

## KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF BASIC LIFE SUPPORT AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AMONG STUDENTS OF POLTEKKES KEMENKES TASIKMALAYA

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#### Abstract

Indonesia is located in the Asia Pacific region which frequently experiences various natural disasters, so knowledge about Basic Life Support (BLS) and disaster preparedness is very important. This knowledge influences individual behavior when providing emergency assistance. The Tasikmalaya Ministry of Health Polytechnic has a vision as a Health And Disaster Emergency Center (HADE Center) so that it has an important role in providing education and training related to emergencies and disasters. Tasikmalaya Ministry of Health Polytechnic students as prospective health service providers are expected to have adequate knowledge in this field. This research aims to determine the level of BLS knowledge and disaster preparedness among Tasikmalaya Ministry of Health Polytechnic students. This research uses a descriptive quantitative method with univariate analysis. Data were obtained through questionnaires filled out by 276 students selected using quota sampling techniques. The results showed that most students had good knowledge (41.7%) about BLS and quite good (40.6%) about disaster preparedness, so there is a need to increase knowledge in this field.

### Keywords: Participation; Level of Knowledge; Basic Life Support (BLS); Disaster Preparedness; Student.

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#### Abstrak

Indonesia yang terletak di kawasan Asia Pasifik sering mengalami berbagai bencana alam, sehingga pengetahuan tentang Bantuan Hidup Dasar (BHD) dan kesiapsiagaan bencana menjadi sangat penting. Pengetahuan ini mempengaruhi perilaku individu saat memberikan bantuan darurat. Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya memiliki visi sebagai Health And Disaster Emergency Center (HADE Center) yang menjadikannya penting dan berkesinambungan dalam menyediakan pendidikan dan pelatihan terkait kegawatdaruratan bencana. Sehingga mahasiswa Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya sebagai calon penyedia layanan kesehatan diharapkan memiliki pengetahuan yang memadai dalam bidang ini. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tingkat pengetahuan BHD dan kesiapsiagaan bencana pada mahasiswa Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kuantitatif deskriptif dengan analisis univariat. Data diperoleh melalui kuesioner yang diisi oleh 276 mahasiswa yang dipilih menggunakan teknik quota sampling. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa sebagian besar mahasiswa memiliki pengetahuan yang baik (41.7%) tentang BHD dan cukup baik (40.6%) tentang kesiapsiagaan bencana, sehingga perlu adanya peningkatan pengetahuan di bidang ini.

# Kata Kunci: Tingkat Pengetahuan; Bantuan Hidup Dasar (BHD); Kesiapsiagaan Bencana; Mahasiswa.

#### INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is one of the countries located in the Pacific Ring of Fire, which has active geological conditions that increase the potential for various natural disasters. As a tropical country, Indonesia experiences two seasons: dry and rainy. These factors contribute to the occurrence of various disasters in Indonesia.<sup>1</sup> Throughout 2023, Indonesia experienced 4,936 disaster events as reported by the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), resulting in 262 fatalities, 33 missing persons, and 5,781 injured individuals, while displacing and affecting 8.8 million people who were forced to evacuate.<sup>2</sup>

Furthermore, West Java is one of the provinces with a high disaster risk. According to the Indonesian Disaster Risk Index, the city of Tasikmalaya is categorized as having a moderate disaster risk with a score of 88.84.<sup>3</sup> This situation underscores the need for improvement in disaster management to reduce disaster risks. Effective disaster management measures are essential to protect lives, safeguard the well-being of communities, and mitigate the negative impacts of disasters.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 emphasizes that the best approach to reducing disaster risk is by prioritizing pre-disaster efforts. The paradigm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Azizah Baldah, After Valent Duarisah, and Rizky Akbar Maulana. "Clustering Daerah Rawan Bencana Alam Di Indonesia Berdasarkan Provinsi Dengan Metode K-Means" (Clustering of Natural Disaster-Prone Areas in Indonesia by Province Using the K-Means Method). Jurnal Ilmiah Informatika Global 14, no. 2 (2023): 31–36.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana. "Geoportal Data Bencana Indonesia" (Geoportal of Indonesian Disaster Data). Indonesia, 2023. https://gis.bnpb.go.id/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>BNPB. "Indeks Risiko Bencana Indonesia" (Indonesian Disaster Risk Index). inaRISK, 2023. https://inarisk.bnpb.go.id/irbi#.

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of disaster management has shifted from focusing on emergency response post-disaster to prevention by enhancing preparedness before disasters occur.<sup>4</sup> Law No. 24 of 2007 on Disaster Management defines disaster preparedness as a series of actions taken to anticipate potential disasters.<sup>5</sup>

These efforts involve organizing and implementing appropriate empowerment measures. A lack of understanding of disaster preparedness can affect an individual's attitude and behavior in emergency situations, particularly if the first responders lack adequate knowledge in providing emergency assistance, which can lead to serious consequences.<sup>6</sup> This is particularly relevant in the context of Basic Life Support (BLS) as an emergency aid for victims.

BLS is the initial step taken to sustain life when someone is in a life-threatening situation. BLS involves immediate first aid provided by anyone encountering a victim in need.<sup>7</sup> It includes activating an emergency response system, performing resuscitation, and using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).<sup>8</sup> The effectiveness of BLS implementation can be achieved if the responders have adequate knowledge. Knowledge about BLS plays a significant role in society, especially for those with general health knowledge but not in-depth expertise.<sup>9</sup> This includes students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya, who will become future healthcare providers.

Research by Putri et al. in 2023 on the level of BLS knowledge among health students revealed that 15% of students had poor knowledge, 41.8% had moderate knowledge, and 43.2% had good knowledge. This indicates that less than half of the health students understand BLS adequately.<sup>10</sup> Additionally, research by Taha et al. in 2022 on the knowledge of disaster preparedness among medical students showed that 61.2% had high

<sup>10</sup>Putri, Rahmaniza, and Nadia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Desi Nurjannah, Reka Darmayanti, and Ayu Sahara. "Gambaran Kesiapsiagaan Tenaga Kesehatan Dalam Menghadapi Bencana Di Puskesmas Meureubo Kecamatan Meureubo Kabupaten Aceh Barat Tahun 2020" (Overview of Health Workers' Preparedness in Facing Disasters at Meureubo Health Center, Meureubo District, West Aceh Regency, 2020). Lentera: Jurnal Ilmiah Sains, Teknologi, Ekonomi, Sosial, Dan Budaya 5, no. 3 (2021): 52-57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>UU No 24 Tahun 2007. "Undang-Undang Nomor 24 Tahun 2007 Tentang Penanggulangan Bencana" (Law Number 24 of 2007 on Disaster Management). Jakarta, 2007. https://peraturan.bpk.go.id/Details/39901/uu-no-24-tahun-2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Nahdiyah Taha, Ronald I. Ottay, and Windy Mariane Virenia Wariki. "Gambaran Pengetahuan, Sikap, Dan Tindakan Mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Dokter Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Sam Ratulangi Terhadap Kesiapsiagaan Bencana Alam" (Overview of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Actions of Medical Education Students at Sam Ratulangi University Regarding Disaster Preparedness). Jurnal Kedokteran Komunitas Dan Tropik 10, no. 2 (2022): 429-434.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Tiur Romatua Sitohang and Yusniar Yusniar. "Edukasi Dan Pelatihan Bantuan Hidup Dasar Dalam Menghadapi Bencana Alam Pada Siswa Remaja" (Education and Basic Life Support Training for Youth Students Facing Natural Disasters). Jurnal Kreativitas Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat (PKM) 6, no. 11 (2023): 5046–5055.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Vina Nirmalasari and Wiwin Winarti. "Pengaruh Pelatihan (BHD) Terhadap Pengetahuan Dan Keterampilan Mahasiswa Kesehatan Masyarakat" (The Effect of Basic Life Support (BLS) Training on Knowledge and Skills of Public Health Students). Jurnal Keperawatan Widya Gantari Indonesia 4, no. 2 (2020): 115–123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Tengku Isni Yuli Lestari Putri, Rahmaniza Rahmaniza, and Fatma Nadia. "Tingkat Pengetahuan Bantuan Hidup Dasar (BHD) Mahasiswa Kesehatan Institut Kesehatan Dan Teknologi Al Insyirah" (Level of Knowledge of Basic Life Support (BLS) Among Health Students at Al Insyirah Institute of Health and Technology). Al-Insyirah Midwifery: Jurnal Ilmu Kebidanan (Journal of Midwifery Sciences) 12, no. 2 (2023): 136–143.

knowledge, while 38.8% had low knowledge. This illustrates that more than half of the medical students had good knowledge of disaster preparedness.<sup>11</sup>

Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya is a health education institution operating under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia. It is characterized as a Health And Disaster Emergency Center (HADE Center) with the vision of becoming a National Reference Center of Excellence in Science and Technology in Health Emergency and Disaster Management with International Competitiveness. This vision is supported by the inclusion of an additional course, namely Inter-professionalism Education for Health Crisis Management in Disasters (IPE PKKB), to prepare graduates to handle emergency disaster situations.

A preliminary study conducted on 15 students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya revealed that only 1 student (6.7%) had excellent knowledge, 2 students (13.3%) had good knowledge, 6 students (40%) had moderate knowledge, 3 students (20%) had poor knowledge, and 3 students (20%) had very poor knowledge. This indicates a low level of knowledge among students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya regarding BLS and disaster preparedness.

#### METHOD

The research employs a quantitative method with a descriptive design. The descriptive approach is chosen as it systematically describes the facts and characteristics of the research subject or object.<sup>12</sup> This type of research is suitable for identifying the characteristics of students and their level of knowledge about BLS and disaster preparedness.

The study population consists of 884 active third-year students from the Departments of Nursing, Midwifery, Dental Health, Medical Record and Health Information, Nutrition, and Pharmacy at Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya in 2024. The sample size is determined using the Slovin formula with a 5% margin of error, resulting in 276 students. A quota sampling technique is used to determine the sample, with distribution based on specific proportions within the population. Data collection is carried out using a questionnaire as the primary instrument. The collected data is then analyzed univariately to describe the frequency distribution of each variable.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Before discussing the research findings further, it is important to understand the concepts of Basic Life Support (BLS) and disaster preparedness. BLS is the initial step to save lives in emergency situations, such as respiratory or cardiac arrest. This action must be carried out quickly and accurately by anyone who encounters the victim, whether they are healthcare professionals or the general public. Therefore, good understanding and practical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Nahdiyah Taha, Ronald I. Ottay, and Windy Mariane Virenia Wariki. "Gambaran Pengetahuan, Sikap, Dan Tindakan Mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Dokter Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Sam Ratulangi Terhadap Kesiapsiagaan Bencana Alam" (Overview of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Actions of Medical Education Program Students at the Faculty of Medicine, Sam Ratulangi University, on Disaster Preparedness). Jurnal Kedokteran Komunitas Dan Tropik 10, no. 2 (2022): 429–434.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Cut Medika Zellatifanny and Bambang Mudjiyanto. "Tipe Penelitian Deskripsi Dalam Ilmu Komunikasi" (Types of Descriptive Research in Communication Studies). Diakom: Jurnal Media Dan Komunikasi 1, no. 2 (2018): 83–90.

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skills are crucial to ensuring that BLS actions are effective, maximizing the victim's chance of survival before advanced medical assistance arrives.

Meanwhile, disaster preparedness encompasses a series of organized actions aimed at preparing individuals or groups to face emergency situations. Limited understanding of preparedness can lead to slow or inappropriate responses, ultimately increasing the risk of casualties or greater damage during a disaster. In this context, preparedness becomes a key element in creating swift and effective responses to emergencies.

For students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya, who are future healthcare professionals, understanding BLS and disaster preparedness is of paramount importance. In addition to providing medical services, they are also expected to contribute to raising awareness and educating the public about the importance of readiness in facing emergencies. Armed with adequate knowledge and skills, students can act as agents of change supporting life-saving and disaster management efforts effectively.

#### Findings

- 1. Characteristics of Students
- a. Characteristics of Students by Age

Age	f	%
19 years old	1	0.4
20 years old	77	27.9
21 years old	142	51.4
22 years old	56	20.3
Total	276	100

Table 1.

Source: Primary Data (2024)

Table 1 shows that the majority of students are 21 years old, amounting to 142 students (51.4%), followed by 20-year-olds with 77 students (27.9%), 22-year-olds with 56 students (20.3%), and 19-year-olds with only 1 student (0.4%).

b. Characteristics of Students by Gender

Frequency Distribution of Student Characteristics by Gender			
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Gender	t	%
Female	241	87.3
Male	35	12.7
Total	276	100

Source: Primary Data (2024)

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Table 2 indicates that most students are female, with 241 students (87.3%), while male students account for 35 (12.7%).

2. Students' Knowledge Level of Basic Life Support (BLS)

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Knowledge Level	f	%	
Less	8	2.9	
Good enough	40	14.5	
Good	115	41.7	
Very good	113	40.9	
Total	276	100	

Table 3. Frequency Distribution of Students' Knowledge Level of Basic Life Support

Source: Primary Data (2024)

Table 3 illustrates that 8 students (2.9%) had poor knowledge, 40 students (14.5%) had fair knowledge, 115 students (41.7%) had good knowledge, and 113 students (40.9%) had excellent knowledge.

3. Students' Knowledge Level of Disaster Preparedness

Knowledge Level	f	%	
Not good	4	1.4	
Less	44	15.9	
Good enough	112	40.6	
Good	92	33.3	
Very good	24	8.7	
Total	276	100	

Table 4. Frequency Distribution of Students' Knowledge Level of Disaster Preparedness

Source: Primary Data (2024)

Table 4 indicates that 4 students (1.4%) had very poor knowledge, 44 students (15.9%) had poor knowledge, 112 students (40.6%) had fair knowledge, 92 students (33.3%) had good knowledge, and 24 students (8.7%) had excellent knowledge.

#### Discussion

- 1. Characteristics of Students
- a. Age

The findings reveal that most students are 21 years old, totaling 142 students (51.4%), with only 1 student aged 19 (0.4%). This reflects that respondents are third-year students, resulting in a narrow age range. According to the Ministry of Health (2009), this age group falls into the late adolescence category, which spans ages 17-25.13 Late adolescence is a phase where individuals begin to view themselves as adults, exhibiting increased maturity in thought, attitude, and behavior alongside emotional stability.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>R. I. Depkes. "Kategori Umur Menurut Depkes RI" (Age Categories According to the Indonesian Ministry of Health). Departemen Kesehatan RI, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Elza Diantika. "Hubungan Antara Kecerdasan Emosional Dan Kualitas Persahabatan Pada Remaja Akhir" (The Relationship Between Emotional Intelligence and Friendship Quality in Late Adolescents). Jurnal Psikologi 10, no. 2 (2018): 167-173.

This aligns with the research by Manurung and Hutapea, which highlights that respondents' ages in their study ranged between 18 and 25. This age range represents a stage where individuals transition from ignorance to acquiring knowledge, providing opportunities to gain new insights and understanding, including concepts like BLS and disaster preparedness.<sup>15</sup>

Age significantly influences an individual's knowledge. As one ages, the ability to understand and absorb information improves, supported by increased maturity and enhanced capacity to effectively acquire information.<sup>16</sup>

#### b. Gender

The findings show that female students dominate the sample, comprising 87.3% of respondents, while males make up only 12.7%. This is because the respondents include students from nursing, midwifery, dental health, medical records, nutrition, and pharmacy programs, among which midwifery consists entirely of female students, resulting in a female-majority sample.

Gender refers to biological differences between males and females, which are inherent and unchangeable.<sup>17</sup> Gender differences influence understanding and knowledge through mental and physical development.<sup>18</sup> Consistent with Rahmawati et al., their study found that most respondents (75.7%) were female, highlighting women's higher motivation for learning.<sup>19</sup> Motivation plays a crucial role in students' engagement in the learning process.

2. Students' Knowledge Level of Basic Life Support (BLS)

The study reveals that most students possess good knowledge of BLS, totaling 115 students (41.7%), with only 8 students (2.9%) in the poor category. The high knowledge level among students is attributed to the fact that they are third-year students who have generally taken courses related to BLS and participated in BLS training during fieldwork practice. A study by Kusuma et al. (2023) emphasized the importance of health education in enhancing BLS knowledge. Their findings showed that health education significantly improved respondents' understanding of BLS.<sup>20</sup> Education provides accurate information, enabling respondents to grasp BLS concepts better.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Melva Epy Mardiana Manurung and Kirista Hutapea. "Tingkat Pengetahuan Tentang Bantuan Hidup Dasar Mahasiswa Program Studi D3 Farmasi STIKES Arjuna" (Knowledge Level of Basic Life Support Among Diploma 3 Pharmacy Students at STIKES Arjuna). Jurnal Keperawatan Cikini 3, no. 2 (2022): 68–74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>Budiman and Agus Riyanto. Kapita Selekta Kuesioner Pengetahuan Dan Sikap Dalam Penelitian Kesehatan (Selected Topics in Questionnaires on Knowledge and Attitudes in Health Research). Jakarta: Salemba Medika, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>Didik Sugeng Pambudi et al. "Kemampuan Komunikasi Matematis Siswa SMP Dalam Matematika Nalaria Berdasarkan Jenis Kelamin" (Mathematical Communication Skills of Junior High School Students in Natural Mathematics Based on Gender). JNPM (Jurnal Nasional Pendidikan Matematika) 5, no. 1 (2021): 136–148.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Dhikalonia Purba. "Gambaran Pengetahuan Tim Palang Merah Remaja (PMR) Tentang Bantuan Hidup Dasar (BHD) Di Sekolah SMK Kesehatan Wirahusada Medan Tahun 2019" (Overview of Red Cross Youth Team Knowledge of Basic Life Support at Wirahusada Health Vocational School Medan in 2019), 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>Wahyu Dwi Rahmawati, Wilis Sukmaningtyas, and Refa Teja Muti. "Hubungan Antara Jenis Kelamin Dan Program Studi Dalam Mempengaruhi Pengetahuan Bantuan Hidup Dasar Pada Mahasiswa" (Relationship Between Gender and Study Program in Influencing Basic Life Support Knowledge Among Students). Borneo Nursing Journal (BNJ) 4, no. 1 (2022): 18–24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>Ridwan Kusuma, Monika Ginting, and Yunus Adhy Prasetyo. "Pengaruh Pendidikan Kesehatan Terhadap Pengetahuan Dan Sikap Kader Kesehatan Tentang Bantuan Hidup Dasar Di Desa Sukajadi Kec.

Similarly, research by Ramadia et al. (2021) highlighted the role of training in enhancing students' understanding of BLS. They observed a significant improvement in knowledge levels before and after training.<sup>21</sup> Through training, students gain deeper insights into BLS concepts and practices, strengthening their understanding of critical procedures for emergency first aid.

Students with poor knowledge levels may have forgotten previously learned material or lacked attention when completing the questionnaire. Winarni's 2017 study similarly found that a small proportion of respondents lacked BLS knowledge due to outdated information and inattentiveness during questionnaire completion.<sup>22</sup>

BLS knowledge extends beyond theoretical understanding to practical skills. While theoretical comprehension provides a strong foundation, the absence of practical experience may leave individuals unprepared mentally and emotionally to handle real-life emergencies.<sup>23</sup> A combination of theoretical knowledge and regular practical training is essential to ensure readiness for providing accurate emergency responses.

Therefore, it is important to have a thorough understanding of BLS, especially students of the Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya who specialize in health and disaster emergency. The specialization in this field is expected to form graduates who have strong knowledge of BLS and reliable practical skills in providing medical assistance quickly and precisely when facing emergency situations.

3. Students' Knowledge Level of Disaster Preparedness

The study shows that most students possess fair knowledge of disaster preparedness (112 students or 40.6%), while only 4 students (1.4%) had very poor knowledge. The fair knowledge level is attributed to students' participation in disaster-related courses and simulations held on campus.

Research by Achmad (2020) demonstrated the impact of disaster education on respondents' knowledge levels.<sup>24</sup> Educational initiatives significantly improved respondents' awareness and understanding of disaster risks. Additionally, disaster simulations also play a vital role in enhancing knowledge. Hariyanto and Kurniawati (2019) found significant differences in students' preparedness before and after simulations, emphasizing the practical application of theoretical knowledge.<sup>25</sup>

Soreang" (Effect of Health Education on Knowledge and Attitudes of Health Cadres Regarding Basic Life Support in Sukajadi Village, Soreang District). Jurnal Ilmu Kesehatan Immanuel 17, no. 2 (2023): 73-80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>Arya Ramadia, Ahmad Redho, and Fifi Sri Nofa. "Pelatihan Bantuan Hidup Dasar Terhadap Pengetahuan Dan Keterampilan Anggota PMR" (Basic Life Support Training on Knowledge and Skills of Red Cross Youth Members). Jurnal Keperawatan Silampari 5, no. 1 (2021): 584–590.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>Sri Winarni. "Pengetahuan Perawat Tentang Bantuan Hidup Dasar Berdasarkan AHA Tahun 2015 Di UPTD Puskesmas Kota Blitar" (Nurses' Knowledge of Basic Life Support Based on AHA Guidelines 2015 in UPTD Puskesmas Kota Blitar). Jurnal Ners Dan Kebidanan (Journal of Ners and Midwifery) 4, no. 3 (2017): 201–205.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>Maria Salestina Sekunda et al. "Hubungan Pengetahuan Dengan Kesiapan Mahasiswa Keperawatan Ende Dalam Melakukan Bantuan Hidup Dasar (BHD)" (The Relationship Between Knowledge and Preparedness of Ende Nursing Students in Performing Basic Life Support). Jurnal Keperawatan Muhammadiyah 7, no. 4 (2022): 85-89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>Viyan Septiyana Achmad. "Pengaruh Pendidikan Bencana Gempa Bumi Terhadap Peningkatan Pengetahuan Dan Sikap Siswa SMK Karya Bangsa Kota Tangerang" (The Effect of Earthquake Disaster Education on Increasing Knowledge and Attitudes of Students at SMK Karya Bangsa Tangerang City). Jurnal Medikes (Media Informasi Kesehatan) 7, no. 2 (2020): 297–304. https://doi.org/10.36743/medikes.v7i2.248.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>Sufendi Hariyanto and Kurniawati Kurniawati. "Pengaruh Metode Simulasi Bencana Banjir Terhadap Tingkat Kesiapsiagaan Mahasiswa Program Studi Ilmu Keperawatan FIK UNIPDU Jombang" (The Effect of Flood

Students with very poor knowledge may have forgotten previous material, lacked focus while completing the questionnaire, or taken simulation activities less seriously. Rofifah's 2019 study pointed to limited disaster knowledge among students due to lack of awareness, restricted access to disaster information, and insufficient experience with disaster scenarios.<sup>26</sup>

According to Hendrawan (2019), knowledge significantly influences behavior, including disaster preparedness. Higher knowledge correlates with better preparedness behaviors in emergencies. Therefore, disaster preparedness knowledge is crucial for healthcare students, particularly those at Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya, which specializes as a Health and Disaster Emergency Center (HADE Center). Equipped with sufficient knowledge and skills, students can significantly contribute to rescue and disaster management efforts.<sup>27</sup>

Therefore, knowledge about disaster preparedness is very important for health students who will become health care workers, especially students of the Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya, which has a specialty as a Health and Disaster Emergency Center (HADE Center). Students are expected to have adequate knowledge and skills so that they can contribute significantly to rescue and disaster management efforts.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings, it was shown that the majority of students are 21 years old (51.4%) and female (87.3%). The level of students' knowledge about Basic Life Support (BLS) falls into the categories of very good (40.9%), good (41.7%), fairly good (14.5%), and poor (2.9%). The level of students' knowledge about disaster preparedness falls into the categories of very good (8.7%), good (33.3%), fairly good (40.6%), poor (15.9%), and very poor (1.4%).

The suggestions provided by the authors based on the research findings include: Poltekkes Kemenkes Tasikmalaya is expected to enhance students' understanding through interactive learning methods such as visual media, workshops, and disaster simulations, as well as conducting periodic evaluations to ensure that the curriculum remains relevant to field demands and current technological developments. For future researchers, it is recommended to investigate the factors that influence students' knowledge levels regarding Basic Life Support (BLS) and disaster preparedness.

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