission of COVID-19 (Sulistyaningtyas Tri, 2020).

The level of compliance with the wear of PPE, in this case, masks in public places, is still not good enough, it can be seen that many people do not wear masks when traveling outside from the house so that transmission can no longer be avoided. (Wawan & Dewi, 2010). Traders at the market become a new cluster in the transmission of this disease because COVID-19 is transmitted through droplets/splashes that can be exposed to body parts and then inhaled and make someone infected (Widiyani, R. 2020). Since the COVID-19 outbreak broke out in Indonesia, small businesses, especially street vendors, have been threatened with losses. For example, spring roll traders, coffee entrepreneurs, and also other small traders who need direct interaction (Yanti B, 2020).

According to research by Devi Pramita, et al in 2020 regarding the correlation between public knowledge and compliance with the wear of masks as an effort to prevent COVID-19 disease, the results obtained were  $p = 0.004 (<0.05)$  and  $X^2 \text{ Count} = 15.331 > X^2 \text{ Table } 3.841$ . This means that there were a correlation between public knowledge and compliance with wearing masks. Many street vendors in Kendal District, especially those who are not aware of the wear of masks to protect themselves from exposure to the virus, the mindset of traders/community are contrary to the government dissemination which recommends wearing cloth masks, this is also not implemented because the majority of people consider this disease a normal disease so there is no need to wear a mask, even if wearing a mask is uncomfortable because not accustomed to wear it. The behavior of traders who do not wear masks continuously will pose a risk of contracting the community in this case the buyers/traders will become more widespread and difficult to control. Then the researcher will analyze the wear of cloth masks on street vendors in Kendal District, with the aim of knowing the level of compliance with the wear of masks at street vendors.

**METHOD**

This type of research is descriptive observational. The population of this study was all traders in the X Square area totaling 90 people. Determination of sampling in this study is using Accidental Sampling. The variables that were examined were the independent variables of age, gender, and the dependent variable, namely the wear of masks. The method of collecting data is through interviews with a questionnaire guide. The data obtained were then analyzed descriptively to see a description of compliance with the wear of masks of street vendors.

**RESULTS**

Table 1.  
Characteristics of street vendors (n=90)

Characteristics	f	%
Age		
18-25	22	24.4
>25-60	68	75.6
Gender		
Male	42	46.7
Female	48	53.3

Table 1, it can be seen that some of the five times traders in the vicinity are >25 - 60 years old. The age of the youngest and oldest traders are 20 years and 40 years, respectively. The average age of street vendors is = 29.47 ± 4.99 years with a median of 30 years.

Table 2.  
Wear of masks of street vendors (n=90)

Wear of masks	f	%
Sometimes	54	60
Always	36	40

Table 2 shows that 40% of street vendors always wear masks when trading, while 60% of traders sometimes/rarely wear masks when trading.

**DISCUSSION**

The results of the research that has been done, the majority of street vendors do not comply with the wear of masks when trading as many as 54 respondents (60%). A total of 36 respondents (40%) always wear their masks when trading. According to Notoatmojo (2010), knowledge greatly influences behavior, namely non-compliance with the use of PPE, in this case, is a mask, so there are still many traders who are reluctant to wear masks when selling. Compliance is a positive behavior from society. On the other hand, bad public behavior will increase the number of cases and death rates due to Covid-19 transmission (Simbolon, 2020).

Factors that affect adherence depend on many factors, including knowledge, motivation, perception, and belief in disease control and prevention efforts, environmental variables, quality of health instructions, and ability to access existing resources (Sinuraya et al, 2018). Meanwhile, non-compliance is a condition when an individual or group wishes to comply, but there are a number of factors that hinder adherence to health advice given by health workers (Prihantana et al, 2016). Non-compliance is the extent to which a person's behavior and/or caregivers are in line with or not in line with the health promotion plan or therapeutic plan agreed between the person (or the caregiver) and the health care professional (Wulandari, 2015).

The wear of masks, where masks are also personal protective equipment that can prevent disease transmission through splashing saliva. As many as 40% of respondents in this study have complied with the wear of masks. This is also in line with research conducted by Sari (2020) where the level of public knowledge affects compliance with wearing masks as an effort to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Masks that have good effectiveness for prevention are surgical masks because they have a level of protection of 56% from nanometer-sized particles, but the public can still wear cloth masks in an effort to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 through splashing saliva/droplets (Ika, 2020).

The mandatory wear of wearing masks have been regulated by regulations that have been made by the Regent, if the general public leaves the house without wearing a mask, action will be taken in the form of sanctions for cleaning protocol roads in the Kendal District area / a monetary fine of (Kendal District Health Office). There are still many traders who violate the mandatory wearing of masks due to the behavior of a person who is not compliant. This is in line with research conducted by Sulistyaningsing (2015) which states that dissemination alone is not enough to build awareness of the wear of PPE.

One of the ways to reduce the spread to the community is by maintaining the wear of masks (Greenhalgh, Schmid, Czypionka, Bassler, & Gruer, 2020). This is necessary because COVID-19 can be easily transmitted through the respiratory tract (droplets from an infected person, through coughing or sneezing) and through contact with contaminated surfaces. As has been done by the Chinese people, the use of masks has become an obligation that must be implemented (Matthay, Aldrich, & Gotts, 2020).

## **CONCLUSION**

The majority of street vendors do not wear masks when selling, as many as 60% of traders.

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