

Factors Causing the Slow Procurement of PPE for Medical Officers in Hospitals in Corona Virus Eradication in Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

The world today is shocked by the emergence of the epidemic COVID-19 virus, which until now has claimed many lives. Transmission of this virus is also relatively fast so it becomes a frightening specter for medical personnel who are in the vanguard in dealing with patients exposed to the COVID-19 virus. Therefore, to support the performance of medical personnel in dealing with patients infected with this virus, it is necessary to complete the Personal Protective Equipment or often called PPE. The purpose of this study was to determine the factors that caused the slow PPE Procurement for Medical Officers in Hospitals in Corona Virus Eradication in Indonesia. This research uses a method or technique of mass media analysis which is our rapid analysis of media content, speeches and government reports, social media platforms and mass media.

Keywords: COVID-19, Government Policy in Handling COVID-19 Virus Transmission, Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

1. INTRODUCTION

The current Corona virus outbreak shocked many countries, especially in Indonesia. This virus infection was first discovered in the city of Wuhan, China, at the end of December 2019. This virus spread quickly and has spread to other regions in China and to several countries, including Indonesia. Coronavirus is a collection of viruses that can infect the respiratory system. In many cases, this virus

only causes mild respiratory infections, such as flu. However, this virus can also cause severe respiratory infections, such as lung infections (pneumonia), *Middle-East Respiratory Syndrome* (MERS), and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). This disease has spread to more than 190 countries and regions throughout the world. Reporting from the WHO page, the Corona virus pandemic so far has reached more than 334 thousand cases worldwide.

According to public health epidemiologist from Harvard TH Chan School, Marc Lipsitch, COVID-19 is estimated to infect 40-70 percent of the population worldwide. Many of the COVID-19 positive cases show only mild symptoms, and many even show no symptoms at all. Corona or viral spread Covid-19 in Indonesia continues to expand and claimed many lives.

Along with the increase in patients exposed to the COVID-19 virus, it is also necessary to add medical personnel. But the fact is not a few reports from the medical staff who were infected even died because of this deadly virus. This is because the transmission of this virus is very fast when making direct contact with patients who have been infected. Therefore, the safety of the health of medical personnel also needs attention. One of them is by facilitating medical personnel with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

But it is unfortunate, the existence of PPE in Indonesia in particular, reportedly

still lacking even even relatively rare. The Indonesian Doctors Association (IDI) still receives many complaints about the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) for medical personnel. The lack of availability of APD is often the news that sticks out in the mass media even news on Television related to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. More and more infected medical personnel are convincing the public that our medical staff lack PPE. The risk borne by medical personnel due to the lack of PPE inspires conscience. Therefore, PPE issues are discussed more than other issues such as the number of medical staff or the capacity of hospitals that treat corona patients. Therefore this paper will examine the Causes of the Slow Procurement of PPE for Medical Officers in Hospitals in Corona Virus Eradication in Indonesia.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Corona Virus (COVID-19)

Corona virus or severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is a virus that attacks the respiratory system. This disease caused by a viral infection is called COVID-19. Corona virus can cause disorders of the respiratory system, acute pneumonia, until death. Viruses COVID-19 is a new type of coronavirus that is transmitted to humans. This virus can affect anyone, both infants, children, adults, the elderly, pregnant women, and nursing mothers.

In many cases, this virus only causes mild respiratory infections, such as flu. However, this virus can also cause severe respiratory infections, such as lung infections (pneumonia), *Middle-East Respiratory Syndrome* (MERS), and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

This virus infection was first discovered in the city of Wuhan, China, at the end of December 2019. This virus spread quickly and has spread to other regions in China and to several other countries including Indonesia. This has made several countries abroad implement policies to impose lockdowns in order to

prevent the spread of the Corona virus. In Indonesia, a large-scale social limitation (PSBB) policy was implemented.

The initial symptoms of Corona virus infection or COVID-19 can be flu-like symptoms, such as fever, runny nose, dry cough, sore throat, and headache. After that, symptoms can worsen. Patients can experience high fever, cough with phlegm and even blood, shortness of breath, and chest pain. These symptoms appear when the body reacts against the Corona virus. According to research COVID-19 symptoms appear within 2 days to 2 weeks after exposure to the Corona virus.

Transmission of COVID-19 can occur through a variety of ways such as:

1. Accidentally inhaling saliva splashes (droplets) that come out when people with COVID-19 cough or sneeze.
2. Hold the mouth or nose without washing hands first after touching an object affected by saliva splashes of a COVID-19 sufferer.
3. Close contact with people with COVID-19, such as touching or shaking hands. This virus can infect anyone, but the effect will be more dangerous or even fatal if it occurs in elderly people, pregnant women who have certain diseases, smokers, or people whose immune systems are weak.

Until now, there is no vaccine to prevent Corona virus infection or COVID-19. Therefore, the best preventive way is to avoid factors that can cause infection, namely:

1. Implement physical distancing, which is to maintain a minimum distance of 1 meter from other people, and should not temporarily leave the house unless there is an urgent need.
2. Use a mask when on the move in public places or crowds.
3. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water or hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol after doing activities outside the home or in public places.
4. Increase endurance with a healthy lifestyle.

5. Do not touch the eye, mouth and nose area before washing hands.
6. Avoid contact with sufferers or people suspected of having COVID-19.
7. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash.
8. Avoid being close to people who are sick with a fever, cough, or runny nose.
9. Maintain cleanliness of objects that are often touched and environmental cleanliness, including cleaning the house.

2.2 Government Policy in Handling COVID-19 Virus Transmission

Presidential Instruction (Inpres) No. 4 of 2020 concerning Refocussing of Activities, Budget Reallocation and Procurement of Goods and Services for Medical Devices and Medical Devices In order to accelerate the handling of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been issued. One of them is the procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This is clear evidence that the government is trying to take quick, precise, focused, integrated and synergic steps between Ministries / Institutions to break the chain of transmission of COVID-19.

The Ministry of Finance said that the Government prepared a budget of Rp.75 trillion for the health sector to be used for:

1. Rp. 65 trillion for health handling expenditure;
2. Rp. 5.9 trillion for central and regional media power incentives;
3. Rp. 300 billion for compensation for health workers (Rp. 300 million / person)
4. Rp. 3 trillion is allocated to subsidized contributions to adjust the tariffs for Non-Wage Recipients and Non-Workers in accordance with Presidential Regulation 75 of 2019.

In addition the government also provides a budget allocation for the cost of care for COVID-19 patients centralized through the Ministry of Health. All maintenance costs are borne by the

government according to the standard handling costs. Standard treatment costs include complete packages, ranging from doctor fees to the cost of repatriation of the body if the patient dies. Funding for COVID-19 patients is taken from the 2020 APBN and the APBD.

Providing tax facilities on goods and services needed in handling the Covid-19 pandemic. Relax the provisions on the import of medical devices for the purpose of handling COVID-19 in the form of exemption from the mandatory distribution permit or Special Access Scheme (SAS).

2.3 Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

According to the Minister of Manpower and Transmigration Regulation Regarding Personal Protective Equipment defines PPE as a tool that has the ability to protect someone whose function is to isolate part or all of the body from potential hazards in the workplace.

As referred to in Article 2 of the Regulation of the Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, PPE includes: a. head protector; b. eye and face protection; c. ear protector; d. respiratory protection and equipment; e. hand protector; and / or f. foot protector

Functions and Types of Personal Protective Equipment 1. Head protective equipment that functions to protect the head from impact, stumbling, falling or hit by sharp objects or hard objects that float or glide in the air, exposed to heat radiation, fire, splashes of chemicals, bodies microorganisms (micro-organisms) and extreme temperatures. Head protective gear can be in the form of a safety helmet (safety helmet), a hat or head covering, a hair cover or safety, and others. 2. Eye and face protection devices that function to protect the eyes and face from exposure to hazardous chemicals, exposure to particles floating in the air and in bodies of water, splashes of small objects, heat, or hot steam, radiation of ionizing electromagnetic waves and those that do not ionize, emit light,

impact or blow hard objects or sharp objects. Eye and face protective devices can be in the form of safety glasses (spectacles), goggles, face shields (face shield), diving masks, face shields and safety glasses in unity (full face mask). 3. Ear protection devices that function to protect hearing devices against noise or pressure. Ear protection devices can be in the form of ear plugs and ear muffs. 4. Respiratory protective equipment along with its equipment that serves to protect the respiratory organs by channeling clean and healthy air and / or filtering the contamination of chemicals, micro-organisms, particles in the form of dust, mist (aerosols), steam, smoke, gas / fume, etc. Respiratory protection equipment and equipment can be in the form of masks, respirators, cathites, canisters, rebreather, airline respirators, Continuous Air Supply Machine (Air Hose Mask Respirator), submersible tanks and regulators (Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus / SCUBA), Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), and emergency breathing apparatus. 5. Hand protective equipment that functions to protect the hands and fingers from exposure to fire, heat, cold temperatures, electromagnetic radiation, ionizing radiation, electrical currents, chemicals, impact, blow and scratched, infected with pathogens (viruses, bacteria) and microorganisms. Hand protection equipment consists of gloves made of metal, leather, canvas, cloth or coated fabric, rubber, and gloves that are resistant to chemicals. 6. Foot protective equipment that functions to protect the foot from being crushed or collided with heavy objects, pierced by sharp objects, exposed to hot or cold liquids, hot steam, exposed to extreme temperatures, exposed to hazardous chemicals and microorganisms, slipping. Safety footwear in the form of safety shoes in smelters, metal foundries, industries, construction of buildings, work that has the potential for explosive hazards, electrical hazards, wet or slippery workplaces, chemicals and microorganisms, and / or

animal dangers and others. 7. Protective clothing that serves to protect the body part or all of the body from the danger of extreme heat or cold temperatures, exposure to fire and hot objects, splashes of chemicals, hot liquids and metals, hot steam, impact with machinery, equipment and materials, scratches, radiation, animals, pathogenic micro-organisms from humans, animals, plants and the environment such as viruses, bacteria and fungi. Protective clothing consists of vests (vests),

3. METHOD

This research uses the method or technique of mass media analysis, namely research conducted by collecting various information related to the COVID-19 virus from mass media, both from electronic media, print media and internet media. This paper aims to provide detailed information about the factors causing the slow procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Medical Officers in Hospitals in eradicating the Corona virus in Indonesia which is currently rife.

4. DISCUSSION

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is a very important weapon for medical personnel to work. But scarcity APD until now it still continues to occur, while a sense of comfort and safety for medical personnel at work must be provided.

The Big Board (PB) of the Indonesian Doctors Association (IDI) admitted that although the government had distributed PPE for medical workers last week to hundreds of thousands of units, the number was still lacking. Because PPE can actually only be used once, even though the number of cases and patients is increasing. Not only that, IDI also complained about the lack of face masks for health workers. Therefore, PPE stockpiles and masks must continue to be procured. IDI requests that PPE procurement must be routinely carried out because more and more days the availability will automatically decrease because it continues to be used. Not just

asking for PPE, saving the use also continues to be pursued. You do this by reducing surgery because the surgical gown can be converted into APD, then the operating room is transformed into a Covid-19 isolation room.

In addition, there are also efforts to modify raincoats to trash plastic bags as PPE. This is evidence that the current scarcity of PPE is quite serious. IDI also emphasized that the PPE supply must be continuously supplied by the government. Because if the availability of PPE is not sufficient it will cause new problems, because this can threaten the life safety of the medical team that handles COVID-19 virus patients in Indonesia.

Although the government has established various policies in an effort to slow the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, one of them is by making a special budget that will be used to finance PPE procurement for medical teams that treat patients infected with the virus, but the existing budget cannot cover the shortage PPE procurement which will be distributed in every hospital in Indonesia. Of course this can happen seeing the increasing cases of COVID-19 in Indonesia. To date (April 17, 2020), the number of infected people has increased sharply to 5,923 cases, with a total of 607 patients recovering and 520 people dying.

5. CONCLUSION

From the explanation above it can be seen the factors that cause the slow procurement of PPE for hospital medical personnel in eradicating the corona virus in Indonesia. First: The availability of PPE stock in the field / market today is decreasing because the number of patients with COVID-19 cases is increasing, so that the existing stock cannot meet the existing demand. Second: PPE that is used by the medical team is currently only used once, so that there is not enough demand available because cases of patients infected with this deadly virus are increasing every day. Third: The price for one PPE is quite

expensive. While its use can only be used once. Fourth: Limited budget by the government, seeing the number of cases, the government is not only confused with the matter of procurement of this PPE, but the government must also allocate the budget to other posts such as financing social assistance to people affected by social distancing. Fifth: Scarcity of raw materials. Responding to the explanation above, where Indonesia is not the only country that feels the effects of the COVID-19 virus, this virus infection is also felt by many other countries. PPE which is a weapon of the medical team which is in the vanguard in handling the COVID-19 virus makes the demand for PPE in the world even higher. This has an impact on the availability of increasingly scarce raw materials where Indonesia is not the only country to feel the effects of the COVID-19 virus, this virus infection is also felt by many other countries. PPE which is a weapon of the medical team which is in the vanguard in handling the COVID-19 virus makes the demand for PPE in the world even higher. This has an impact on the availability of increasingly scarce raw materials where Indonesia is not the only country to feel the effects of the COVID-19 virus, this virus infection is also felt by many other countries. PPE which is a weapon of the medical team which is in the vanguard in handling the COVID-19 virus makes the demand for PPE in the world even higher. This has an impact on the availability of increasingly scarce raw materials

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