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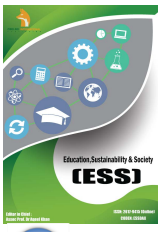

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019: THE PERSPECTIVE OPINION FROM PRE-SERVICE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TEACHER

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**ABSTRACT**

Recently, the corona virus as known COVID-19 is an influenza-like symptoms virus that can give a deadly effect on humans. World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that this virus is a "Pandemic" and there is not the country that considered safe from this virus. Indonesia is one of the countries affected by the Corona virus and according to the data from the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) of Indonesia on April 2, 2020, 1,790 people were positively infected by the corona virus. In this research, we will explain the knowledge of undergraduate students, especially the teacher education department about the corona virus to prevent the spread of the virus in its environment. The method that was used in this study was a qualitative method and 116 undergraduate students in the elementary education teacher department were used as respondents. The data was taken from March 23rd-31st,2020 from online questionnaires form. There were five questions in the online questionnaire form to test the level of student understanding of this virus. The research shows that almost all respondents (97.44%) stated that they knew information about the corona virus. Besides, the data shows that almost all respondents know about prevention methods and indicators of infected people with the corona virus even though the information is not known in depth.

**KEYWORDS**

corona virus, Indonesia, undergraduate students, perspective opinion, elementary education teacher department.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the rapid development of information technology can make the information through to everyone, especially for smartphone users (Iskandar, 2018). Currently, the world is being horrendous with a virus that almost infected all countries in the world. This viral information quickly spread to various parts of the world as the effect of information technology development. This virus, known as COVID-19 or corona virus, is an influenza-like symptoms virus that gives a deadly effect on humans. Since December 2019, the virus, which began in Wuhan City, began to spread throughout the world and World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that COVID-19 is a "Pandemic" and there is not the country that considered safe from this virus (Daw, 2020). Many cases of people infected with the Corona virus have been reported by several countries such as countries in Africa, Brazil, countries in Europe, and others (Gilbert, 2020; Rodriguez-Morales, 2020; Spiteri, 2020). The discovery of the infection corona virus cases in several countries is estimated based on air travel from the people Chinese who travel in another country or the tourists that have been travel in China (Chinazzi, 2020).

Indonesia is one of the countries affected by the Corona virus. According to the Indonesian National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) data on April 2, 2020, 1,790 people were positive about the distribution of corona in several areas as shown in Figure 1 (BNPB, 2020). The infected people cases will be projected to increase if the information about the dangers of the corona virus is not well conveyed to the public especially in Surabaya. On the other hand, Surabaya is the capital city of East Java Province and the second-largest city in Indonesia. According to the data, the number of people who were infected coronavirus in East Java has reached 155 people and was become ranked 4th with the highest infected city in Indonesia (BNPB, 2020). The various effort has been done by the East Java regional government such as making social distance rules, spraying disinfectants in a public area, closing some road access and making applications that give information about the coronavirus referral hospital (Anonim, 2020). These efforts must also be accompanied by the public to be aware of the dangers of the coronavirus.

In the fact, the transmission of the virus in Surabaya was still increasing until now. This increasing of case is becoming a problem both the government and the people of Surabaya and it's becoming a question that there was something wrong with this condition even though the regulations and prevention from the government have been implemented. Other facts show that not everyone has knowledge about methods of virus prevention which is very important information that must be known by

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the public (Lauer, 2020; WHO, 2020a). There are still many people who go out without wearing masks, still gather in public places etc, so there should be a people who educate the public about methods to prevent this virus.

Students especially undergraduate students are people who are considered to have higher intellectuals than other communities. It is assumed as having more knowledge, students are expected to be able to provide more accurate information about virus prevention to the communities in their environment. In this study will be presented how deep information about corona virus is known by undergraduate students, especially elementary education teacher department at Universitas PGRI Adi Buana Surabaya. With this information, it is expected to be able to share their information with the surrounding community so the spread of the virus can be limited. Because teachers are required to be able to utilize technology in getting information to face the industrial revolution 4.0 (Rachmadtullah, 2020).

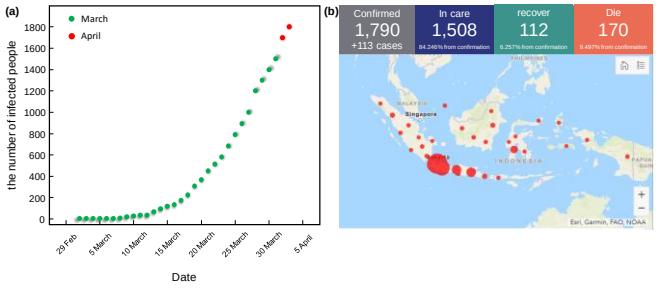


**Figure 1:** (a) accumulative confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Indonesia and (b) the infection distribution map of COVID-19 in Indonesia (BNPB, 2020).

## 2. METHOD

This research used a qualitative method and the purpose of this research analyzed the information that was known by the pre-service elementary education teacher about the covid-19. The subjects that were used in this study were 116 pre-service teacher students in the elementary school teacher education study program at PGRI Adi Buana University in Surabaya. The data in the study were obtained from the online form that was given to each respondent from March 23rd-31st,2020. There were five questions to measure the level of students' understanding students about the corona virus. The details of each question were shown in table 1. The data were analyzed by the level of understanding of each student.

**Table 1**: The detailed questions on the questionnaire sheet

| No. | Question |
|---|---|
| 1 | Do you know about COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019)? |
| 2 | What is COVID-19? |
| 3 | Is the COVID-19 was classified as a deadly virus? |
| 4 | What do we need to do to protect from COVID-19? |
| 5 | What are the indicators that the person infected by COVID-19? |

The steps that were used this research were separated into 5 steps and was shown in figure 2. The details of each step were explained as follows:

### 2.1 Needs Analysis

In this step, the problem that occurs in society was analyzed to be used as the background of this research.

### 2.2 Instrument production

In this step, the instrument was produced as the result of the problem that has been found in society. The instrument was an observation form that consists of 5 questions.

### 2.3 Validation material expert

In this step, the instrument was checked by a material expert to know the suitable instrument for this research.

### 2.4 Distribution the instrument to the respondents

In this step, the instrument that has been revised from material expert suggestion was distributed to the respondent to get the data for this research.

### 2.5 Analyzed the data

In this step, the data from respondents were analyzed for each question.

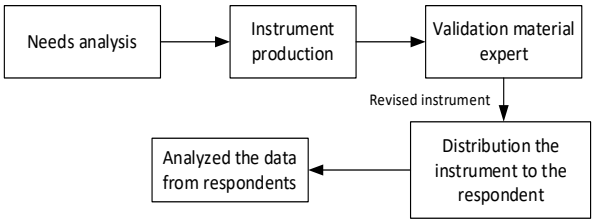


**Figure 2:** The flowchart of the steps in this research

## 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The research was begun by distributing online questionnaires about the identity of each respondent and the answer from the respondent was explained as follows:

### 3.1 Do you know about COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019)?

This question explains the general understanding of the virus as known as COVID-19 from pre-service elementary teachers that becoming viral in the world. The answer to this question was a “yes” and “no” choice. The percentage of each respondent's answer was shown in figure 3.

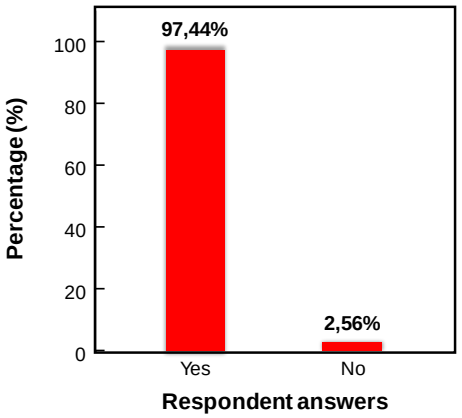


**Figure 3:** The percentage of the answer from the respondent about COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019).

From the results of observational data shows that 97.44% of respondents know about COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019). On the other hand, 2.56% of respondents who given "no" answer about COVID-19 was probably caused by the respondent only knowing about the virus but not in detail. This data given information that pre-service.

### 3.2 What is COVID-19?

This question was given to the respondent to know their knowledge about the definition COVID-19. The reference to this virus definition is taken from the definition given by the WHO. According to the WHO, COVID-19 is a type of infectious disease caused by a coronavirus, and this new virus and disease that were not known before began in Wuhan, China, in December 2019 (WHO, 2020b). Various opinions were given by respondents regarding COVID-19.

The 34.48% of respondents gave )a similar definition that was given by the World Health Organization (WHO) such as:

(1) COVID-19 is caused by a Coronavirus infection, one of which comes from the Corona family (sars covid 2),

(2) COVID-19 is a large family of the SARS and MERS viruses that cause diseases ranging from mild to severe symptoms. This virus is a new type of virus that has never been identified before in humans, which was then first identified in the city of Wuhan, China in December 2019,

(3) COVID-19 is a large family of SARS and MERS viruses that cause diseases ranging from mild to severe symptoms and other opinions.

The similarity of this definition from respondents indicates that the respondent already has enough information about the definition of COVID-19. This knowledge can make the respondent as a source of information in the environment because the information of this virus is important to avoid misperceptions from others. The answers from respondents were taken in Indonesian as shown in Figure 4 (a).

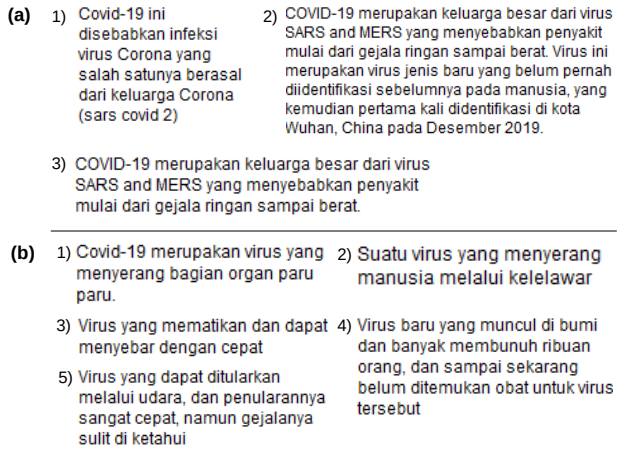


**Figure 4:** opinions of respondents: (a) which is almost the same as the definition given by the World Health Organization and (b) their own opinions from some information.

On the other hand, 65.52% of respondents gave other opinions such as (The answers from respondents were shown in Figure 4 (b)):

(1) COVID-19 is a virus that attacks parts of the lung organ.

(2) A virus that attacks humans through the bats.

(3) Deadly viruses and it can spread quickly.

(4) New viruses have appeared on earth and killed thousands of people, and until now no cure for the virus has been found.

(5) Viruses that can be transmitted through the air, and transmission is very fast, but the symptoms are difficult to get, and other opinions.

### 3.3 Is the COVID-19 was classified as a deadly virus?

The answer to this question was a "yes" and "no" choice. This question was given to find out the perspective opinion of the respondent regarding the mortality rate of the coronavirus. From the respondents' opinion data, it was found that 5.98% of respondents answered that COVID-19 was a non-lethal virus. The percentage of each respondent's answer is shown in figure 5. According to the WHO, the infections caused by COVID-19 are generally mild, especially for children and young adults but the virus can also cause serious illness where about 1 out of every 5 infected people need hospital treatment (WHO, 2020b).

It was shown from the coronavirus mortality rate which reaches 2% in contrast to the death rate caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) which have mortality rates that reach 10% and 34% (Mahase, 2020). The difference perception from the respondents and reference might be caused by the fatality rate in Indonesia reaching almost 9% compared to other countries. This knowledge aimed to avoid inaccurate information from pre-service education teachers that can be cause panic in the surrounding community.

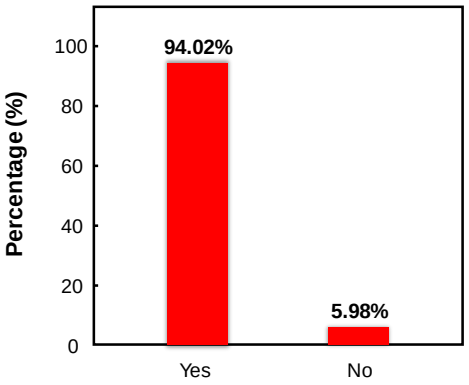


**Figure 5:** The percentage of the answer from the respondent about classified the virus as a deadly virus

### 3.4 What do we need to do to protect from COVID-19?

This question aimed to find out the knowledge of pre-service education teachers about how to protect from this virus. This can help its environmental society who were still working in this situation to minimize the infection from the virus. The references of steps to protect themselves from viruses were taken from WHO. According to the WHO, five aspects must be taken to protect ourselves from COVID-19 as follows: (1) Wash the hands using alcohol or soap regularly (cleaning both ourself and the environment), (2) avoid crowded places and keep a minimum distance of 1 meter from other people, (3) use a mask to protect the nose and mouth, and (4) staying at home (WHO, 2020b). This information must be known by the respondent and the level of knowledge is then grouped according to the number of answers from the respondent according to World Health Organization (WHO) as shown in table 2.

**Table 2:** The assessment of respondents' answers is based on the number of answers

| No | Number of respondent answers | Value |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Give 4 aspects | 4 |
| 2 | Give 3 aspects | 3 |
| 3 | Give 2 aspects | 2 |
| 4 | Give 1 aspect | 1 |

The observation data shows that most respondents only answered 3 aspects to protect from co-19 namely washing their hands, avoiding the crowded places and keeping their distance, and wearing masks with a percentage of 35.89%. Only 14.53% of respondents answered all aspects including aspects of staying at home. This is following the evidence in the field where Indonesian people still go outside even though under these conditions until the government issues a policy to disperse any events outside the home. The percentage for each aspect can be seen in figure 6.

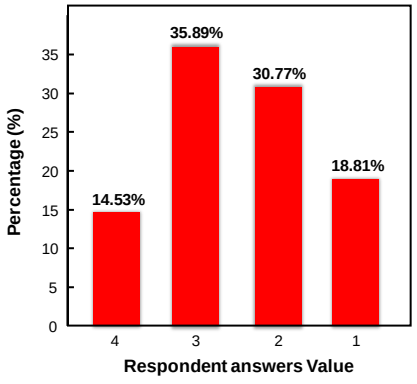


**Figure 6:** The percentage of the answer from each value respondent about the protection from COVID-19

### 3.5 What are the indicators that the person infected by COVID-19?

This question aimed to determine the knowledge of pre-service elementary education teachers about the indicators of people who have

been infected with the virus. This knowledge could provide prevention steps for infected people. The references of the infected people indicator in this research used from WHO references. In general, according to the WHO, symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, fatigue, and dry cough. Some people may have aches and pains, nasal congestion, sore throat, diarrhea, and even difficulty breathing (WHO, 2020b). This information about the symptoms of this disease is also very important to know whether people around us are infected with the coronavirus so as a student can do the initial treatment. The level of knowledge is then grouped according to the number of answers from the respondent according to World Health Organization (WHO) as shown in table 3.

**Table 3:** The assessment of respondents' answers is based on the number of answers

| No | Number of respondent answers | Value | Indicator of infected people | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Give 7-8 aspects | 4 | (1) Fever<br>(2) Fatigue<br>(3) Dry cough<br>(4) Aches and pains | (5) Nasal congestion<br>(6) Sore throat<br>(7) Diarrhea<br>(8) Difficulty in breathing |
| 2 | Give 5-6 aspects | 3 | | |
| 3 | Give 3-4 aspects | 2 | | |
| 4 | Give 1-2 aspects | 1 | | |

Observation data shows that most respondents only answered 3-4 aspects of indicators of people infected with the coronavirus, namely fever, cough, runny nose or nasal congestion, and difficulty breathing with a percentage of 60.68%. This may be due to the low interest in reading information about the coronavirus so the information on indicators of infected people was known by students only a fever, cough, runny nose or nasal congestion, and shortness of breath. The low information about indicators of infected people can make the virus spread quickly because they still do not keep their distance from people who have indicators other than fever, cough, runny nose or nasal congestion, and shortness of breath. The percentage for each aspect can be seen in figure 7.

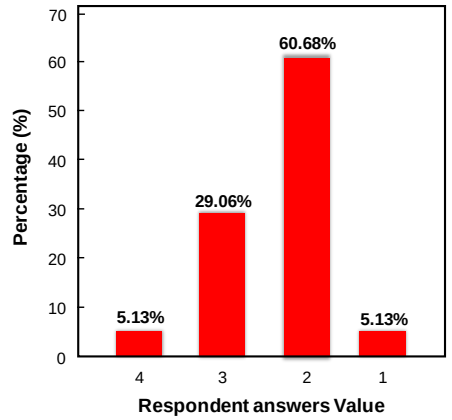


**Figure 7:** The percentage of the answer from each value respondent about the indicator of infected people from COVID-19

## 4. Conclusion

Based on the results, it can be concluded that most pre-service elementary school teachers had an understanding of corona virus disease (COVID-19). It was proved by the data results from several questions that have been asked where most respondents know information about the corona virus. But unfortunately, the respondents' understanding of the corona virus disease was only limited in general. However, information about the virus can also be useful for each respondent, especially prevention methods and indicators of infected people to provide for themselves and provide education for the surrounding environment.

## Acknowledgment

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