

Editorial

DUA PULUH LIMA TAHUN KERJA SAMA DEPKES RI DENGAN NAMRU-2

Suriadi Gunawan* dan F. Stephen Wignall**

Buletin nomor ini diterbitkan untuk memperingati 25 tahun kerja sama antara Departemen Kesehatan RI dan U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit No. 2 (NAMRU-2). Kerja sama ini telah menghasilkan sumbangan yang sangat berharga untuk peningkatan kesehatan baik di Indonesia maupun di dunia, khususnya di negara sedang berkembang. Hasil evaluasi vaksin typhoid dan cara pengobatan malaria serta dehidrasi berat akibat diare adalah beberapa contoh dari kerja sama ini yang sangat bermanfaat untuk mencegah penyakit dan kematian. Hasil kerja sama dalam 20 tahun pertama telah diseminarkan dalam tahun 1990 dan dipublikasikan dalam suatu nomor khusus buletin ini.

Dengan staf yang terdiri dari 20 orang asing, dan 140 orang Indonesia, NAMRU-2 telah melaksanakan berbagai penelitian di berbagai daerah bersama peneliti Badan Litbangkes, Universitas, Angkatan Bersenjata serta dinas kesehatan setempat. Lebih dari 400 publikasi ilmiah telah dihasilkan oleh kerja sama ini.

Dalam lima tahun terakhir penelitian berbagai aspek malaria di Irian Jaya antara lain telah menghasilkan peta resistensi obat malaria dan penemuan manfaat primakuin sebagai obat profilaksis yang aman dan relatif murah. Uji coba fase III vaksin tifoid oral Ty21a telah dilaksanakan di Sumatra Selatan, sedangkan suatu vaksin kolera oral, CVD 103 HgR, sedang diuji coba fase III di Jakarta. Penelitian genotype HIV di Indonesia yang telah dilaksanakan bersama Universitas Indonesia dan Dinas Kesehatan ABRI telah membantu memperjelas epidemi HIV/AIDS di Indonesia. Penelitian lapangan mengenai hepatitis E di Kalimantan dan Japanese Encephalitis di Bali telah memperjelas penularan dan risiko penyakit tersebut.

Badan Litbangkes dan NAMRU akan melanjutkan kerjasama penelitian dan pelatihan di bidang penyakit menular dalam masa lima tahun yang akan datang. Beberapa bidang yang akan mendapat perhatian ialah surveilans berbagai penyakit infeksi yang baru dan timbul kembali (*new and reemerging infections*), uji coba berbagai vaksin (antara lain enterotoxigenic *E. coli*, hepatitis E, malaria), imunologi dan pengobatan malaria, penularan dan imunopatogenesis DHF serta epidemiologi genetik HIV.

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TWENTY FIVE YEARS INDONESIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH - NAMRU-2 COLLABORATION

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This issue of the BPK celebrates 25 years of exciting and important collaborative research between the Indonesian Ministry of Health and the US Naval Medical Research Unit #2 (NAMRU-2). This joint effort has made significant contributions not only to improved health in Indonesia but to global health and well being as well. The results of the first 20 years of collaboration were reviewed in a seminar in 1990 and published in a special issue of this journal. The joint vaccine evaluations and preventions for malaria, typhoid and dehydrating diarrhea are tangible, life-saving examples of the benefits this collaboration has produced.

Growing to a US staff of 20 and more than 140 Indonesians since it was established in 1970, NAMRU-2 with Badan Litbangkes (NIHRD - National Institute of Health Research and Development) has a wide ranging programme of activities throughout the Indonesian archipelago. Hundreds of Indonesian health care professionals and technicians have worked and learned together with the American and Indonesian staff. These joint field investigations and efforts to develop cutting edge technologies for infectious disease investigations have led to more than 400 scientific publications in the last 25 years.

In the last five years, malaria drug resistance in both Plasmodium falciparum and P. vivax in Irian Jaya was studied and mapped. This work led to additional investigations of primaquine as both adjunct therapy with chloroquine to reverse this resistance and to the potential use of primaquine as single, cheap and safe prophylactic agent. The oral live attenuated typhoid vaccine, Ty21a, was evaluated with investigators in South Sumatra and found effective. Preliminary Phase II trials of the new oral live attenuated cholera vaccine, CVD103HgR, led to the current, large PHASE III trial ongoing now in Jakarta. Genotyping of HIV isolates in Indonesia with University of Indonesia and Indonesian Army collaborators and helped map the HIV epidemic in Indonesia. Field studies of hepatitis E in Kalimantan and Japanese Encephalitis in Bali have helped define transmission and risk for these disease in those areas.

Building on the past experience, the Litbangkes - NAMRU team plans in the next five years to strengthen its efforts in global surveillance for new and emerging infections; develop epidemiologic background for and possibly evaluate new vaccines for enteric infections such as enterotoxigenic E. coli and hepatitis E; develop sites for evaluation of malaria vaccines; better understand malaria immunity; evaluate new drugs for malaria prevention and treatment; establish community based studies of dengue transmission to better understand risk as well as study pathogenesis of DHF/DSS and genotype HIV from Indonesia and South East Asia.

Badan Litbangkes and NAMRU look forward to a continuing and productive working collaboration and training relationship in the next five years.

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