

The Utilization of International Subscription E-Journals in Supporting Research on Stunting

Pemanfaatan E-Jurnal Internasional Langganan dalam Mendukung Penelitian Berbasis *Stunting*

Falinda Oktariani¹, Siti Aisyah²

^{1,2}Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau

falinda.oktariani@pkr.ac.id

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Abstract

This study investigates the utilization of international e-journals for stunting-related research at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau. The purpose is to uncover insights into how students interact with international e-journals about stunting, identify challenges, and assess the librarian's role in promoting awareness. Employing in-depth interviews, the research gathers data thematically to gain a profound understanding of these dynamics. The findings highlight students' limited familiarity with international e-journals, primarily due to language barriers and a lack of guidance. However, librarians play a pivotal role in fostering awareness of these resources. The study concludes by emphasizing the significance of collaboration between librarians and students, supported by initiatives aimed at enhancing access and language proficiency. This collaborative approach holds the potential to invigorate the use of international e-journals for stunting-related research and contributes to the broader knowledge domain.

Keywords:

International e-journals; Stunting; Research

Abstrak

Penelitian ini menginvestigasi pemanfaatan e-jurnal internasional untuk penelitian terkait stunting di Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau. Tujuannya adalah untuk mengungkap wawasan tentang bagaimana mahasiswa berinteraksi dengan e-jurnal internasional bertema stunting, mengidentifikasi tantangan, dan mengevaluasi peran pustakawan dalam mempromosikan kesadaran. Dengan wawancara mendalam, peneliti mengumpulkan data secara tematis untuk memperoleh pemahaman mendalam tentang dinamika ini. Temuan penelitian menyoroti keterbatasan pemahaman mahasiswa terhadap e-jurnal internasional, terutama akibat hambatan bahasa dan kurangnya panduan. Namun, peran pustakawan sangat penting dalam meningkatkan kesadaran akan sumber daya ini. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan dengan menekankan pentingnya kerja sama antara pustakawan dan mahasiswa, didukung oleh inisiatif untuk meningkatkan akses dan kemampuan berbahasa. Pendekatan kolaboratif ini memiliki potensi untuk menghidupkan kembali penggunaan e-jurnal internasional dalam penelitian terkait stunting dan memberikan kontribusi kepada domain pengetahuan yang lebih luas.

Kata Kunci

Jurnal Elektronik Internasional, Stunting, Penelitian.

INTRODUCTION

Stunting, a condition characterized by chronic malnutrition in children, is a serious issue in Indonesia, with a high prevalence rate (Ariati et al., 2018). The implications of stunting extend beyond physical stature, encompassing cognitive development, educational attainment, and overall productivity (Saavedra & Prentice, 2023). Addressing stunting in Indonesia requires a multifaceted approach, underpinned by rigorous research, informed policies, and dedicated efforts to combat the root causes of this deeply ingrained issue.

Stunting remains a pressing concern not only in Indonesia but in many parts of the world, representing a critical barrier to achieving sustainable development and social progress. It is a multifaceted issue deeply intertwined with poverty, inadequate access to healthcare, and insufficient nutrition, making it a reflection of broader socio-economic disparities (Herman et al., 2018). Tackling stunting requires concerted efforts from governments, NGOs, healthcare professionals, and communities to provide comprehensive interventions that encompass early childhood nutrition, maternal health, and education. As the global community strives to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, addressing stunting in Indonesia and other affected regions becomes an imperative to ensure that no child's potential is limited by preventable malnutrition, and that societies can flourish with the full contributions of their future generations (World Health Organization, 2018).

Stunting, as a pervasive and critical public health concern in Indonesia, represents a significant challenge to the nation's well-being and development (Adriany & Tesar, 2023). With a staggering prevalence rate, Indonesia grapples with the severe and long-term consequences of stunted growth in its children. Stunting in childhood not only affects physical growth but also disrupts cognitive development (Mal-Ed Network Investigators, 2018).

Research plays a pivotal role in providing vital insights into the contributing factors of stunting and effective interventions to combat this issue. To

conduct high-quality research, access to current and accurate information is crucial (Perkins et al., 2017). Additionally, research informs policymakers and healthcare practitioners, guiding the development and implementation of evidence-based programs and policies (Uzochukwu et al., 2016). It acts as a cornerstone for shaping strategies to address stunting comprehensively, including maternal and child nutrition, healthcare, and socio-economic determinants, with the ultimate goal of improving the health and well-being of children in Indonesia (Yuanti et al., 2023).

In the era of globalization and information technology advancements, international English-language e-journals have become essential and relevant sources to support stunting research (Kaur & Kaur, n.d.). International e-journals grant access to the latest research, new findings, and best practices in stunting prevention from various countries (Raju & Pietersen, 2017). By utilizing international English-language e-journals, students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau can enhance their understanding of stunting and gain a global perspective on this issue. This exposure to a diverse range of research not only enriches their academic knowledge but also fosters a deeper appreciation of the global context of stunting, which is invaluable for a comprehensive understanding and effective mitigation of this complex issue (Hong et al., 2020).

However, the utilization of international English-language e-journals in the completion of Final Assignment Reports (Tugas Akhir or TA) by students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau may face obstacles. One such obstacle may be the limited English language proficiency among students, both in terms of reading and comprehending journal content. Additionally, the diversity of content and research methods in international e-journals can present challenges in selecting relevant research on stunting. These hurdles underscore the need for targeted initiatives to bridge the language gap and enhance students' ability to navigate the diverse landscape of international e-journals effectively (Gupta et al., 2023).

Therefore, this preliminary research aims to explore the utilization of international English-language e-journals as references in the creation of Final Assignment Reports by students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau related to stunting. This research will identify how students employ international e-journals to support stunting research and identify the challenges they face concerning the use of English as the primary language in these e-journals. The outcomes of this research are expected to provide a better understanding of the utilization of international English-language e-journals among students at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau and serve as the basis for further research in the same field.

METHOD

Employing a qualitative approach with in-depth interviews, the study aims to comprehend the experiences of stakeholders at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau regarding the use of international e-journals in stunting-related research. The research includes a librarian and a student chosen through purposive sampling. The data collection technique primarily involves conducting in-depth interviews with carefully selected informants, capturing the depth and diversity of their perspectives regarding the use of international e-journals in stunting-related research.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In-depth interviews were conducted with two key informants: a student, and a librarian. The interviews aimed to gain insights into the utilization of international e-journals at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau and the challenges faced. The key findings are summarized below:

A sixth-semester student majoring in Nutrition, indicated that the utilization of international e-journals, particularly those in English, was infrequent among students. She noted a preference for national journals, typically accessed when completing academic assignments. She expressed limited awareness of how to access international e-journals. This finding suggests a gap in knowledge and guidance

regarding access to these resources, potentially impeding their effective use.

Language proficiency emerged as a significant challenge, with Helza acknowledging a lack of confidence in reading and comprehending English-language content in international e-journals. Language barriers were identified as a barrier to utilizing these resources effectively. She recommended the provision of guidance and tips for accessing international e-journals, indicating that such support could enhance students' ability to utilize these resources for academic purposes. These findings align with prior research that emphasizes the language barriers faced by students when accessing international English-language resources (Samuell & Smith, 2020).

The librarian, who plays a vital role in facilitating access to e-journals, supplements these findings by highlighting ongoing promotional efforts to increase awareness of international e-journals. This suggests a collaborative approach between librarians and students to bridge the gap in access and language proficiency, ultimately improving the utilization of international e-journals. Moreover, the role of librarians in promoting awareness and providing guidance aligns with existing research showcasing the pivotal role of librarians in supporting students in their research endeavors (Withorn et al., 2021)

These findings underscore the importance of addressing the identified challenges, such as language barriers and limited awareness, to promote effective utilization of international e-journals for stunting-related research at the institution.

CONCLUSION

In order to optimize the utilization of international e-journals for stunting-related research at Poltekkes Kemenkes Riau, this study has unveiled several crucial findings. Students, being the primary stakeholders, tend to have limited familiarity with international English-language e-journals, primarily due to language barriers and the lack of guidance. However, the role of librarians in promoting awareness of these resources is paramount. Collaborative efforts

between librarians and students, with initiatives focused on improving access and language proficiency, can invigorate the use of international e-journals. This would make a significant contribution to research and the advancement of knowledge in the field of stunting. This study lays the groundwork for future endeavors to enhance the utilization of international e-journals for academic research, emphasizing the importance of improving access and support for students in their research pursuits.

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