

Analysis of community participatory planning in supporting the utilization of village health post (Poskesdes) services

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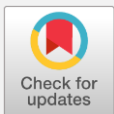
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ABSTRACT

Utilization of Village Health Post (Poskesdes) services in rural areas remains suboptimal. Previous research has primarily focused on community participation in health development in general, while studies on the contribution of participatory planning to the utilization of Poskesdes services remain limited. This study aims to analyze the implementation of participatory planning and the factors influencing community participation in supporting the utilization of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village, Pitu Riase Subdistrict, Sidenreng Rappang Regency. This study employs a qualitative approach using the case study method. There were five informants, consisting of the Village Head, the Village Secretary, the Village Midwife, and two community members who use the services, selected through purposive sampling. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, observations, and documentation. Data analysis utilized the Miles and Huberman interactive model supported by NVivo 12 Plus. The research findings indicate that participatory planning is carried out through three stages: identification of health needs, village planning meetings, and implementation of health programs. Community participation is most prominent during the needs identification stage, while involvement in program monitoring remains low. Factors influencing community participation include external, internal, and sociocultural factors, with external factors being the most dominant—particularly support from the village government, health workers, and program outreach. Empirical findings indicate that community involvement in the planning process results in programs that are better aligned with local needs and encourages increased utilization of Poskesdes services. The contribution of this study is to provide empirical evidence regarding the relationship between participatory planning and the utilization of Poskesdes services in rural communities—a topic that has been relatively under-explored in previous research.

Keywords:

participatory planning; community; service utility

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INTRODUCTION

Health care is one of the basic needs of the community and serves as an important indicator of human development. The Indonesian government continues to strive to improve access to health care in rural areas

through various community-based health facilities, one of which is the Village Health Post (Poskesdes) (Syadza et al., 2023). Poskesdes serves as a basic health care facility that provides promotive, preventive, and simple health care services to rural communities. The existence of Poskesdes is expected to expand access to health care, particularly for people who face limitations in reaching higher-level health facilities (Idrus et al., 2022).

Nevertheless, the utilization of health services in rural areas still faces various challenges. Several studies indicate that low community participation, limited access to services, socioeconomic conditions, and suboptimal community empowerment are factors influencing the utilization of village health services (Oktavianti et al., 2024). These conditions indicate that access to and utilization of health services in rural areas are still not optimal. Data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) show that the percentage of unmet health care needs, classified by village type, in rural areas reached 6.31% in 2025—higher than the 4.65% rate in urban areas. These data indicate that a portion of the rural population still faces barriers in accessing the health services they need. Therefore, the success of village health services is determined not only by the availability of facilities and health personnel but also by community involvement in the planning and implementation of health programs.

Participatory planning is an approach that provides communities with the opportunity to be involved in the process of identifying needs, setting program priorities, making decisions, and implementing development initiatives (Harsono & Pambudi, 2023). In the context of village health services, community involvement ensures that programs are better aligned with local needs, thereby potentially increasing the utilization of available health services. Therefore, community participation is a key factor in supporting the successful delivery of Poskesdes services.

Various previous studies have examined community participation in health development, the effectiveness of public health programs, and the management of village health facilities (Kusuma et al., 2024). However, based on the results of a literature review and bibliometric mapping using VOSviewer, studies that specifically analyze the relationship between participatory planning and the utilization of Poskesdes services remain relatively limited. For example, the study by Rafsanjani & Anugrahini (2021) showed that community participation contributes to village health development planning, while the study by Hermanses et al. highlighted the importance of facilities and infrastructure in the utilization of Poskesdes services. Nevertheless, most studies still focus on the quality of health services, program effectiveness, or general forms of community participation. These studies have not specifically explained how community involvement in the planning process contributes to the utilization of Poskesdes services. This situation indicates a research gap regarding the relationship between participatory planning and the utilization of Poskesdes services at the village level, which has yet to be empirically examined in sufficient detail.

Based on this gap, this study employs the Ladder of Citizen Participation theory to analyze the level of community participation in the village health planning process and the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) approach to understand community involvement in identifying health needs. Both approaches are used as analytical frameworks to explain the relationship between participatory planning and the utilization of Poskesdes services.

This study aims to analyze the implementation of participatory community planning in supporting the utilization of Poskesdes services and to identify the factors influencing community participation in this process in Tana Toro Village, Pitu Riase Subdistrict, Sidenreng Rappang Regency. Specifically, the study examines how participatory community planning is implemented to enhance the utilization of Poskesdes services and explores the key factors that shape community participation in supporting these services.

The novelty of this study lies in its analysis of the relationship between participatory planning and the utilization of Poskesdes services in the context of rural communities, using a case study approach supported by NVivo 12 Plus analysis. Academically, this study is expected to enrich the literature on participatory planning and community-based health services. Practically, the research findings can serve as a basis for village governments, health workers, and other stakeholders to improve the utilization of Poskesdes services by strengthening community participation.

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative approach using a case study design to gain an in-depth understanding of the implementation of participatory planning in support of the utilization of Village Health Post (Poskesdes) services. The qualitative approach was chosen because it provides a comprehensive understanding of the community participation process, interactions among stakeholders, and the factors influencing community involvement in the planning and utilization of village health services (Latussa et al., 2022). The research was conducted in Tana Toro Village, Pitu Riase Subdistrict, Sidenreng Rappang Regency, which is one of the villages

that provides health services through Poskesdes by involving the village government, health workers, and the community in the planning process.

The units of analysis in this study include village governments, health workers, and community members involved in the planning and utilization of Poskesdes services. Informants were selected using purposive sampling, taking into account their knowledge, experience, and involvement in the research focus (Lenaini, 2021). The informants consisted of village government officials, Poskesdes health workers, community health workers, and community members receiving health services.

Table 1. Research informants

Informant	Category
Village Head	Village Government
Village Secretary	Village Government
Village Midwife	Health Worker
Service users	Community

Data collection was conducted through in-depth interviews, observations, and documentation. Interviews were used to gather information on the implementation of participatory planning, the level of community involvement, and the factors influencing participation in supporting Poskesdes services (Hansen, 2020). Observations were conducted to directly observe health service activities and community involvement in village health activities. Documentation was used to supplement the research data through various documents related to village health programs, activity reports, and village development planning documents.

Data analysis used the interactive model of Miles and Huberman, which includes data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusions. The analysis process was carried out continuously from data collection until findings that could answer the research focus were obtained. To improve the systematic approach and accuracy of the analysis, this study used the NVivo 12 Plus application for data coding, theme identification, and mapping relationships between concepts related to participatory planning and the utility of Poskesdes services. The data analysis process was conducted step by step through coding, category grouping, theme identification, and interpreting relationships between themes that emerged from interviews, observations, and documentation. The analysis focused on the forms of participatory planning implementation, the level of community participation at each stage of planning, and factors that influence community involvement in supporting the utility of Poskesdes services (Qomaruddin & Sa'diyah, 2024). The use of the NVivo 12 Plus application helps researchers organize data, map patterns of relationships between concepts, and present analysis results in a more systematic, structured, and in-depth way.

To ensure data validity, this study applied triangulation techniques by comparing data obtained from interviews, observations, and documentation. Triangulation was done to test the consistency of the information provided by informants regarding the implementation of participatory planning, the level of community involvement, and the use of Poskesdes services. Additionally, source triangulation was carried out by comparing information obtained from the village government, health workers, health cadres, and the community as service users. The implementation of this triangulation aims to enhance the credibility of the research findings and ensure that the data obtained reflects the actual conditions in the field. The application of triangulation aims to boost the credibility of research findings and ensure that the data collected reflect the real conditions in the field. To strengthen the validity of the data, this study also uses a member checking technique, which involves reconfirming the results of interviews, data interpretations, and research findings with the relevant informants. This technique is done to make sure that the information obtained and interpreted by the researcher matches the experiences, views, and intentions conveyed by the informants, thereby increasing the level of trust (credibility) in the research results.

This study also took research ethics into account by obtaining consent from informants prior to data collection. All information obtained was used solely for academic purposes and kept confidential. This step was taken to build trust with the informants and foster a more open data collection process, ensuring that the information gathered provides a comprehensive picture of the implementation of participatory planning in support of the utility of the Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Forms of Implementing Participatory Planning to Support Poskesdes Service Utility

The implementation of participatory planning to support Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village takes place through several stages that directly involve the community. These stages include identifying health problems and needs, village planning meetings, and the implementation of health programs. Community involvement at each

stage shows that village health development is not only the responsibility of the village government and health workers but also involves the community as an important player in the planning and implementation of programs.

Identifying Public

Health Problems and Needs The early stage of planning starts with collecting public health data by Posyandu volunteers and health workers. This activity aims to get a real picture of the community's health condition so that the programs designed can be adjusted to the actual needs. The data collected includes the condition of stunted toddlers, the health of pregnant women, the community's nutritional status, and various other health issues that require the attention of the village government and health workers. The village government uses the collected data as a basis for determining health program priorities. The information obtained from Posyandu volunteers becomes the main consideration in preparing activity plans and allocating the village budget, especially funds coming from the Village Fund. The Head of Tana Toro Village stated that: Before holding a planning meeting, the village government first requests data from the Posyandu (integrated health service post) volunteers, and that data is used as a guideline in planning discussions for budgeting, especially through Village Funds.

This statement shows that the village government doesn't carry out the planning process unilaterally. The village government first identifies the community's needs based on data collected from the field. Posyandu volunteers and health workers act as a bridge between the community and the village government because they have a direct understanding of the community's health conditions. Having this data helps the village government determine the most urgent and relevant health programs for the community (Saleh et al., 2025).

Research results show that the community not only plays a role as beneficiaries of health services, but also acts as a source of information in the preparation of village health programs. Community involvement in the needs identification process reflects the application of the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) approach proposed by Chambers (1997). This approach emphasizes the importance of community participation in recognizing problems and development needs in their own environment.

Village Development Planning Deliberation (Musrenbangdes)

The Village Development Planning Deliberation (Musrenbangdes) serves as the main platform for implementing participatory planning to support the utility of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. This forum brings together the village government and the community to discuss various development needs, including village health service programs. The implementation of Musrenbangdes involves the village government, the Village Consultative Body (BPD), health workers, Posyandu cadres, community leaders, women's leaders, and village residents. The involvement of these various groups shows that the health planning process is carried out openly and participatively. The community gets a chance to express the health needs and problems they face. Participants in the discussion talk over each proposal together to decide which health programs should be the village's priority. The Village Secretary explained that: Community participation in this planning process can be seen from their involvement in providing the necessary data and information, attending and giving opinions in discussions, and helping to determine the priority programs to be implemented.

This statement shows that community participation isn't just about showing up at meetings. People also play an active role in sharing information, giving input, and setting priorities for village health programs. The community's presence in the Musrenbangdes forum helps the village government understand the real needs felt by the people, especially concerning Poskesdes services, stunting prevention, maternal health services, and other health programs. The involvement of Posyandu cadres and health workers also strengthens decision-making because they have data and understanding of the community's health conditions. Interaction between the village government, health workers, and the community results in program planning that is more targeted and suited to field needs. The discussions during Musrenbangdes also show cooperation between the village government and the community in setting the direction village health development.

Community participation in the Village Development Planning Meeting (Musrenbangdes) shows that there is space for people to directly express their aspirations and health needs. This condition aligns with the Ladder of Citizen Participation theory proposed by Arnstein (1969). The form of community participation in Tana Toro Village is at the consultation and partnership level. This level of participation is seen from the community's involvement in discussion forums, submitting proposals, and determining priority programs together with the village government. The authority for final decision-making still lies with the village government, so the community does not yet have full control over the decision-making process (Saragih et al., 2022).

Program Implementation and Use of Community Health Post Services

The village government implements the planning results agreed upon in the Musrenbangdes through various public health service programs. These programs include Posyandu activities, prenatal check-ups,

provision of supplementary food (PMT), immunizations, health education, family planning services, as well as other basic health services. The implementation of these programs shows that the results of deliberations do not stop at the planning stage but are realized in concrete activities aimed at improving the quality of the village community's health. The village government and health workers cooperate to ensure that all health programs can be carried out properly and receive support from the village budget. The Village Midwife said: This cooperation is visible in the preparation of village-level planning through the Village Development Planning Meeting (Musrenbangdes), where health workers and the village government together input activities Village health posts like immunizations, maternal and child health services, family planning, and nutrition monitoring can be supported by the village budget.

This statement shows that healthcare workers are not just responsible for delivering health services, but also contribute to the planning and proposal of village health programs. The village government plays a strategic role by providing budget and policy support. The synergy between the village government and healthcare workers is an important factor in improving the usefulness of village health posts so that they meet the community's needs. Implementing health programs through village health posts provides significant benefits to the community by offering closer and more accessible health services. The presence of village health posts helps people living far from main health facilities, such as community health centers. Residents can receive basic health check-ups, maternal and child health services, immunizations, and health consultations without having to travel far long distance.

The ease of access encourages increased use of health services by the community. The village government also shows its commitment to improving community welfare through the health sector. Programs such as monitoring toddler nutrition, handling stunting, and health counseling are forms of the village government's attention to various health problems faced by the community (Zamzam et al., 2024). The implementation of these programs also encourages the community to be more active in using the health services available at the village health post (Poskesdes).

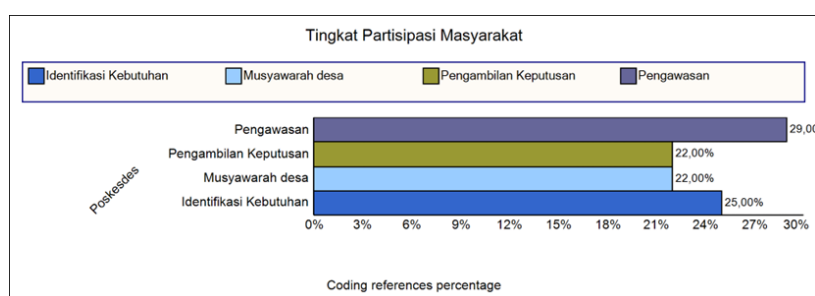


Figure 1. Level of community participation in supporting village health post services

Based on the results of data analysis using NVivo 12 software, the level of community participation in supporting the Poskesdes service in Tana Toro Village was analyzed through four main themes: needs assessment, village deliberation, decision-making, and oversight. The visualization in the figure above was compiled based on the results of coding data from interviews, observations, and documentation that had been grouped into themes of community participation. The percentages shown indicate the proportion of occurrences and the relevance of information within each theme relative to the entire research dataset. The indicator with the highest percentage is needs identification at 25%. This indicates that the community is quite active in voicing the health needs and issues they face. The community participates by offering proposals, suggestions, and information related to village health services. Next, village deliberations and decision-making each received a percentage of 22%. These results indicate that the community is present and involved in the deliberation process and discussions regarding village health programs, although final decisions are still largely influenced by the village government and health workers. Meanwhile, the “monitoring” indicator received the lowest percentage at 20%. This suggests that community involvement in monitoring the implementation of the Poskesdes program is still suboptimal. The community tends to be more active during the planning stage than during the program monitoring and evaluation stages. Overall, the NVivo 12 results indicate that community participation has been quite good, as community members have been involved in every stage of the Poskesdes activities. However, this participation is still more prominent during the needs assessment stage than during the program monitoring stage.

The findings of this study align with the research conducted by Rafsanjani & Anugrahini (2021). Their study showed that the community has been involved in the health development planning process, even though not all community proposals could be fully realized. Community involvement is seen in efforts to meet the health needs

of the village, while program implementation still considers budget availability and village government policies. This similarity in findings indicates that community participation in village health development has taken place through various planning mechanisms, even though implementation still faces some limitations. The findings of this study also support the results of research by Brata et al. (2022), which explained that the community has participated in the process of identifying village problems and needs. The level of community representation and synergy among stakeholders in the planning process still isn't running at its best. This shows that community participation in village health planning has improved, but it still needs strengthening in various aspects (Weraman, 2024). Village governments, health workers, health volunteers, and the community need to improve coordination and collaboration at every stage of health programs. These efforts can broaden overall community involvement and boost the effectiveness of village health program implementation. Programs that actively involve all elements of the community will result in health services that are more responsive to community needs and support the improvement of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village.

Factors Affecting the Level of Community Participation in Planning and Utilizing Poskesdes Services

The research results show that the level of community participation in planning and utilizing Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village is influenced by various interrelated factors. The level of community participation is not only determined by the availability of opportunities to get involved in village activities but is also affected by the social conditions of the community, the intensity of communication between the village government and the community, the community's awareness of the importance of health, and the availability of health service facilities. The research identified supporting and inhibiting factors that affect the level of community participation in supporting Poskesdes services.

Supporting Factors for Community Participation

The research shows that several factors play a role in increasing community participation in planning and utilizing Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. These factors make a significant contribution to community involvement in health planning activities as well as the implementation of village health programs. The success of health programs doesn't just depend on the role of the village government and health workers, but also requires active support from the community. Good cooperation between the village government, health workers, Posyandu cadres, and the community is one of the main supporting factors. This collaboration is seen in the planning process, the implementation of health activities, and the provision of services to the community. The village government provides support through policies and budget allocation, while health workers and Posyandu cadres deliver health services directly to the community. The community plays a role by actively participating in supporting various health activities carried out in the village.

The existence of village deliberative forums also supports increased community participation. These forums provide opportunities for community members to voice their aspirations, needs, and various health issues they face. The space for communication established between the community and the village government fosters a sense of ownership and shared responsibility for the sustainability of village health programs. This strengthens community involvement in the health development process. Community participation is also evident in the support provided to health workers during the delivery of health services. Community members assist health workers when residents require health services. This active role demonstrates social concern and strong cooperation in supporting village health services. A village midwife explained that: The community plays an important and active role in the implementation of health programs. This role is evident in the community's involvement in assisting health workers when residents require health services.

This statement indicates that the community serves not only as beneficiaries of health services but also as partners in supporting the implementation of village health programs. Community involvement reflects a strong collaborative relationship between the community and health workers in delivering more effective and accessible health services. The level of community awareness regarding the importance of health is also a factor that supports the utilization of Poskesdes services. Communities with a good understanding of health tend to be more active in participating in Posyandu activities, health checkups, immunizations, health education, and various other health service programs. This awareness encourages the community to pay closer attention to their own health and that of their family members, thereby ensuring that Poskesdes services are utilized to their fullest potential.

The community's understanding of the benefits of health services influences the success of village health programs. Communities with a high level of health awareness are more likely to participate in various health activities organized by the village government and health workers. This indicates that community knowledge and awareness are crucial factors in increasing community participation in health initiatives. Which shows that increased public awareness can encourage community involvement in village health services. These findings

indicate that the higher the level of public awareness regarding the importance of health, the greater the level of community participation in supporting health service programs.

Barriers to Community Participation

The research results reveal several factors that hinder community participation in the planning and utilization of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. These factors have prevented community involvement in village health activities from reaching its full potential. These barriers are evident in both the program planning process and the utilization of available health services. Low levels of public awareness and knowledge regarding the importance of participation in village health activities are among the primary obstacles. Some community members still view the village planning process as the responsibility of the village government, so their involvement in deliberations and health activities remains limited. The level of community understanding regarding the importance of routine health checkups and the use of Poskesdes services is also uneven. This situation is reinforced by a statement from the Village Secretary, who explained that: The main challenges faced in actively involving the community include low levels of public awareness and knowledge. In addition, people's busy schedules and economic factors also pose obstacles.

This statement indicates that low community participation is influenced by various factors, including limited knowledge, busy work schedules, and the community's economic conditions. People's busy schedules in meeting their economic needs mean that some do not have enough time to attend village meetings or participate in health care activities. Limited economic conditions also affect people's ability to access health care services on a regular basis. Geographical factors and limited access to the village health post (Poskesdes) also pose barriers to the use of health care services. Residents living far from the village health post face difficulties in accessing health services on a regular basis, especially when road conditions are poor. These conditions result in lower frequency of health service utilization. One resident directly articulated these barriers, stating that: The factors hindering the community from utilizing the village health post services are the long distance and poor access to the health post location.

This statement indicates that geographical conditions remain a significant obstacle to the delivery of health services in Tana Toro Village. The relatively long travel distances and inadequate road infrastructure make it difficult for some community members to access health services. These limitations result in low utilization rates of the village health post (Poskesdes) among residents living in areas with limited transportation access. Limited health facilities and infrastructure also hinder the optimization of village health services. Inadequate supporting facilities can affect the quality, comfort, and effectiveness of health services provided to the community. Substandard facilities may reduce the community's interest in utilizing health services because the available services are not yet fully capable of meeting their needs (Kodrianingsih et al., 2023).

Research findings indicate that geographic factors, economic conditions, limited facilities and infrastructure, and low public health awareness remain the main obstacles to optimizing Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. The Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) theory proposed by Chambers (1997) explains that low community participation is linked to suboptimal community empowerment processes and a lack of ownership of village health programs. Communities that do not yet understand the importance of health services tend to be less active in both the planning process and the utilization of Poskesdes services. These conditions indicate that strengthening community empowerment and increasing a sense of ownership of village health programs are crucial steps in enhancing community participation and supporting the sustainable success of Poskesdes services.

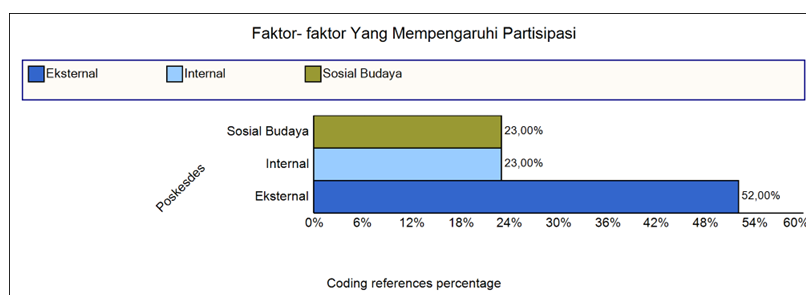


Figure 2. Factors influencing community participation

Based on the results of data analysis using NVivo 12 Plus, it appears that there are three main factors influencing community participation in supporting the Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village: external factors, internal factors, and sociocultural factors. The visualization in the figure above is based on the results of data coding obtained through in-depth interviews with village officials, health workers, and community members,

which were then corroborated by field observations and documentation. The analysis using NVivo 12 Plus was conducted to identify the most frequently emerging themes related to the level of community participation in supporting Poskesdes services. The most dominant factor was external factors, accounting for 52%. This indicates that community participation is more heavily influenced by factors external to the community itself, such as support from the village government, the role of village midwives and health cadres, program outreach, and the availability of health facilities and services. This support encourages the community to become more actively involved in Poskesdes activities. Furthermore, internal factors accounted for 23%. This factor relates to the community's awareness, willingness, knowledge, and motivation to participate in village health activities. Communities that understand the importance of health tend to be more active in supporting the Poskesdes program. Meanwhile, sociocultural factors also accounted for 23%. This indicates that social values, community customs, family ties, and a culture of mutual cooperation also influence the level of community participation in Poskesdes activities. Overall, the analysis of the NVivo 12 Plus results shows that external factors are the most influential in driving community participation in Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. Nevertheless, internal factors and sociocultural factors also make a significant contribution, as both play a role in shaping community awareness, motivation, and behavior regarding involvement in village health activities. These findings suggest that increasing community participation requires not only support from the village government and health workers but also efforts to raise public awareness and strengthen the social values that support engagement in village health development.

The findings of this study reinforce the results of a study conducted by Yushini et al. (2022). That study explained that the effectiveness of Poskesdes services is still influenced by limited facilities and infrastructure, operational barriers, and low levels of service utilization by the community. These results indicate that the success of health service delivery at the village level is highly dependent on the availability of adequate facilities and community support in utilizing the health services provided. Furthermore, this study aligns with the research by Mandias & Mkorowu (2023), which demonstrated that suboptimal planning and management of Poskesdes can affect the functionality of village health services. This reflects that improving the quality of village health services requires not only support from the village government and health workers but also increased community participation, improvements in infrastructure, and the strengthening of health management programs so that Poskesdes services can operate more effectively and sustainably.



Figure 3. Word cloud: Participatory planning and the utility of village health post services

Based on the results of data analysis using the NVivo 12 Plus software, the word cloud visualization shown in the figure above was compiled from data derived from in-depth interviews, field observations, and documentation that had undergone coding and thematic grouping. This visualization is used to identify the most dominant concepts emerging from the data, thereby providing an overview of the key issues related to participatory planning in supporting the utility of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. The analysis results show that the most dominant words are “services,” “healthcare,” “planning,” “government,” and “community.” This indicates that the research focuses on village health services through participatory planning involving the village government, health workers, and the community to support the utility of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. The words “services” and “healthcare” appear in the largest font sizes, indicating that health services are a critical need for the community, particularly basic health services at Poskesdes. Meanwhile, the term “planning” illustrates the importance of the planning process through the Village Development Planning Meeting (Musrenbangdes) and village health discussions that involve the community in articulating their health needs and issues. The appearance of the term “government” highlights the significant role of the village government in supporting community health services through the provision of funding, facilities, and collaboration with health

workers. In addition, the terms “participation,” “collaboration,” and “discussions” indicate community involvement in the planning and implementation of village health programs, although this participation has not yet been fully optimized. The NVivo results also indicate barriers to the use of Poskesdes services, as evidenced by the emergence of the terms “facilities,” “accessibility,” “distance,” and “road.” These barriers are related to road conditions, travel distance, and limited health facilities. Furthermore, the terms “knowledge,” “education,” and “awareness” suggest that the community’s level of knowledge and awareness also influence the utilization of health services. Some community members already have a strong awareness of the importance of routine health checkups, but there are still those who are less active due to traditional mindsets, limited information, and a lack of understanding regarding the importance of preventive health services. The emergence of the terms “midwife,” “nurses,” and “medical” underscores the crucial role of health workers as both service providers and educators for the community.

Upon further analysis using a cluster analysis approach, it is evident that the concepts of planning, government, community, and participation form a single thematic cluster that describes the participatory planning process in village health development. Meanwhile, the concepts of services, healthcare, midwife, and medical form a thematic cluster related to the delivery of health services. The concepts of “facilities,” “accessibility,” “distance,” and “road” form a thematic cluster that describes barriers to the use of health services. The relationships among these thematic clusters indicate that the level of utilization of Poskesdes services is influenced by the interrelationship between the quality of participatory planning, health service support, and community accessibility conditions. Based on the thematic hierarchy (coding hierarchy), the research findings indicate that participatory planning is the main theme, supported by the subthemes of community participation, collaboration, communication, and village government support. These themes are then linked to the health services theme, which encompasses Poskesdes services, health workers, and public health programs. This structural relationship indicates that the success of Poskesdes services does not stand alone but rather results from the interaction between the participatory planning process, institutional support from the village government, the role of health workers, and community involvement at every stage of the health program.

Thus, the word cloud generated by NVivo 12 shows that participatory planning is closely related to the utility of Poskesdes services in Tana Toro Village. The level of community involvement, support from the village government, the quality of health workers’ services, as well as the condition of facilities and accessibility of services are important factors influencing the success of village health services. These results also reinforce the study’s findings that increasing the utilization of Poskesdes services depends not only on the availability of health facilities but also on the extent to which the community is involved in the planning and implementation of health programs in the village.

CONCLUSION

This study shows that participatory community planning to support the utilization of Village Health Post (Poskesdes) services in Tana Toro Village was carried out through three main stages: identification of community health needs, village planning deliberations, and implementation of health programs. Community participation was most prominent during the needs identification stage, while involvement in program monitoring remained relatively low. Factors influencing community participation consist of external, internal, and sociocultural factors, with external factors—such as support from the village government, the role of health workers, and program outreach—being the most dominant. The study results indicate that community involvement in identifying health needs and in village planning meetings contributes to the development of health programs that are better aligned with community needs, thereby supporting the utilization of Poskesdes services.

The novelty of this study lies in the integration of the concept of participatory planning and the utilization of Poskesdes services through the application of the Ladder of Citizen Participation theory in the context of village health services, as well as the identification of the dominant factors influencing community participation. This study has limitations because it was conducted in only one village with a limited number of informants and used a case study design; therefore, the findings cannot be widely generalized. Consequently, future research is recommended to involve a broader study area and a more diverse group of informants to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between participatory planning and the utilization of village health services.

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