

DISTANCE EDUCATION (PJJ) PROGRAM

MORE THAN 116,000 NURSES AND MIDWIVES IN INDONESIA ONLY GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND DIPLOMA I

In accordance with the regulations and policies of the Ministry of Health, the minimum qualification for nurses and midwives is Diploma III (Health Minister Regulation No. 17 of 2013 and Health Minister Regulation (Permenkes) No. 1464/menkes/Per/X/2010). In fact, however, there are more than 116,000 nurses and midwives who provide health services throughout districts/cities in Indonesia only graduated from high school and diploma I, or not equal to diploma III.

The big challenge faced by the central and local governments is how to improve the qualifications of nurses and midwives without they have to leave their work places at puskesmas, clinics, hospitals and other healthcare facilities, so that the public service remains undisturbed, especially for those who serve in Disadvantaged Areas, Borders and Islands (DTPK) and regions with health problems (DBK) such as parts of East Nusa Tenggara, Papua, West Papua and East Kalimantan

CRITERIA OF TARGETED NURSES, MIDWIVES AND AREAS FOR PILOTING

The distance education program is especially designed for nurses and midwives who meet the following criteria:

- Still active working as civil servants (PNS)
- Possible to attend the program without having to leave jobs
- Must get study permit from related parties (work place)

The first phase of this program prioritizes Study Program (Prodi) of Nursing and Midwifery organized by health polytechnic (Poltekkes) in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) and East Kalimantan. Funding for distance education in East Nusa Tenggara is supported by the Government of Australia through the Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Health Systems Strengthening (AIPHSS), while the piloting in East Kalimantan is directly funded by the Regional Government. In the future, the distance education will be developed in other regions according to the needs of each region with the supports of local government.

HOW THE LEARNING IS APPLIED

The distance education (PJJ) implements a dual mode and self-learning system (40% guided and 60% self learning). This system emphasizes Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the learning interaction, communication, distribution of e-materials and administration. The learning interaction itself is divided into three namely:

1. Self learning which uses e-materials (interactive pdf, slide presentations, video/audio presentations and multimedia).
2. Guided learning which is divided into face to face and media tutorials (video-conference)
3. Guided practice which consists of laboratory and clinical practices.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

On 16 July 2013 the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, Mrs. dr. Nafsiah Mboi, SpA, MPH inaugurated the Development Unit of Distance Education and Training (UPPJJ) at the Ministry of Health. Coinciding with the event, also established organizing institutions of PJJ at provincial level (Poltekkes) and the Distance Learning Resource Unit (USBJJ) in the target districts. Concurrently, cooperation and partnership with the local governments, health offices, hospitals, puskesmas were also built to gain supports and commitment from local authorities.

Human Resources (HR) aspect plays an important role in the management of PJJ. Therefore, tutors, UPPJJ managers, USBJJ managers, learning support service personnel, as well as technicians of network management and application (digitization system) have also been trained.

INFRASTRUCTURE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Infrastructure procurement is carried out at central, provincial (Poltekkes) and selected districts / cities (USBJJ) including the maintenance, development and training for managers, internet connection using a Virtual Private Network (VPN) of the National Health Information System (Siknas) belonging to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia. The PJJ website portal and Learning Management System have also been constructed to help learners access the 456 learning modules which have been converted into digitization system (e-material).

CURRICULUM AND LEARNING IMPLEMENTATION

The PJJ program will be completed in eight semesters (or four years). The academic calendar of PJJ follows the national academic calendar at each Poltekkes. Guidelines for the learning implementation have been developed, among others are guidelines for tutorials, laboratory practice, clinical practice, and learning results evaluation. For teaching materials, as many as 456 modules are available and ready to be converted into e-material through digitization process.

SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships for students are also provided by PJJ organiser. The scholarship include components of living cost and operating cost (tuition, transportation and accommodation for face to face tutorials, and per diem), books and annual reference.

LICENSE FOR OPERATING PJJ

The Ministry of Education and Culture through the Directorate General of Higher Education (DIKTI) has given the mandate to organize PJJ program for D-III Nursing and D-III Midwifery studies through:

- Letter of the Director General of DIKTI no. 457/E.E2/DK/2014 dated 26 May 2014 (MoH Poltekkes in Kupang)
- Letter of the Director General of DIKTI no. 458/E.E2/DK/2014 dated 26 May 2014 (MoH Poltekkes in KalTim)