

International E-Conference on

NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

November 18-20, 2020 | Virtual Webinar



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Implementation of Health Protocols Based on the World Health Organization 2020 in the Prevention of COVID-19 Transmission in Urban and Rural Communities of South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Like other countries in the world, during the pandemic condition, Indonesian government has issued various policies, including to always remind the community to implement COVID-19 protocols such as frequent hand washing and wearing masks. This study aims to determine the differences in knowledge and behavior in implementing prevention of COVID-19 among people live in urban and rural areas in South Sulawesi Indonesia. This is a comparative study using cross sectional design. Self-developed questionnaire based on the recommendation of transmission prevention behavior from the WHO were distributed using online platform to people live in urban and rural area of South Sulawesi Indonesia and 500 respondents completed the questionnaire. Based on the statistical analysis using the Kruskal Wallis test, it was found that there was no difference in knowledge about how to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among urban and rural communities ($p\text{-value}=0.790$) but there were differences in the behavior to prevent COVID-19 between urban and rural communities ($p\text{-value}$ of 0.004). This study showed that although people in urban and rural areas have same knowledge regarding how to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, they can behave differently. People who live in urban areas have more positive attitude than those in rural area. Thus, the government should develop effective strategies to improve community adherence in practicing universal precaution standards to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 for example by developing educational strategies with a transcultural approach to increase compliance to COVID-19 prevention behavior in the community, especially in rural areas.

Keywords: COVID-19, knowledge, behavior, Indonesia

Biography:

Dr. Kadar is a senior lecturer from Faculty of Nursing, Universitas Hasanuddin, Makassar, Indonesia. She graduated from Faculty of Nursing Universitas Indonesia for her Bachelor Degree and from School of Nursing and Midwifery for her masters and doctoral study. Her expertise including Community Health, Family Health, Health Education, Health Promotion and Nursing Education.