



Health Situation and Working Condition of Women Labour Migrant: Issue and Challenge of Migration Policy

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BACKGROUND

- More than 224 million women live and work as labour migrants.
- The need of health among labour is recognized it needs to be accelerated with the system progressively.
- Unfortunately, study which have been made regarding on health situation, and public health policy working condition are still infrequent.

OBJECTIVE

- To identify the health status and working problem
- To assess availability and access to health-care facilities in Indonesian migrant workers in Singapore

METHODS

- This study used qualitative methods with focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted with women migrant workers in Singapore
- It is completed with in-depth interviews (IDIs) with the workforce embassy officer and staffs as labour migrants as well



FINDINGS

General Condition

- All labours are legal and has sufficient experience as maid.
- It was found that all workers suffer from diverse problems while in the overseas.
- The most common disorders encountered, especially in 6 months of work are related to mental health such as stress, depression, unhappiness and loneliness and then being disaster for them.
- While physical problems generally problems were toothache, tiredness or common cold.

Health Behaviour

- Some risky behaviour came up such as free sex (unsafe sex, drug use) which familiar in youth migrants
- For migrant with low education, it was still found there was migrant who have limited basic health knowledge, attitude and practice (for example: no take a shower)

AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH FACILITIES

- General health facilities for migrant are available which mostly for physical treatment
- Counseling unit for mental illness or psychological cases are not clearly declared among workers
- Each women labor gain medical check up regularly

ACCESS TO HEALTH FACILITIES

- Based on authority of Singapore regulation, each legal workers are protected by insurance
- Legal migrants can access quality physical health services
- Mostly the services provide physical treatment including basic health and advanced services

ACTIVITIES MIGRANTS DURING WEEKEND





DISCUSSION

- Lack communication with couple, family, friends will affect to migrant action (stress, depression etc)
- Although, majority of workers had psychological disorders, there were not facilities can be accessed for treatment.
- Until now, there are not specific facility for mental handling among migrants.

CONCLUSION

- The first six months became the most severe period for labor especially in psychological part
- Availability of the sustainable facility for mental health treatment is crucial. Collaboration for problem solving among sectors are needed.
- The Indonesia embassy is welcome for any support from others sectors.
- Big opportunity is opened for university to contribute through innovation program using their pillars (teaching, research and community development).



Thank You

