



Covid-19 Vaccination Implementation: A Perception in the Community in Jayapura City

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Abstract

Background: Covid-19 has triggered conditions that are detrimental to the worldwide community's health. The very easy manner of transmission through the respiratory tract is influencing the rising amount of Covid-19 infections. Another factor is that it is spread by direct contact, such as touching a corona virus-infected surface. The necessity to add a means to break the chain of transmission of Covid-19 in the community is a crucial thing to do in addition to needing to implement health protocols in every location. The Covid-19 vaccination is a must-have tool for reducing or even eliminating Covid-19 transmission in the community. Vaccines are quite useful in eliciting an antibody response in everyone, especially in at-risk groups. **Objectives:** The purpose of this study is to acquire information relating to the challenge of applying the Covid-19 vaccine in the community in Jayapura City. **Methods:** This study takes a qualitative approach (exploratory study) with a phenomenological design. The participants in this study were adults between the ages of 20 and 60 who declined the Covid-19 vaccination, as well as elderly people (over 60 years old) as many as 12 participants. This study was conducted in Jayapura City from April to June 2021. **Result:** The Covid-19 vaccine still faces challenges in its adoption, as indicated by the poor public acceptance of vaccination in Jayapura City.

Keywords: Covid-19 vaccination; implementation; perception; community.

1. Introduction

The Covid-19 virus has wreaked havoc on people's lives in terms of health, economic security, and social factors. The most essential aspect of this pandemic is that it has no boundaries, both in terms of geographical and administrative areas that can prevent Covid-19 from spreading.

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This is why Covid-19 has become a worldwide issue in general. The second Covid-19 attack resulted in a daily surge in cases since one death was discovered every four minutes. According to WHO, the Covid-19 pandemic in India resulted in 201,187 deaths [1].

According to the Committee for Handling Covid-19 and National Economic Recovery's submission of information on the development of Covid-19 in Indonesia as of April 28, 2021, there has been an increase in cases with confirmation of 5,241 cases, an increase in the number of people who have recovered from Covid-19 by 4,818 cases, and an increase in deaths due to Covid-19 of 177 cases [2]. Furthermore, data on the trend of growing Covid-19 instances was collected, with cases in April 2021 being greater than in January 2021, as submitted by the Committee for Handling Covid-19 and National Economic Recovery [3].

Papua is another region where the number of cases of Covid-19 is on the rise. According to the Graphic Info on the Development of Covid-19 in Papua Province from March 17, 2021 to April 22, 2021, there was a 38-case increase in the number of Covid-19 cases, a 197-case increase in the number of recovered cases, and a 419-case increase in the number of deaths [4].

According to Covid-19 data on a global, national, and local scale, massive action is required to reduce the rate of Covid-19 transmission in the community. Handling the transmission of Covid-19 through vaccination is one of the government's programs or efforts to help eliminate the transmission of Covid-19 in the community. Based on data from the Committee for Handling Covid-19 and National Economic Recovery as of April 28, 2021, the vaccination target is 181,554,465, with 12,112,888 Indonesian citizens receiving vaccine 1 and 7,374,358 residents receiving vaccine 2. However, given the low number of Covid-19 vaccination recipients in the community, this condition could be a source of problems in dealing with Covid-19 [2].

As a result, the actions that the community must take by implementing health protocols in various conditions are critical. Given the importance of vaccines as an antidote to the Covid-19 virus attacking the body of every individual, the government's program for the delivery of the Covid-19 vaccine is also important to be implemented by all levels of society.

Based on the results of initial observations made by researchers starting from January 2021 to March 2021, several groups of people have been found who do not want to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. As a result, researchers are interested in investigating the factors that contribute to people's inactivity in receiving the Covid-19 vaccine, in order to assist the government in implementing the Covid-19 vaccination in the community.

2. Methods

With a phenomenological design, this study takes a qualitative approach (exploratory study). This sort of qualitative research was chosen so that the perceptions of those who do not receive the vaccination on the vaccine's implementation may be communicated. Furthermore, a phenomenological research design was chosen so that the subjective experiences of participants concerning the event from their perspective could be identified in this study. The participants in this study were adults between the ages of 20 and 60 who declined the Covid-19 immunization, as well as elderly people (over 60 years old) as many as 12 participants. From April to June

2021, this study was conducted in Jayapura City. The research instrument is the researcher himself and uses interview guidelines and tools to record the interview process (tape recorder). Data analysis used Colaizzi (1978) analysis [5].

3. Results

The results of the study contain the characteristics of the participants and the themes of the results of the analysis. The results obtained from this research can be described as follows:

3.1. Characteristics of participants

This study focused on 12 participants who at the time of the interview admitted that they had not or did not want to get vaccinated against Covid-19. Based on age characteristics, there were variations in the age range starting from the age of 37 to the age of 56 years. The participants involved in this study have varying levels of education, starting from the high school education level to the doctoral level education level. Furthermore, for the type of work of each participant, there are 2 participants as civil servants, and 10 participants as entrepreneurs. Based on the characteristics of the religion adopted, overall the participants are Christian. The ethnic characteristics of each participant also have variations, namely there is 1 participant who is Toraja, 10 participants who are Papuan, and 1 participant who is Sangir ethnicity.

3.2. Analysis result theme

The results of the research analysis were carried out using content analysis which refers to the research objectives, in order to obtain 3 main themes based on the results of in-depth interviews with the participants. The five themes are as follows:

3.2.1. Lack of Knowledge About Covid-19 Vaccine

The results of in-depth interviews with participants regarding the understanding of vaccines provide varied understanding. Receiving very minimal information about the Covid-19 vaccine resulted in very less knowledge about Covid-19 among participants. Schematically, the perceptions of the participants can be described as follows:

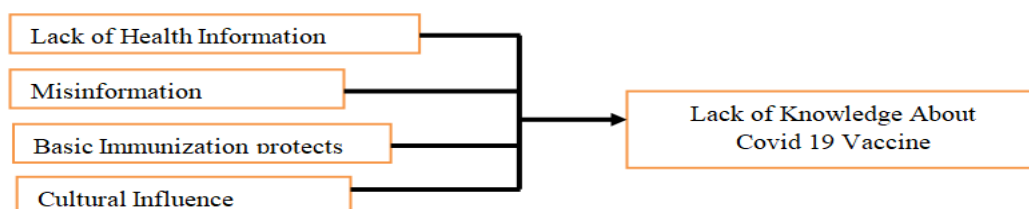


Figure 1: Lack of Knowledge about the Covid-19 Vaccine.

3.2.1.1. Lack of Health Information

Based on the results of in-depth interviews with participants, participants have a firm perception of ignorance about the Covid-19 vaccination. The first and second participants stated that the lack of information obtained about the Covid-19 vaccine was the reason the participants did not accept themselves for the vaccine. The expressions conveyed by the participants are as follows:

“..... I don't know vaccines,not important.....” ... (P1);(P2);(P4);(P9)

“.....I saw it from TV...finally I was scared.....”..... (P8)

3.2.1.2. Misinformation

Lack of knowledge about Covid-19 vaccination is also influenced by misinformation obtained from people in the surrounding environment. This has resulted in some participants not wanting to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. The form of the participant's statement is as follows:

“.....they said, ..you don't have to take the vaccine,...you'll come later...you just have to wear the mask...when you take it off...you have a hole in your chest.....they said that....” ... (P3)

“....we have RT, indeed he said...no need.....for what, ...bringing what, ...in the end, we citizens are also afraid....”..... (P8)

3.2.1.3. Basic Immunization Protect

In addition, some participants considered the Covid-19 vaccine to be basically the same as basic immunization which aims to protect. This was expressed by the participants as follows:

“..... like this... we... smallpox? When I was little I was vaccinated....” ... (P7)

“.....immunization.....into the body or something.....”..... (P8)

3.2.1.4. Cultural Influence

Cultural influence is one of the factors causing the participants' lack of knowledge about Covid-19 vaccination. This has resulted in some participants not accepting to be vaccinated against Covid-19. The expressions related to cultural influence are as follows:

“..... Brother too... all this time I didn't know about these things... so it's already there... I'm confused anyway....”..... (P9)

“.....that... the vaccine has a chip... so if it's vaccinated....we become members of the antichrist, right?...” ... (P10)

3.2.2. Past Experiences Make Participants Fear

According to participant interviews, the act of refusing to be vaccinated against Covid-19 was caused by past experiences. Several participants expressed their dissatisfaction with the Covid-19 vaccine due to the presence of congenital diseases that could cause illness or health problems, or even death. Overall, participant statements can be arranged in the following schematic form:

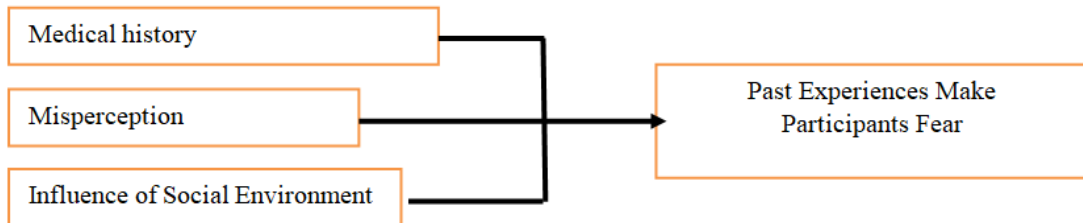


Figure 2: Past Experiences Make Participants Fear.

3.2.2.1. Medical History

The results of interviews with several participants stated that there was a reluctance to receive the Covid-19 vaccine, caused by a feeling of fear related to a medical history such as having a degenerative disease such as a weak heart. In addition, the feelings of fear possessed by participants were also influenced by the experience of being exposed to the use of medical devices such as syringes due to suffering from diseases in the past. In general, the participants' perceptions regarding their medical history were as follows:

“.....we have a complaint of being sick.....so we can't vaccinate....”(P9)

“.....no problem with the vaccine but if you look at the syringe, ...I can't....”(P12)

3.2.2.2. Misperception

The participants involved in this study, some of whom did not want to be vaccinated, due to the wrong information obtained so that they thought that being vaccinated would result in death. This misperception can be seen from the participants' expressions as follows:

“.....we are directly injected and we die.....”(P3)

“.....afraid of the word vaccine.....”(P10)

3.2.2.3. Influence of Social Environment

The social environment greatly contributes to acceptance for the Covid-19 vaccine. Several participants in this study stated that the information obtained from the social environment in the form of advice and teachings from

religious beliefs that forbid receiving the Covid-19 vaccine, resulted in participants not wanting to be vaccinated. The participants' expressions related to the influence of the social environment can be seen in the statement below:

“..... mama and sister-in-law...all of them are nurses, so...they said brother shouldn't go vaccinating...that....”.....(P5)

“.....In the vaccine, there is the number 666 antichrist.....”.....(P11)

3.2.3. Indifference to the Risk of Exposure to Covid-19

The results of in-depth interviews with participants regarding the understanding of vaccines gave an attitude of not caring about the Covid-19 vaccine. The presence of a confident response to health status, cultural influences, and perceptions shown in the form of doubts in preventing virus transmission, became several things that influenced participants' perceptions to did not receive the Covid-19 vaccination. Schematically, the perceptions of the participants can be described as follows:

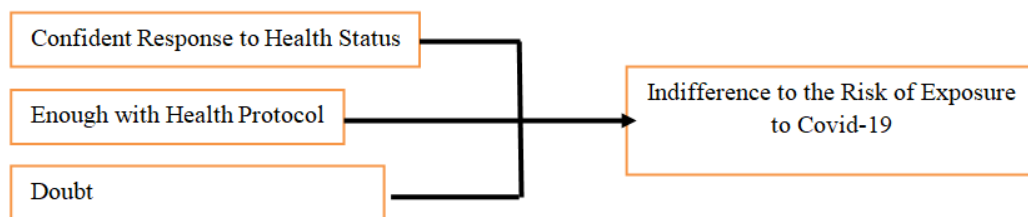


Figure 3: Indifference to the Risk of Exposure to Covid-19.

3.2.3.1. Confident Response to Health Status

The results of in-depth interviews with participants stated that giving the Covid-19 vaccination was not important for their health because they felt that they were not sick. Indifference to the risk of exposure to Covid-19 can be seen from the participants' expressions as follows:

“.....for me vaccines are not important,never get sick.....”.....(P4)

3.2.3.2. Enough with Health Protocol

Indifference to exposure to the Covid-19 virus is a very influential factor in transmitting the virus to a person. Some participants gave the perception that it is enough to wear a mask, you will not be infected with the Covid-19 virus. The participants' expressions are as follows:

“...go to the market...so you wear a mask, if you sell masks, just open it...”.....(P9)

“.....walk with a mask....that's all.....”.....(P8)

3.2.3.3. Doubt

The participants' indifference to the exposure to the Covid-19 virus, was shown by the participant's expressions which contained forcing doubts about the preventive measures that had to be taken. Participants' expressions that contain the meaning of this doubt can be seen from the statements below:

“.....keep it clean?”(P7)

4. Discussion

The Covid-19 vaccine in its implementation still has obstacles as evidenced by the low public acceptance of being vaccinated. This study aims to explore information on people who do not want to receive the vaccine, which is disclosed based on the results of in-depth interviews and will then be compared with previous research and theoretical concepts related to the theme of this research.

4.1. Lack of knowledge about Covid-19 vaccination

The purpose of giving the Covid-19 vaccine to the community is to provide specific immunity against the Covid-19 virus, so that if one day you contract the disease, you will not get sick or only experience mild illness [6]. However, in its implementation, the delivery of the Covid-19 vaccination has encountered many obstacles as evidenced by the low rate of vaccine acceptance in the community [7]. Based on the results of the study, the lack of knowledge about the Covid-19 vaccination is something that greatly affects the participants' acceptance of the Covid-19 vaccination. Insufficient information or lack of health information related to the goals, benefits and methods of administering the Covid-19 vaccine, resulted in participants assuming that the Covid-19 vaccination was unnecessary done.

In addition, the refusal to receive the vaccine was obtained from the perception of participants in this study, that their health was not in a problematic condition. Participants considered that they had received immunity from basic immunization since childhood which was recognized as protection against the transmission of the Covid-19 virus. The results of a study conducted by Omar & Hani (2021), showed that more than half of the participants in their study (58.1%), did not receive vaccinated due to having low knowledge so that they feel it is not important to get a Covid-19 vaccination [7].

The need for detailed information is closely related to health communication related to the Covid-19 vaccine to the public. As it is known that communication is a process of exchanging important information which is expected to be disseminated, understood, absorbed, and discussed in a program that is being planned [8].

4.2. Past experiences lead to fear responses

Various events such as the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic, make a person have to make personal decisions as a consequence of human interaction with the environment. However, if there is a failure in the interaction, it will greatly affect the emergence of fear. This condition will be an experience that can provide a

fear response in response to an action. Participants' past experience of vaccines based on medical history, having co-morbidities, is closely related to concerns about the effect of vaccines on their health which may be worse [7].

The social environment has a role in minimizing one's past experiences through providing correct information, so it is hoped that it will prevent someone from having the wrong perception about the Covid-19 vaccine. However, based on the results of interviews with participants, the social environment is the people closest to the participants who have provided information wrongly so that it creates fear in participants to receive the vaccine.

As social beings, in their daily life, participants need a social environment that can provide correct information related to the Covid-19 vaccination. Therefore, messages in the form of information conveyed by their social environment such as health service providers and community leaders are very important to receive vaccinations Covid-19 [9].

4.3. Indifference to the risk of exposure to Covid-19

The perception of not receiving the Covid-19 vaccination greatly affects the transmission of the Covid-19 virus in the community. In this study, participants had a strong reason that they were in good health and did not need the vaccine.

The results of this study received support from research conducted by Omar & Hani (2021). The results of his research found that there were groups who did not receive the vaccine due to the assumption of good or very good health. In addition, the existence of elements from the background of beliefs held is also a supporting factor for refusing to receive the Covid-19 vaccination.

According to Pilowsky (1993) in Yanitawati and his colleagues (2017), a person will experience changes in behavior or respond to his health if he is in a condition that can threaten his health [10]. The assumption that individuals have good health conditions actually shows a perception of doubt about the existence of the Covid-19 virus, coupled with elements of past experiences related to participants' health conditions. Tracing the common thread of the main factor in this implementation is because participants do not yet have adequate information about the Covid-19 vaccination, both from its purpose, management to the risks of its use.

5. Conclusion

Based on the results of the study, 3 main themes have been identified that describe the problems of implementing Covid-19 vaccination in the community. The themes generated are lack of knowledge about the Covid-19 vaccine, past experiences make respondents fearful, and indifference to exposure to the risk of Covid-19. The identification of the 3 themes above has provided an overview of the various perceptions that have caused the government's target to not be achieved in the implementation of the Covid-19 vaccination in the community. The lack of information obtained, has a big impact with the emergence of erroneous information that is raised by their social environment, and results in the ownership of a wrong perception of the Covid-19 vaccine. The influence of culture and the flow of beliefs they have in the end form a perception that considers he

is in good condition. The various themes above are sufficient to provide an overview of people's lives that increasingly support the rejection of the implementation of the Covid-19 vaccination.

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