

Overview of Public Knowledge Level About Generic Drugs in Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency

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ABSTRACT

The low use of generic drugs in the community is due to the lack of public knowledge about generic drugs. The lack of public knowledge about generic drugs, branded drugs and patent drugs, due to perceptions about generic drugs have low quality, on the other hand, people perceive that patent drugs are quality drugs compared to generic drugs and branded generic drugs. The purpose of this study was to determine the level of community knowledge about generic drugs in Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency. This research method is descriptive and uses an instrument (questionnaire), with a cross sectional survey design. The sample in this study were the people of Wori Village who were included in the inclusion criteria as many as 100 samples. The results showed that the level of knowledge of respondents about the definition, benefits, policies, classification, and quality of generic drugs was partly in the good category with a percentage of 54%, 85%, 79%, 95%, 28% respectively. It can be concluded that the level of knowledge about generic drugs in Wori Village is in the good category of 82%.

Keywords: Knowledge Level, Generic Drugs, Community

1. INTRODUCTION

Most of the drugs listed in the National Formulary (FORNAS) are generic drugs due to a government decision, specifically Regulation No. HK.02.02/MENKES/068/1/2010, which mandates the use of generic drugs in government healthcare facilities. This regulation aims to provide the public with quality healthcare at more affordable prices. However, the circulation of generic drugs in Indonesia in 2017 was only about 17%, while branded drugs accounted for 83%. The proportion of generic drugs in Indonesia is relatively small (<20% of total drugs) compared to branded generic drugs (BPOM, 2018).

Indonesia is one of the countries that implements a generic drug policy to reduce drug costs without compromising quality (Morison et al., 2015). The use of generic drugs in Indonesia generally accounts for only about 7% of the market compared to branded generic drugs (Purnamaningrat et al., 2013). The low usage of generic drugs in society is due to the lack of public knowledge about them. This issue is linked to both medical professionals and patients, as many still perceive generic drugs as cheap and of low quality. As a result, healthcare providers often prescribe non-generic drugs due to financial incentives (Handayani, 2012). The lack of public knowledge about generic, branded, and patented drugs stems from the perception that generic drugs are of lower quality. Meanwhile, many people believe that patented drugs are superior to both generic and branded generic drugs (Alim, 2018).

This issue is further supported by several studies. Alim (2018) found that the level of public knowledge about generic and patented drugs in Sajoanging District was low, with a percentage of 64%. Similarly, a study by Abdullah (2019) showed that public knowledge about generic drugs in Sepuluh Koto District, Nagari Singgalang, Tanah Datar Regency, was still very low, at 93.3%. Another study by Kartikaningrum (2021) revealed that the level of public knowledge and attitudes toward generic drugs in North Purwokerto was still lacking, at 56.4%.

Based on these background issues, this study was conducted to determine the extent of public knowledge regarding generic drugs in Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency. This research is crucial in assessing public knowledge about generic drugs. Therefore, the researcher is interested in examining the level of public knowledge in Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

This study was conducted from April 2024 to May 2024 in Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency. The research is quantitative in nature. The research method used is descriptive with a cross-sectional approach. This observational study was conducted without any intervention or additional actions by the researcher on the sample being studied (Sari, 2018).

The survey technique in this study involved collecting information/data using a questionnaire distributed to respondents. The questions and statements in the questionnaire were closed-ended and consisted of three sections: characteristics, preliminary screening, and public knowledge in Wori Village about generic drugs. The population in this study consists of 2,281 residents of Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency. The sample for this study includes residents of Wori Village aged 15-64 years.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The respondents involved in this study are residents of Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency. The selected respondents meet the following criteria: they are permanent residents of Wori Village, aged between 15-64 years, have used medication before, can read and write, and do not have a background in the healthcare field. The sampling technique used is non-probability sampling with a purposive sampling method.

Tabel 1. Respondent Characteristics

No.	Variabel	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1.	Age	15 - 24 years	16	16
		25 - 34 years	24	24
		35 - 44 years	37	37
		45 - 54 years	13	13
		55 - 64 years	10	10
2.	Gender	Male	37	37
		Female	63	63
3.	Education	Elementary School (SD)	7	7
		Junior High School (SMP)	18	18
		Senior High School (SMA)	62	62
		Diploma	3	3
		Bachelor's Degree (Sarjana)	10	10
4.	Occupation	Bachelor's Degree (Sarjana)	24	24
		Entrepreneur	20	20
		Civil Servant/Military/Police (PNS/TNI/Polri)	13	13
		Housewife	43	43

a) Knowledge Level by Respondent Age

In the percentage graph of knowledge levels based on age, the knowledge levels of respondents across different age groups can be observed.

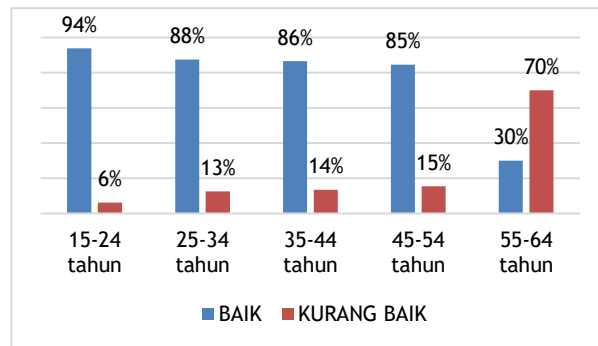


Figure 1. Percentage of Knowledge Levels by Respondent Age

Good knowledge was found among respondents in the 15-24 age group. This age range falls into the productive age category, where individuals are ideally working or engaged in other activities. This finding is consistent with the study conducted by Pangesti (2012), which states that the productive age group plays a significant role, has a busy schedule, and possesses good cognitive abilities.

b) Knowledge Level by Respondent Gender

The percentage graph of knowledge levels by gender shows the knowledge levels of male and female respondents.

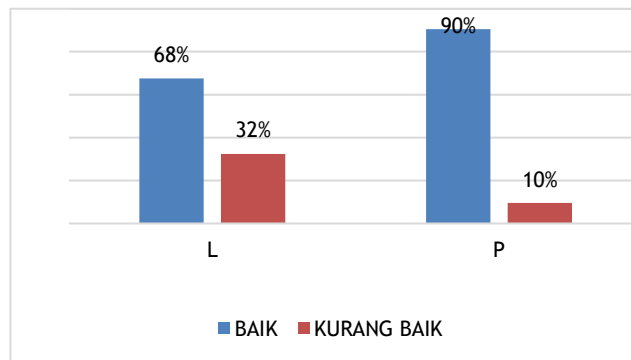


Figure 2. Percentage of Knowledge Levels Based on Respondents' Gender

Good knowledge was found among female respondents. Women tend to pay more attention to their health and the well-being of their families. This is consistent with the study conducted by Suarni (2014), which found that women are more active in purchasing medications and more critical when communicating with pharmacy staff.

c) Knowledge Level by Respondents' Education Level

The percentage graph of knowledge levels based on education level illustrates respondents' knowledge across different educational backgrounds

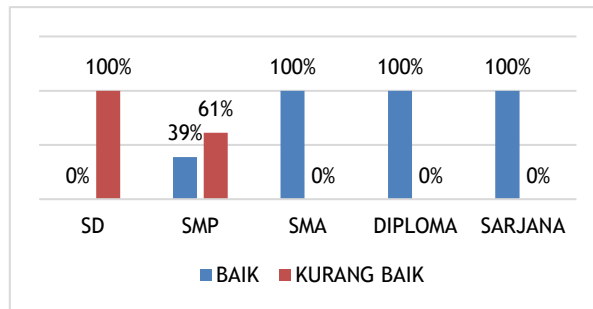


Figure 3. Percentage of Knowledge Levels Based on Respondents' Education Level

Good knowledge was found among respondents who were high school and university graduates. Based on this, the higher the level of education, the greater the knowledge. This aligns with the study conducted by Arrang (2023), which explains that individuals with higher education levels generally acquire better health information, leading to greater knowledge about the medications they consume.

d) Knowledge Level by Respondents' Occupation

The percentage graph of knowledge levels based on occupation illustrates respondents' knowledge across different types of jobs.

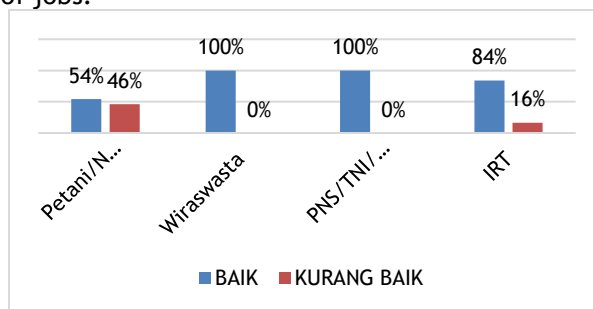


Figure 4. Percentage of Knowledge Levels Based on Respondents' Occupation

Good knowledge was found among respondents working as entrepreneurs, civil servants, military personnel, and police officers. This aligns with the study conducted by Suarni (2014), which explains that individuals in the workforce are often exposed to stressful work environments, which can trigger illnesses.

4. CONCLUSION

The level of public knowledge about generic drugs in Wori Village, Wori District, North Minahasa Regency falls into the good category, with 82% of respondents having good knowledge.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. For future researchers, it is expected that they will conduct a more in-depth analysis of the factors influencing the use of generic drugs in society.
- b. For pharmacists, it is important to remain actively involved in enhancing public understanding of generic drugs.

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