



## Community Perceptions Related To Covid-19 Vaccination Information In Denai Kelurahan, Medan Denai District, Medan City

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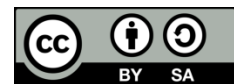
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### ABSTRACT

*Polemics related to the effectiveness of vaccinations are still happening today, this makes the community divided between two groups, namely the group who believes that vaccination can minimize cases of COVID-19 and the group who is afraid of the side effects caused by the vaccine due to the large amount of news circulating among the public about the side effects of the covid-19 vaccine. The purpose of this study was to determine the perceptions and decisions taken by the people of Denai Village, Medan Denai District, Medan City regarding circulating vaccination information. The theory used in this research is Collective Informative Sampling. The research method used is descriptive qualitative. This study found results that the public considered that vaccination was not a guarantee that a person would not be exposed to the corona virus, this was due to personal factors within them, namely the experiences they saw or felt both from the media and directly. People who are afraid of the side effects of vaccination prefer to use the services of making vaccine certificates without having to be vaccinated. Therefore, only 4 of the 11 interviewees had vaccinated, 5 of them preferred to use the service of making a vaccine certificate without having to be vaccinated, the other 3 were not willing to be vaccinated or to use the service of making the vaccine.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The outbreak of the Corona-19 virus disease (COVID) that emerged in December 2019 in Wuhan (China), quickly spread outside of China so that the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Committee declared a public health emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 30 January 2020. A new species of coronavirus was identified as the cause of deadly pneumonia in December 2019 in China. This virus is growing rapidly all over the world. In response to this deteriorating situation, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the country a pandemic

on March 11, 2020. Citizens in many countries still face the risk of serious illness caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The COVID-19 virus has profoundly affected lives around the world. Isolation, social distancing and imposing complete changes to the psychosocial environment in the affected countries. Launching the website covid19.go.id The corona virus has spread to 230 countries, as of April 12, 2022 with the number of cases worldwide reaching 497,960,492 cases in total, 6,181,850 cases of death. Indonesia is one of the countries that have been confirmed to have COVID-19. On March 2, 2020, Indonesia reported 2 confirmed cases of Covid-19. Starting from this case, the number of cases of Indonesian people infected with the corona virus is increasing every day, until April 14, 2022, Covid-19 cases in Indonesia have reached 6,035,358 confirmed cases with the number of deaths due to Covid-19 amounting to 155,717 cases and declared cured as many as 5,811,665 cases. Then on April 14, 2022, in the Medan sub-district, there were 4025 confirmed cases. this condition has a direct impact on millions of people around the world, if the spread of this virus is not controlled effectively, the sequelae of covid-19 can become a major challenge for the world health system and have a major impact on the global economy (Fajar Fathur Rachman, 2020 p. 101) .

Groups that refuse to be vaccinated have many reasons, ranging from health problems to religious reasons. Starting from concern for health, there are several community groups with different backgrounds. Due to concerns about the increase in deaths or casualties from the vaccine. This is because it is feared that the body is not good at handling vaccines and instead attacks people who have been vaccinated, leading to illness and death. Seeing the many differences of opinion in the community about vaccine policy as a provision when accessing or visiting in public activities, some people think that this method is troublesome for some parties because someone must have a prime condition when vaccinated.

Some residents of Denai Village, Medan Denai District who are anti-vaccine said that vaccines are the cause of someone contracting a new disease that threatens life safety. However, some other people think that vaccination can form herd immunity. By saying that the vaccine has proven effective in preventing the transmission of Covid-19. And there are no studies that reveal that vaccines are dangerous so that they are the cause of death. Some time ago, an offer of services was circulated on various social media platforms or directly related to the service of making a Covid-19 vaccine certificate for someone without having to carry out a previous vaccination process with a certain fee for each person who uses the service. Of course, such vaccine manufacturing services are against the applicable law. But in fact many of the people who use these services for various reasons. Based on this background, this research will discuss about Public Perceptions on Covid-19 Vaccination Information in Denai Village

### **Collective Information Sampling Theory**

The early conception of collective information sampling (CIS), which emerged around the mid-1980s, was a concept to explain the nature of the communication and information management processes within group decision making. Garold Stasser and William Titus found that members of 27 decision-making groups tend to communicate and discuss information that all members already know (shared information) at the expense of information that only some members may know (unshared information). This tendency to favor shared information has a significant impact on the impact of group decision power and influences intuitive communication thinking. Further development of this theory helps to broaden and explain the nature of information sharing within groups, especially groups that are tasked with making important decisions in specific communication contexts. The main tenets of this theory include not only

explaining the CIS bias towards the discussion of shared information but also the mutual reinforcing effects that underlie CIS, as well as discussing additional factors that moderate this bias.

### **Perception in the Scope of Social Sciences**

Perception is the process of understanding or giving meaning to an information on a stimulus. Stimulus is obtained from the process of sensing objects, events, or relationships between symptoms which are then obtained by the brain (Sumanto, 2014). Bimo Walgito said perception is a process that is preceded by sensing, which is the process of receiving stimulus by individuals through the senses or called sensory. The process does not just stop, but the stimulus is continued and the next process is the perception process (Walgito, 2004 p. 88). Perception is said to be the center of communication, because if the perception is not right, communication may not run efficiently. Perception determines the selection of a message and discards other messages. The higher the perception of equality between individuals, the easier it is and the more frequent they are to communicate (Mulyana, 2011 p. 2011).

With the advancement of technology in communication, a lot of information enters the community. Marshal R. Singer (in Samovar & Porter, 1982) explains that perception itself has a role in shaping behavior. Ease of communication will increase the equality of perception (through feedback mechanisms) which facilitates communication.

Information is data that has been processed into a form that is meaningful to the recipient and useful for current or future decision making. Viewed from the point of view of librarians and libraries, information is a recording of phenomena that are observed or can also be in the form of decisions made by someone. A phenomenon will become information if anyone sees it or witnesses it or even records it. The results of testimonies or recordings from the person referred to are information, so in this case information is more meaningful news.

## **2. RESEARCH METHODE**

This study uses a descriptive qualitative research approach. Descriptive research is research that seeks to describe phenomena that are real, realistic, actual, and happening at this time. It can be concluded that this study seeks to describe and analyze public perceptions of Covid-19 information in Denai Village. This research was conducted on Jl. Panglima Denai, Denai Village, Medan Denai District, Medan City, North Sumatra. Because researchers see that there are still pros and cons to the community regarding the covid-19 vaccination and the reactions that arise from this perception.

## **3. RESULT AND ANALYSIS**

Until now, there are still pros and cons in the community regarding information that says that vaccination can minimize a person's infection. This is evidenced by the news that says that there are also people who are infected with COVID-19 even though they have been vaccinated. The news that spreads among the public also leaves an impression or impact on public perception, in other words some people are affected by the news, whether it is news from mass media, social media, or directly.

The government's appeal for information that urges the public to vaccinate as a condition for carrying out public activities has not been well received by the community. The community feels that this regulation has a difficult impact, especially for people who suffer from certain diseases so that it is not possible to get vaccinated. The vaccination program cannot be an obligation for the

community, the community considers that the obligation is a compulsion in this case. Because they think that even though people have been vaccinated, they still have the potential to be infected with COVID-19. Many people have not done

vaccination but can still carry out general activities as long as they apply health protocols properly and correctly in accordance with existing rules. From the results of the research conducted, the community stated that vaccination cannot be said or become a requirement in carrying out public activities. This is due to the many types of community activities, ranging from work, study, and activities of housewives. However, although the community does not approve of vaccination as a condition for carrying out public activities, the community also considers that vaccination is still important if you are going to travel long distances. Based on the results of interviews with all research sources, the researchers found that there are still people who do not believe or have doubts about the quality and effectiveness of the Covid-19 vaccine, which is why many of the people of Denai Village prefer not to be vaccinated. Not a few people also reason that health is the main factor they don't want to be vaccinated, because they have a history of disease that makes it impossible to receive the vaccine, on the other hand people are also afraid of the side effects of the vaccine. In order to support the government's program for Indonesia to be free from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is hoped that the public will be willing to accept and carry out vaccinations to protect each other from COVID-19, even though there is a lot of news from various media reporting that people who have been vaccinated can still be exposed to the corona virus, but we hope that we will continue to support the efforts made by the government in minimizing people exposed to the corona virus.

The public must also be more careful in using the services of making vaccine certificates illegally, because it is not impossible that the certificates are fake and certain individuals are fraud syndicates. travel long distances or work conditions. It is also hoped that the government can provide information regarding the safety and effectiveness of vaccines that have been tested based on clinical evidence to the public so that public trust in the covid-19 vaccine is formed and optimizes the strategic role of puskesmas or local community leaders in handling covid-19. Based on the results of the discussion carried out, the researchers concluded that the perception among the public was divided into two, namely the perception of pros and the perception of cons, where the perception of the pros strongly believed that this vaccine could be a weapon against the virus pandemic. Corona, by holding on to the actual fact that the world is getting better, regulations are increasingly being relaxed due to the decline in Covid-19 cases.

People who are pro think that vaccines are not a guarantee that people will not be exposed to the corona virus, this is evidenced by the news circulating that people who have been vaccinated are still exposed to the covid-19 virus, in the end this community considers that vaccination is only a condition so that people can carry out public activities as freely as possible, not as an effort as a shield to avoid being exposed to the virus. The emergence of the Covid-19 vaccine manufacturing service is actually quite accepted by some people, especially for people who are against the vaccine and are not willing to be vaccinated still need a vaccine certificate as a condition for carrying out public activities or conditions. administrative. Moreover, the certificates sold and traded are official and registered on the careprotect website.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of the research that has been carried out, it can be concluded that the perception of the people of Denai Village, Medan Denai District, Medan City assesses that vaccination cannot guarantee that people are not exposed to the Covid-19 virus. These perceptions arise due to personal factors within them, namely experiences they see and feel like

the spread of news in the media stating that a person can still be exposed to the corona virus even though they have been vaccinated, there are even people who have never been infected with the virus. covid-19 even though they never got vaccinated.

However, seeing the fact that the global situation is getting better also leaves a positive perception for people who are pro vaccines, they admit that with more and more people being vaccinated, this will cure the pandemic. prefer to sort out which activities require vaccine certificates and which do not require vaccine certificates. The public considers that a vaccine certificate is still needed for someone who travels long distances, because for the sake of mutual safety, especially the area he is visiting in order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. In the end, the public considered that this regulation was just an appeal, judging that there were still many public places that did not require mandatory vaccines for their visitors. Health was the main factor for the community in determining the final decision, many of the people were not willing to be vaccinated because they had a history of certain diseases, or even they feel afraid of the bad side effects caused by the vaccination. The emergence of vaccine certificate making services without being vaccinated first is another option for people who refuse vaccines but want to get vaccine certificates for administrative purposes, long trips, or other activities that require vaccine certificates.

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