## THE ROLE OF KEY POPULATION IN THE SEXUAL TRANSMITTED INFECTION SERVICE PROGRAM AT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, SUKOHARJO, CENTRAL JAVA

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** HIV/AIDS case findings in Sukoharjo, Central Java were based on risk groups. This case finding resulted in 2 cases in the female sexual worker group, 6 cases in the transgender group, 27 cases in the gay group, 12 cases in the customer group, and 9 cases in the high risk couples. Sukoharjo District Health Office has trained 5 community health centers as sexual transmitted infection (STI) clinic staff. In the STI service program, there was a need to empower key population so that they have shared values in order to raise awareness and obligation to maintain personal health. In addition, the key population needs to be empowered so that they play a role in improving the health of the surrounding community. This study aimed to analyze the role of key population in the STI service program at the community health center, Sukoharjo.

**Subjects and Method:** This was a qualitative study conducted in Sukoharjo District. Key informants in this study were the key populations consisting of the female sex worker, gay, transgender, and high-risk couples. The triangulation informant was the head of the community health center and the head of the Disease Control Section at Sukoharjo District Health Office. The data were collected using in-depth interview and observation. The data were analyzed by content analysis, including an in-depth interview with informants, processed, and performed data analysis.

**Results:** Most of the key populations already knew that the community health center providedSTI services. However, there was a lack of their awareness and motivation for STI examination and treatment. The key populations had been involved in STI service programs as peer educators, as condom outlets, and liaison person. However, not all have an optimal role. The key population that played an active role were in the transgender group, while female sex worker, gay, and the high-risk couples have not been optimally involved.

**Conclusion:** The key population roles in the STI service program are as peer educator, condom outlet, and liaison person. Transgender groups tend to be more cooperative than the other key populations.

**Keywords:** key population, sexual transmitted disease, health service

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