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ABSTRACT

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DESCRIPTION OF PERSONAL HYGIENE AND THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT BY GARBAGE COLLECTION WORKERS IN TASIKMALAYA CITY

Garbage collectors are workers with a high risk of exposure to waste and occupational diseases, making personal hygiene and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) highly important. However, the implementation of both practices is not yet fully optimal in the field. This study aims to analyze personal hygiene and PPE use among garbage collectors under the Environmental Service Office (Dinas Lingkungan Hidup) of Tasikmalaya City. The population consisted of 107 garbage collectors, with 85 selected through accidental sampling. This study used a descriptive quantitative method with a cross-sectional approach. The variables observed included personal hygiene and PPE usage. Data were collected through observation and interviews using a checklist, then analyzed using univariate analysis. The results showed that most respondents had good personal hygiene (85.9%), although weaknesses remained in handwashing habits before work and maintaining nail hygiene. On the other hand, PPE usage was very low, with 98.8% of respondents classified in the poor category. The main obstacles included limited PPE availability, lack of education, insufficient supervision, and inadequate supporting facilities. It can be concluded that while personal hygiene practices are generally good, PPE usage needs substantial improvement. Continuous efforts from the Environmental Service Office of Tasikmalaya City are necessary to provide standard-compliant PPE, enhance hygiene education, strengthen supervision, and improve workplace facilities to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for garbage collectors.

Keywords: *personal hygiene, PPE, garbage collectors*