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## THE ROLE OF HEALTH EDUCATION IN THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF HYPERTENSION IN THE ELDERLY: A LITERATURE **REVIEW**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Introduction: Hypertension is a significant health problem that, if not properly managed, can lead to more severe complications. Hypertension requires proper and accurate treatment. Systolic blood pressure over 140 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure over 90 mmHg is known as hypertension. Objective: To understand the role of health education in the prevention and management of hypertension in the elderly. Methods: The method used in this study is a literature review. Academic articles were searched through online databases such as PubMed and Google Scholar from 2019-2024, resulting in 10 relevant articles. Results: Based on the review and analysis of the 10 selected articles, it was concluded that education can increase respondents' knowledge regarding the prevention and management of hypertension. Conclusion: The role of nurses in assisting patients can improve health by providing information about the care and medical treatments they receive, and by offering nursing care to meet the needs of hypertensive patients and provide the necessary treatment.

**Keywords**: Education, Elderly, Hypertension

#### Introduction

Indonesia ranks 4th among the top 10 countries with the highest prevalence of hypertension in the world, following the United States, China, India, and then Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Thailand, Nepal, and Maldives (Ministry of Health, 2021). According to the American Heart Association in 2018, hypertension is defined as a persistent increase in systemic arterial blood pressure where systolic blood pressure is ≤ 140 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure is  $\leq 90$  mmHg (Iriyanti et al., 2021). One of the most common causes of death worldwide is hypertension, a non-communicable disease (World Health Organization, 2023).

According to WHO (2023), hypertension is a condition where blood vessels experience a persistently increased pressure. Blood is carried from the heart to all parts of the body in the vessels. Each time the heart beats, it pumps blood into the vessels. Blood pressure is created by the force of the blood pushing against the walls of the blood vessels (arteries) as it is pumped by the heart. The higher the pressure, the harder the heart has to pump. Hypertension is a serious medical condition and can increase the risk of heart disease, brain, kidney, and other diseases. Hypertension is defined as systolic blood pressure above 140 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure above 90 mmHg (Bohm et al, 2018).

Hypertension is also referred to as a silent killer or a silent disease. Individuals aged 60 and over are referred to as elderly or seniors (Ministry of Health RI, 2021). The elderly are more vulnerable to degenerative diseases (Andrieieva et al., 2019). These are among the top 10 diseases commonly experienced by the elderly. These diseases are often recognized by the elderly when they are already severe and with complications. This impacts many aspects, such as increased morbidity and mortality rates, decreased quality of life, and decreased ability of the elderly to perform daily activities (Hidayat, 2019). The elderly are a group vulnerable to health problems in their environment. Unhealthy lifestyle patterns and increasing age make them prone to hypertension, one of the most common degenerative diseases (Efendi & Surya, 2021).

Implementing integrated and continuous health service programs that are promotive, preventive, curative, and rehabilitative is part of the problem-solving framework. Preventive and promotive measures are currently the top priority. To prevent hypertension, lifestyle changes and regular blood pressure checks are very important. These checks are not very expensive compared to curative and rehabilitative therapy for hypertension (Tinambunan, 2021).

One of the efforts to prevent and control hypertension is to manage blood pressure, thus reducing the risk of stroke and recurrence after a stroke. High blood pressure is also associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases such as myocardial infarction and heart disease. High blood pressure is also known to increase mortality rates from young adults to the elderly (Nurdin et al., 2022).

According to the World Health Organization (2023), it is estimated that 1.13 billion people worldwide have hypertension, with about 972 million or 26.4% suffering from the disease. It is estimated that 9.4 million people die each year from hypertension and its complications. Of the 972 million people with hypertension, 333 million are in developed countries, and the rest are in developing countries, including Indonesia. According to the 2019 Rikesdas results, the prevalence of hypertension in the 55-64 age group is 45.6%, in the 65-74 age group is 58.9%, and in the 75+ age group is 62.6%. In Banten Province, hypertension still holds the largest proportion of all reported non-communicable diseases, at 24.68%. In 2019, there were 1,705,025 people at risk (over 18 years old) who had their blood pressure measured, accounting for 30.23% of the total population. The highest percentage of the population having their blood pressure measured in 2016 was 97.70% in South Tangerang City, while the lowest was 4.67% in Tangerang City (Banten Provincial Health Office, 2019).

The Banten Provincial Health Profile for 2020 reported 1,857,866 cases of hypertension, with the highest data in 2019 in Tangerang Regency at 622,020 cases, Lebak Regency at 617,997 cases, South Tangerang City at 269,443 cases, Tangerang City at 112,125 cases, Serang Regency at 88,081 cases, Pandeglang Regency at 75,213 cases, Cilegon City at 66,906 cases, and Serang City at 6,031 cases. The majority of hypertension sufferers are women, while only 50 percent of estimated hypertension sufferers in Banten Province receive health services (Serang City, 2021). The aim of this study is to understand the role of health education in the prevention and management of hypertension in the elderly.

## Method

This research utilizes a method involving the collection, analysis, and synthesis of literature relevant to the research topic, to generate new and useful conclusions. The journals used in this study are those that discuss the topic with keywords including Role, Hypertension Education, and Elderly. Academic journal searches were conducted through online databases including PubMed and Google Scholar from 2019-2024.

Several references related to the role of education were obtained from journal searches on PubMed and Google Scholar, yielding 10 articles using the keywords Role, Hypertension Education, and Elderly. Below is the journal search process that supports this review:

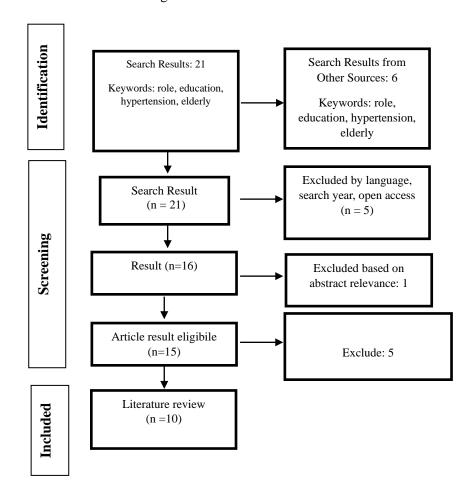


Figure 1. Literature Review Process

## **Literature Search Results**

Below are the selected journals analyzed by the researcher in this literature review study:

Table 1. Details of Primary Selected Journals for Literature Review

No	Author/ Year	Research Title	Journal Name	Research Objectives	Research Method	Research Result
1	Kusumo, (2021)	Prevention and	Community Service)	Conducting education on the prevention and management of hypertension to improve the quality of life in the elderly.	eksperimental	There was an increase in knowledge among the elderly regarding the prevention and management of hypertension.
2	Ayu Preharsini, Berliany Venny	Health Education in Efforts to Prevent and Control Hypertension in the Elderly	Community	Improving cadres' understanding of efforts to prevent and control hypertension in the elderly	Eksperimental	There was an increase in the level of understanding regarding efforts to prevent and control hypertension in the elderly. Before the counseling sessions, the average pre-test score was 60.00, and after the counseling sessions, there was an increase in the average post-test score to 88.44.
3	Weni Sartiwi, Ratna Indah Sari	Education for the Elderly in Lubuk	Community Services		Eksperimental	Increase in hypertension patients' knowledge from 76% to 85%.

4	(2021)	Education and Elderly Gymnastics as Efforts for Prevention and Control of Hypertension in the Elderly	Community Service Creativity		*	The evaluation results indicate an increase in elderly knowledge regarding hypertension, its causes, signs and symptoms, treatment, recommended and not recommended foods, as well as the benefits of elderly gymnastics.
5	H.Soebyakto	Management of Hypertension Education in the Elderly Using Carrot Juice	Knowledge	So that residents of RT 15 know how to manage hypertension using carrot juice.	Eksperimental	Increasing respondents' knowledge from 35% to 95% with high/good knowledge.
6	Roihatul Zahroh, Mono Pratiko, Yuli Melli Kinarti, (2023)	Hypertension Counseling for the Elderly as Efforts to Prevent and Control Hypertension at the Elderly Integrated Health Post (Posyandu Lansia) in Suci Village, Manyar District, Gresik Regency	Community Service in the Archipelago	Improving elderly knowledge about hypertension and hypertension management	Eksperimental	The elderly's knowledge about controlling and preventing hypertension has increased.
7	Panggih Priyo Wicaksono, Wahyuni (2024)	Counseling on Early	Community Service Outcomes	Increasing public knowledge and understanding related to hypertension.	Eksperimental	The respondents were able to understand and gain more knowledge about what hypertension is, its prevention methods, and healthy lifestyles. There were a total of 16

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						participants with results of 158.46/92.2 mmHg, which falls into the category of Stage 1 hypertension.
8	Suaib, (2023)	Community	Community Service AMMA	Improving elderly knowledge on efforts to increase awareness in hypertension prevention and regular elderly gymnastics exercises in Mangu Village, RW 06/RT 11, so that the elderly can independently perform exercise activities at home.		Many people still disregard hypertension. Educating the elderly on hypertension prevention aims to increase their knowledge and prevent hypertension, promoting healthy and productive aging.
	H. Manaf, Eka Putri Kusumawati,		Jurnal Ilmiah Kesehatan Pencerah	Gaining knowledge about hypertension management	1 0	The research result shows that 52.5% of respondents have inadequate knowledge about hypertension management.
	Sasono Mardiono, Andre Utama Saputra, (2023)	Health Education on Fitness Exercise in Blood Pressure Changes among Hypertensive Elderly at the Regional Public Hospital Kayuagung Tahun 2023	Community Service Cendekia	$\mathcal{C}$		This study shows that knowledge about hypertension among the elderly has increased.

## **Discussion**

Health education on hypertension is one of the efforts to prevent hypertension. Health education essentially involves activities or efforts to convey health messages to the community, groups, or individuals. Through these efforts, it is hoped that communities, groups, or individuals can acquire better knowledge about health (Hidayat et al., 2022). According to the research by Ariyanti et al. (2020), health education on hypertension significantly increases the respondents' knowledge about controlling hypertension. The findings emphasize the importance of education and understanding in preventing and managing high blood pressure, especially among the elderly. Education is a systematic activity aimed at producing learning. This process is designed to generate specific learning outcomes. Nurse-led education enhances clients' knowledge about the treatment and management of their illness. Clients will learn the best ways to manage their condition, thereby increasing awareness and compliance with treatment and medication (Hadidi, 2015).

Similar research was conducted by Nuraisyah et al. (2021), using a true experimental design by distributing leaflets door to door to 31 elderly individuals. After conducting post-tests, there was an increase in knowledge among the elderly regarding hypertension prevention and management. In providing health education on hypertension prevention and management, there was an increase in knowledge among hypertension patients. Before receiving health education, the majority lacked knowledge due to insufficient information about their health, resulting in a lack of attention to their health and inadequate knowledge about hypertension prevention and management. After receiving health education on hypertension prevention and management, the majority of respondents had sufficient and good knowledge because they paid close attention during the education session.

These research findings are consistent with Purwati's (2019) study on the Effect of Health Counseling on Hypertension Patients, which found a significant difference in knowledge before and after health counseling, with a p-value of  $0.000 \le 0.05$  indicating an increase in knowledge. Similarly, Utari et al. (2021) found a difference in knowledge before and after health education, with a p-value of  $0.000 \le 0.05$ , indicating an increase in knowledge from before to after receiving health education.

Herawati et al.'s (2021) research on knowledge about hypertension management among hypertension patients found that 52.5% of respondents had inadequate knowledge about hypertension management. Based on these findings, the role of health education becomes crucial in improving the well-being of individuals and communities. Health education can create a healthier and more health-conscious society, ultimately enhancing overall well-being and reducing the burden on healthcare systems.

Health education promotes the adoption of healthy lifestyles, such as a low-salt diet, increased physical activity, smoking cessation, and reduced alcohol consumption, all of which are crucial for controlling hypertension. By controlling hypertension, individuals can enjoy a better quality of life with more energy and a lower risk of serious health conditions. Effective hypertension control through education can significantly reduce hypertension-related mortality and morbidity, improving overall public health (Manurung & Syahrizal, 2024).

Education on hypertension among the elderly is considered crucial because this age group is at high risk of hypertension and related complications. Hypertension education for the elderly should be holistic, continuous, and involve support from family and healthcare professionals, aiming to improve quality of life and reduce the risk of complications. According to Mulki and Kindang (2023), many

people are still indifferent to hypertension. Health education can increase awareness among people who were initially unaware of the risk factors and early symptoms of a disease, enabling them to take more effective preventive measures.

## **Conclusions**

The role of nurses as educators in helping patients can improve health by providing information about the treatment and medical procedures they receive and providing nursing care to meet the needs of hypertension patients and provide necessary treatment.

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