

A Study to Explore Public Awareness and Knowledge of Developmental Language Disorder in Indonesia

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Abstract

Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) is a prevalent yet often misunderstood condition affecting language development in children. Despite its detrimental impact on academic, social and emotional well-being, public awareness of DLD remains limited, particularly in Majority World countries such as Indonesia. This study aims to assess the level of public awareness and knowledge regarding DLD in Indonesia and identify factors associated with awareness and knowledge levels to inform awareness-raising efforts.

Using a mixed-methods approach, data will be collected from diverse stakeholders, including parents, educators, healthcare professionals, and the general public. Quantitative data will be gathered through online surveys assessing awareness and knowledge of DLD prevalence, characteristics, causes and available resources. Concurrently, qualitative data will be obtained through interviews with healthcare professionals, educators and parents to explore facilitators and barriers to identification and understanding of DLD in Indonesia.

Statistical analyses will be conducted to determine the overall level of awareness and knowledge and identify demographic and socio-cultural factors associated with variations in awareness and knowledge levels. Thematic analysis of qualitative data will elucidate key themes and narratives, providing deeper insights into the socio-cultural context surrounding awareness, knowledge and identification of DLD in Indonesia.

The findings of this research hold significant implications for research and clinical service delivery. By understanding the current landscape of DLD awareness and knowledge and its influencing factors, systematic awareness-raising efforts can be developed to improve identification, timely early intervention, and support for children with DLD in Indonesia.

Ultimately, this study aims to contribute to the global discourse on DLD awareness and advocate for enhanced support systems and resources to address the needs of individuals with DLD in Majority World countries such as Indonesia, thus promoting global equity and inclusivity in healthcare and education. This study supports the achievement one of the Sustainable Development Goals, goal # 3, Good Health and Well-Being.

Keywords: developmental language disorder, public awareness, Indonesia, child language, language difficulties

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