

The Correlation Between Physical Activity and Academic Motivation of Undergraduate Medical Students of the Universitas Islam Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

Background: The Covid-19 pandemic has caused changes in activity. Changing physical activity can cause various psychological changes in humans. For medical students, psychological changes because physical activity is an important factor in supporting academic motivation to learn. This study was aimed to examine the correlation between physical activity and academic motivation of undergraduate medical students at the Universitas Islam Indonesia during the pandemic.

Methods: This study was an observational study using a cross-sectional method with a sample of undergraduate medical students at the Universitas Islam Indonesia. Data was collected through an e-questionnaire. Physical activity was measured by the International Physical Activity Questionnaire (IPAQ), and Academic Motivation was measured by the Intrinsic Motivation to Know (IMTK), which is part of the Academic Motivation Scale (AMS). Subjects were selected through consecutive sampling methods and followed the inclusion and exclusion criteria. After the main test was carried out, statistical analysis was then conducted.

Results: Data analysis using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test with two variables (physical activity and academic motivation) obtained $p < 0.05$. The Spearman test showed non-significant results with $p > 0.05$

Conclusion: This study shows that there is no relationship between physical activity and academic motivation of Undergraduate Medical Students of the Universitas Islam Indonesia during the Pandemic.

Keywords: Academic Motivation, Pandemic, Physical Activity.

1. INTRODUCTION

On January 31, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Covid-19 virus outbreak to have an emergency status and became a health problem worldwide [1]. COVID-19 cases continue to increase and reached 114,379,825 total cases in the world on February 28, 2021 [2]. Indonesia is ranked 18th worldwide with total cases of 1,329,074 and a total mortality rate of 35,981 people [2]. COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 or SARS-CoV-2 [3]. Symptoms experienced in sufferers of Covid-19 can include coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever or chills, muscle or body aches, vomiting or diarrhea, the new loss of taste or

smell [4]. The condition is severe and requires medical attention if it occurs, trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face [4].

Handling of Covid with Work From Home (WFH) due to the fast spread, the public is advised to reduce outdoor activities and stay home [5]. The government has also implemented physical distancing to reduce the number of new cases. This causes a large number of people to work from home or school online so that people spend more time at home [5]. In Indonesia, as of March 18, 2020, as many as 276 universities, state and private sectors in Indonesia have applied online lectures [6]. The application of physical distancing causes physical

activity that can be done for health, such as decreased sports [5].

Physical activity is defined as any form of body movement that is produced by the skeletal muscles and produces significant energy expenditure and is divided into light, moderate and heavy groups. Every activity requires different energy depending on the length of the intensity and the muscle's work [7]. During the Covid-19 pandemic, some people only spent time at home, such as working and studying virtually. This also made it difficult to exercise for several reasons. During a pandemic, physical activity is necessary for people of all ages. Performing physical movements during work from home with light intensity for 3-4 minutes, such as walking or stretching, can help relax muscles and improve blood circulation and muscle activity [8]

Pandemics can affect individual and community psychology, such as causing disorders, anxiety, stress, stigma, and xenophobia [9]. In students, psychological changes during a pandemic are related to the fact that university closure and online media use as learning can affect daily activities that can impact psychological change [10]. Other psychological factors include the motivation to learn to achieve a specific goal [11]. Motivation is a human psychological characteristic that contributes to a person's level of commitment, including the factors that cause, channel and maintain the behavior in a certain direction of determination [12].

Motivation to learn is divided into two aspects, namely intrinsic and extrinsic. Intrinsic motivation is divided into three aspects, one of which is intrinsic motivation to know. Intrinsic motivation to know is the motivation that refers to pleasure and satisfaction in carrying out activities that learn, explore and understand something new [13]. In medical students, motivation is important for student performance because the medical education program is very intensive. For example, medical students must participate in clinical activities and lecture activities [14].

Therefore, this study was aimed to know the correlation between physical activity and academic motivation of undergraduate medical students at the Universitas Islam Indonesia during the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. METHOD

This study was an observational study using a cross-sectional method with undergraduate medical students as subjects at the Universitas Islam Indonesia. Data was collected through an e-questionnaire. Physical activity is measured by the International Physical Activity Questionnaire (IPAQ) [15]. Academic Motivation is

measured by the Intrinsic Motivation to Know (IMTK), which is part of the Academic Motivation Scale (AMS) [13].

Subjects were 166 students selected through consecutive sampling methods and followed the inclusion criteria: 1.) Undergraduate students of the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Islam Indonesia, 2.) willing to participate in research by filling out a questionnaire. The exclusion criteria were students with chronic diseases.

After the test was carried out, statistical analysis was then carried out. The first data analysis was performed using the univariate descriptive. After the univariate descriptive analysis was carried out, the correlation test was then conducted. However, before doing the correlation test, the normality test is conducted first to determine the normality of the data distribution so that it can determine the appropriate correlation test. The data normality test was carried out using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test because the data amounted to 116 (> 50). The Kolmogorov-Smirnov test will get results that are said to be normal if $p > 0.05$. In this study, the data distribution is not normal ($p < 0.05$), a correlation test is performed using Spearman's correlation test. The results will be assessed as having a statistically significant correlation if $p < 0.05$.

3. RESULT

The Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality shows $p = 0.00$ ($p < 0.05$) so the data distribution is not normal. The Correlation analysis uses Spearman's test, and the results are in **Table 1**. The Spearman's correlation test is said to have a statistically significant relationship if the result is $p < 0.05$. In the test conducted in this study, the result was $p = 0.086$ ($p > 0.05$), which means it is not significant.

Table 1. Correlation Test Results with the Spearman test

			IPAQ Score	IMTK Score
Spearman's rho	IPAQ Score	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	0.134
		Sig.(2-tailed)		0.086
	IMTK Score	Correlation Coefficient	0.134	1.000
		Sig.(2-tailed)	0.086	

4. DISCUSSION

A total of 166 medical student data obtained using the IPAQ questionnaire. Descriptive Univariate Analysis is done by categorizing scores based on criteria Category: 1.) Mild: <600 MET/week 2.) Moderate: 600-1500 MET/week and 3.) Height:> 1500 MET/week results obtained in **Table 2**. That there are 115 (69%) medical students with mild activity and 51 (31%) with moderate activity during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Category	IPAQ Score	
	N	%
Mild	51	31
Moderate	115	69

Table 2 Level of Physical Activity at undergraduate medical students at the Universitas Islam Indonesia

While the univariate descriptive analysis carried out on Intrinsic Motivation To Know with category criteria: 1.) low: <13 2.) moderate: 13-20 and 3.) high:> 20, the results are shown in **Table 3** That there are 7 (4%) with low, 7 (4%) moderate and 152 (92%) high intrinsic motivation to know medical students.

Category	IPAQ Score	
	N	%
Low	7	4
Moderate	7	4
High	152	92

Table 3 Intrinsic Motivation to know the level of undergraduate medical students at the Universitas Islam Indonesia.

This study shows that the non-significant relationship between physical activity and academic motivation is not in line with research conducted by Riyanto & Mudian (2019), which shows a significant relationship between physical activity and emotional intelligence in students [16]. Then research conducted by Chandra (2017) shows a significant relationship between emotional intelligence and academic motivation in students [17].

Another study conducted by Al-Drees et al. (2016) showed a positive relationship between physical activity and academic achievement in medical students [18]. Another study conducted by Sivrikaya (2019) states that academic motivation is related to student learning achievement [19].

The discrepancies in the results of this study may occur due to differences in the population studied. The sample used is relatively small. A cross-sectional study design can be a limit to this research.

5. CONCLUSION

This study shows that there is no significant relationship between physical activity and academic motivation of Undergraduate Medical Students of the Universitas Islam Indonesia during the Covid-19 pandemic.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

SLN & YYP is used to design studies and analyze data. While HP, INT & AQA is used to collect data. The UK contributes to designing data and compiling reports.

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