

---

# LANGUAGE RESEARCH INNOVATIONS: THE EFFECT OF EDUCATION ON MEDICAL LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING DURING PANDEMIC

**Rosida Tiurma Manurung**  
Fakultas Psikologi, Universitas Kristen Maranatha  
[rosidatm@gmail.com](mailto:rosidatm@gmail.com)

## A. Introduction

Covid 19 is a disease caused by the severe respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) which can cause mild symptoms such as flu, respiratory system disorders to lung infections such as pneumonia. This virus began to hit Indonesia as well as the international community around April 2020. Some people have not followed health protocols, which is one of the causes of the soaring number of cases of death due to COVID-19, besides that public understanding is still low so it is necessary to provide education about Covid 19 itself. According to the head of STPC 19's behavior change field, Dr. Sonny Harry B. Sarmadi, education and socialization must continue to be provided. This is because education and socialization of wearing masks are still limited to ordinary knowledge even though it is also important to get used to it.

According to Fitriani (2011), it is stated that education is the delivery of knowledge and abilities to someone through learning so that a person or group of people who receive education can do as expected by educators, from those who do not know to know and from those who are unable to cope with their own health to become independent. According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI V) education is the process of changing the attitudes and behavior of a person or group of people in an effort to mature humans through teaching and training efforts. Education and socialization in language are closely related to culture and generations. Not only that, language is also always evolving with the current development of an era. The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting humans all over the world, in all aspects of life. Mubarak et al. (2007) stated that there are three main goals in providing health education so that a person is able to (1) define the problems and needs they want, (2) understand what they can do about health problems and use existing resources and (3) make the most appropriate decisions to improve health.

Language variety is implemented with the use of language that varies depending on its use and adjustment to the topic of conversation and the person who is communicating. Language variety arises because of socio-cultural factors, geographical location, and differences in the function of the language used. Thus, the variety of languages can be a means of communication in society. Foreign languages that are often found in terms of words are international languages. The language commonly used as a term is English. The term itself is a combination of words that are expressed as concepts, processes, or characteristics of a field. According to Hariyanto (2011), terms are all words that have been heard owned by a speaker that have been compiled like a dictionary and accompanied by a brief explanation so that the reader can understand. Waridah et al. (2014) added that in simple terms, the word is the smallest unit that can stand alone but still has meaning. Rakhmat (2018) says that language is functional and formal. Functionally, language is defined as a shared tool for expressing ideas. He emphasized shared ownership, because language can only be understood if there is an agreement among members of a social group to use it. Formally, language is defined as all imaginable sentences, which can be made according to grammatical rules.

Since the pandemic period, the health aspect has become the center of attention of the entire community in order to protect the health of the body. The government and medical parties are trying to deal with this pandemic and provide education. Thus, from these educations, a new term emerged that was previously only used by doctors to become a term that needs to be adapted by the general public. The provision of Covid-19 education through the media uses a lot of terms containing foreign languages such as social distancing, lockdown, work from home in the early stages of the disaster. However, as time goes on, foreign terms begin to diminish and are completely changed to Indonesian for the sake of national interest and make it easier for the public to understand the definition and handling of this virus outbreak. The messianic language that uses a foreign language is adjusted by means of the transfer of foreign terms with translation and matching.

Research innovation in the field of language is very much needed to produce solutions to existing problems and can be in accordance with the context. According to Law no. 19 of 2002 concerning copyright, the definition of innovation is research, development, and or engineering activities carried out with the aim of developing the practical application of new scientific values and contexts, or new ways to apply existing science and technology into products or the production process. Research on the effect of education on understanding medical language during this pandemic can be categorized as innovative research because it applies new methods for developing and enriching medical language-specific vocabulary.

## B. Results And Discussion

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method which is a problem solving by describing the object of research based on the existing facts. Bogdan and Taylor (Moleong, 2014), qualitative research as a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behavior. In addition, this study also uses a quantitative descriptive method, which is a method that emphasizes the aspect of measuring objectively on social phenomena. According to Sugiyono (2014:7) descriptive method is defined as research that intends to explain the data by analyzing the data obtained so as to get a clear picture. The data obtained are not in the form of numbers or statistical figures, but in the form of primary data derived from observations through questionnaires distributed and expressed in words. The benefit of this method is the acquisition of objective results without coercion on the respondent. Supported by Arikunto's statement (2010) which states that the qualitative research method is the appearance of words that are observed by researchers in order to capture the implied meaning of the word where the author conducts an analysis in the form of a description and produces a presentation that can be drawn into a conclusion. Data acquisition was taken by distributing a questionnaire in the form of a google form containing ten statements related to the respondent's understanding of new terms that emerged during the Covid-19 pandemic with four relative conditions, namely disagree, disagree, agree, and strongly agree.

Respondents in this study consisted of 61 people consisting of 53 women and 8 men with the criteria of active students aged 17-24 years who had received education about the Covid 19 pandemic from various media. Observations to measure the respondent's level of understanding of medical language were carried out by distributing a questionnaire containing 10 statements as follows.

Table I List of Questions for Measurement of Understanding Level

No.	Questions
1.	New terms during the Covid 19 pandemic have emerged, especially around the Covid 19 virus
2.	Health programs such as webinars, health vloggers, doctor's notices, and others help me understand the definition of the Covid 19 virus
3.	Health programs such as webinars, health vloggers, doctor notifications, and others help me understand the definition of Covid 19 symptoms
4.	Education about Covid 19 and body health is spread in the media using easy-to-understand words
5.	I don't understand health protocol information through language that contains difficult terms
6.	Government guidelines on 5M health protocols are easy to understand
7.	I have enough language repertoire to remind others to follow health protocols
8.	The different types and uses of swab-antigen, swab-antibody, swab-PCR, and genose as a virus test are easy to understand
9.	I understand the types of masks used during the Covid 19 pandemic
10	I understand how to implement 5M through health protocol education information accessed from social media.

In the first question, the results we got regarding the understanding of "New terms during the covid 19 pandemic emerged, especially around the covid-19 virus" we got 52.5% agree, 45.9% strongly agree while 1.6% people feel disagree. With this, it can be stated that the public's understanding of the terms that exist during this pandemic can be understood by the public, such as the words OTG, ODP and also prolab.

In the second question "health programs (such as webinars, health vloggers, doctor's notices and others) help me understand the definition of covid-19" Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause disease in humans and animals. In humans, it usually causes respiratory tract infections, ranging from the common cold to serious diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). A new type of coronavirus found in humans since an extraordinary event appeared in Wuhan China, in December 2019, was later named Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV 2), and caused Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19). Around 70.5% of people have agreed with their understanding of the definition of covid-19 and 23% strongly agree and there are 6.6% who do not agree.

In the third question "programs on health (such as webinars, health vloggers, and others) help me understand the definition of the symptoms of covid-19. With this we can also conclude that news about how to maintain health during a pandemic can be accessed and understood easily because 62.3% of people agree with this third opinion, 36.1% strongly agree and only 1.6% disagree with this opinion. Many programs have been carried out to resolve the COVID-19 pandemic, one example of which is regarding Health protocols such as in public places being required to check body temperature, carry out social distancing, use masks and wash hands.

This fourth question is about "education about covid-19 and health that is spread in the media using words that are easy to understand" in this question 63.9% of people have agreed and 23% of people have strongly agreed but there are 13.1% of people who disagree with this opinion, regarding this we assume that some people have agreed with his statement while a small portion who feel less agree may get different information or new words in the case of covid-19 that are rarely heard before

The fifth question is "I don't understand health protocol information through language that contains difficult terms" in this fifth statement there are 39.3% of people who say they do not agree and 39.3% also agree 11.5% of people strongly agree and 8, 2% of people said they disagreed, the results we got were in a slightly opposite position because the percentages were the same but agreed and felt less agree, meaning that it can be concluded that the understanding obtained regarding the terms in covid -19 is still not fully understood, for example a suspected case whose contents previously referred to a patient under surveillance (PDP). Suspected cases include people who experience wrong

The sixth statement is "the government's guidance on the 5M health protocol is easy to understand" in which the health protocol in question is wearing a mask, washing hands, maintaining distance, avoiding crowds, and limiting mobility. From this statement there are 29.5% of respondents strongly agree, 67.2% of respondents agree, and 3.3% of respondents disagree. This shows that the 5M health guidelines are mostly easy for the public to understand and implement because of the overall use of the Indonesian language. However, there are still some who pay less attention to this activity. Though this activity is important to get used to the health of the body itself and others.

### C. Conclusion

Language varies depending on its use and adapts to the topic of conversation and the person who is communicating. A foreign language that is often found in medicine which is a global medical field term. The language commonly used as a term is English. The government and medical parties are trying to deal with this pandemic and provide education through socializing medical terms both in the mass media and on social media. With medical language education in the community, a new term that was previously only used by doctors has become a term that is understood and adapted by the general public. The provision of medical language education based on Covid 19 through the media uses many terms containing foreign languages such as social distancing, lockdown, work from home, and so on. Medical language education based on Covid 19 is an important effort and needs to be continued so that people understand and know the term health. The emergence of medical language during this pandemic can be understood by the public through education provided by the government, private bodies, communities in society and individuals.

### References

1. Fitriani. S. 2011. Promosi Kesehatan. Ed 1. Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu.
2. Hariyanto , Suryono (2011) Belajar dan Pembelajaran Teori dan Konsep Dasar . Bandung PT Remaja Rosdakarya.
3. Kemendikbud. 2016. *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI)*. [Daring]
4. Kementerian Kesehatan Indonesia. (2020). *Informasi Tentang Virus Corona (Novel Coronavirus)*.
5. <https://stoppneumonia.id/informasi-tentang-virus-corona-novel-coronavirus/> diakses pada Mei 2021
6. Kemenristek. 2002. Undang-Undang Nomor 19 Tahun 2002 tentang Hak Cipta.
7. Moleong, Lexy. 2014. *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif* , Edisi Revisi. PT Remaja Rosdakarya.
8. Mubarak, Wahid iqbal, Chayatin, Nurul , Rozikin, Khoirul dan Supradi. 2007. Promosi Kesehatan; Sebuah Pengantar Proses Belajar Mengajar dalam Pendidikan. Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu
9. Oktavia, W. & Hayati, N. (2020). *Pola Karakteristik Ragam Bahasa Istilah Pada Masa Pandemi*
10. Covid 19. <http://ejournal.iainsurakarta.ac.id/index.php/tabasa/article/view/2607> diakses pada Mei 2021.
11. Pemerintah Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta. (2020). *Istilah Terbaru Dalam Kasus Covid-19*.
12. <https://corona.jogjaprov.go.id/rilis/berita/100-istilah-terbaru-dalam-kasus-covid-19> diakses pada Mei 2021.
13. Rakhmat, Jalaludin. *Psikologi Komunikasi*. Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya. 2018.
14. Sari, N R L. (2020). *Pengaruh kosakata baru terhadap bahasa Indonesia pada masa pandemi*
15. Covid 19. <http://research-report.umm.ac.id/index.php/SENASBASA/article/view/3680/o> diakses pada Mei 2021.

16. Sugiyono. *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif dan Kualitatif*. Bandung: Alfabeta. 2014.
17. Waridah, Ernawati, dan Suzana. 2014. *Kamus Bahasa Indonesia Untuk Pelajar, Mahasiswa, Dan Umum*. Edited by Team Redaksi. Bandung: Ruang Kata.

#### **AUTHOR'S BIO DATA**



The author was born in Bandung, October 19, 1967, completing his undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral studies at Padjadjaran University, majoring in Literature, with BKU (Main Studies) in Linguistics. The author is a Permanent Lecturer in the Psychology of Science Masters Study Program, Maranatha Christian University who teaches Psycholinguistics, Scientific Writing Techniques, Basic Theory of Linguistics, Indonesian Language, Scientific Writing and Communication, Research Proposals, and Research Methods. Active as a speaker and presenter in scientific forums both nationally and internationally. In addition, the author produces several textbooks which are used as handbooks at the university level. The author is the General Chair of the Archipelago Scientific Writers Community (KaPIN), the DPP Board of the Indonesian Association of Experts and Lecturers in the Institutional Division, a member of the Indonesian Linguistics Society (MLI), a member of the Association of Indonesian Literature Scholars (HISKI), and a member of the Indonesian Language Teaching Association (HPBI). ).