



IDENTIFICATION OF CHARACTERISTICS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS IN MENTAL HOSPITAL

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Schizophrenia is a group of disorders characterized by hallucinations, delusions, changes in thought flow, affect, and agitation. This disease attacks people of various ages, genders, and educational and economic levels. The purpose of this study is to identify the characteristics of patients with schizophrenia in mental hospitals. **Methods:** This quantitative research used a descriptive approach, with a sample of 319 patients. Data was taken using a purposive sampling technique, the data source was from the medical records of the Menur Mental Hospital, Surabaya in January-March 2023. Variables, namely the characteristics of schizophrenia patients, include age, gender, education, employment, and marital status. Data analysis uses quantitative description. **Results:** The average age of patients is 25-44 years with a mean value (2.78), the largest age is 25-44 years (37.6%), 3-4 years (20.1%), a small percentage is >65 years (4.4 %), there were more men (63.3%) than women, the majority, 77.1%, did not work, the majority of patients had a high school or equivalent education (36.7%), and 68% were not married. **Conclusions:** Characteristics of schizophrenic patients, most of them are adults, men, not working, lower middle school education, and not married. Identification of important characteristics is used as basic information in early patient treatment.

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INTRODUCTION

Schizophrenia attacks people throughout the world in all races, genders, and economic strata in childhood, adolescence, and adulthood (Rindayati et al., 2021). The term schizophrenia first appeared in 1908, coined by Eugen Bleuler (Ashok, et al., 2012). Schizophrenia is defined as a severe and chronic mental illness, with disturbances in cognition, emotions, perception, and decreased motivation (Manhas et al., 2019; Subedi et al., 2020). The causes of schizophrenia can be determined from various factors including genetics, the environment, or the presence of organic disorders or trauma (Souraya et al., 2018). People with schizophrenia will appear to have unrealistic, strange, arbitrary, lazy, or unproductive behavior so that all their needs become a burden on the family, environment, and state (Azman, et al, 2019). So knowing the characteristics of this disease is very important for early detection of disorders so that help can be given immediately (Xiong, et al., 2022).

This disease affects 1% of the world's population and is the highest-ranking disease

resulting from disability, contributing 1.1% of the total DALYs (Disability Adjusted Life Year) and 2.8% of YLDs (years of life lived with disability or years lived with disability) (Global Burden of Disease Study (GBD), 2017). The prevalence of schizophrenia in Indonesia, according to the results of the 2018 Riskesdas report, always increases every year (Kementrian Kesehatan RI, 2018). Several research results report that schizophrenia affects more men than women (Wang & Wang, 2020), and many of them do not have jobs, so they become a burden on their families (Kretchy, et al., 2018). As for schizophrenia in children, although the number is relatively smaller than in adolescents and adults, the number continues to increase (Lin & Lane, 2019).

Human life with its various problems can cause schizophrenia. However, two categories are very important to pay attention to, namely long-term and short-term causes (Marie Sh. et al., 2020). From these causes, the characteristics of schizophrenia can be identified, for example, the occurrence of schizophrenia from genetic factors



Other characteristics can also be triggered by environmental factors, for example when teenagers are unstable and looking for identity, children are bullied by peers which ultimately gives rise to schizophrenia in them (Ah Yusuf, 2018; Rindayati, 2023). If you do not recognize the characteristics of this disease, the disease will become more severe and chronic. The impact of delayed treatment will trigger the risk of suicide, aggressive behavior, self-harm, and endanger the environment, as well as much more expensive treatment costs (Hafner, 2019; Gallagher et al., 2020).

Efforts to identify the characteristics of schizophrenia are similar in other countries and the rest of the world (Yildiz et al., 2010). Each health service will identify demographic data before providing services for treatment and care (Kemestrian Kesehatan RI, 2018). Apart from health services, in Indonesia, early detection can also be carried out in the community through cadres for early detection of mental disorders or can be carried out among school children through the School Health Business (Rindayati et al., (2021). Early detection of the characteristics of schizophrenia is very important in efforts to prevent and treat it early. This research aims to identify the characteristics of schizophrenia patients in a mental hospital.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This quantitative research with a descriptive design is intended to systematically describe the results of the exploration and clarification of research subjects and objects based on the variables tested (Ishtiaq, 2019). This study describes the characteristics of schizophrenia patients, which was conducted January-March 2023, at the Menur Mental Hospital, Surabaya.

The population here is the number of people studied according to established criteria (Realtor University Library, 2015). The population in this study were all schizophrenic patients at the Menur Mental Hospital Surabaya Outpatient

RESULTS

The research was conducted in the outpatient medical records room at Menur Mental Hospital, Surabaya, from March 27 to 31, 2023, using patient data from January to March 2023.

Installation in January-March 2023, totaling 1575 patients. Furthermore, the sample taken was 319 respondents, obtained using the Slovin Formula calculation, with a purposive sampling technique, namely taking samples according to the inclusion criteria in this study (Nursalam, 2020).

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(a)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{1575}{1 + 1575(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = 318.98$$

$$n = 319$$

The research instrument is a tool used to measure the observed natural and social phenomena (Kretchy et al., 2018). In this study, researchers used an observation sheet (checklist) from the TBP-AJZEN research instrument (2006) to collect data, including demographic data and patient medical records. The data taken by researchers came from the documentation of patient medical records at the Outpatient Installation of Menur Hospital, Surabaya in March 2023, consisting of 5 questions, namely age, gender, education, occupation, and marital status.

Data processing includes 1) Editing is checking the completeness of the questionnaire contents. 2) Coding, namely classifying answers, with codes. Data management is collecting data and coding it according to categories in the form of numbers. 3) Scoring, which is giving grades using categories and scores. The assessment of the results of data collection from the questionnaire is given a score in the form of a number code. 4) Tabulating by entering data into a table, and calculating the frequency of each data collected. 5) Percentage is a grouping activity in the frequency distribution table, carrying out calculations using a formula to obtain a percentage.

Data analysis used quantitative descriptive analysis with the SPSS version 29.0 application. Descriptive analysis was carried out to identify characteristics: of age, gender, education, employment, and marital status in schizophrenia patients.

319 schizophrenia patients participated in the study. Five indicators describe the characteristics of respondents in this study: age, gender, education, employment, and marital status.

Table 1. Characteristics Respondent Based on Age in Menur Mental Hospital 2023 (n=319).

Age (Year)	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
3-14	64	20.1		
15-24	45	14.1		
25-44	120	37.6	2.78	1.147
45-65	76	23.8		
>65	14	4.4		

Age (Year)	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Total	319	100		

Table 1 shows that the average age of respondents is 25-44 years with a mean value (2.78). Almost half, namely 25-44 years (37.6%), and a small number of respondents over 65 years (4.4%), can be interpreted as adult schizophrenia sufferers as productive individuals.

Table 2. Characteristics Respondent Based on Gender in Menur Mental Hospital 2023 (n=319).

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Male	218	68.2	1.32	.466
Female	101	32.0		
Total	319	100		

Table 2 shows that the average patient gender is male with a mean value of (1.32). Most of the patients were male, 218 respondents (68.0%), and almost half were female, 101 respondents (32.0%), which means that schizophrenia is more dominated by men than women.

Table 3. Characteristics Respondent Based on Educational in Menur Mental Hospital 2023 (n=319).

Educational	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
No School	52	16.3	3.94	1.633
Kindergarten	10	3.1		
Elementary School	48	15.0		
High School	48	15.0		
High School	117	36.7		
Higher Education	44	13.9		
Total	319	100		

Table 3 shows the average education level of the respondents, high school with a mean value (3.94). Almost half were from high schools, namely 117 respondents (36.7%), and a small part were from kindergartens, 10 patients (3.1%). This can mean that the patient can attend education up to the high school level.

Table 4. Characteristics Respondent Based on Work in Menur Mental Hospital 2023 (n=319).

Work	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Not Working	246	77.1	1.37	.786
Labor	44	13.8		
Self-employed/farmer/ fishermen	13	4.1		
Civil servants/ Army/Police	16	5.0		
Total	319	100		

Table 4 shows the average number of respondents not working with a mean value (1.37). Almost all of them do not work as many as 246 respondents (77.1%), and a small number are self-employed/farmers/fishermen as many as 13 respondents (4.1%), which means that sufferers are still able to work as farmers and fishermen. Still, most of them are lazy and therefore unemployed.

Table 5. Characteristics Respondent Based on Marital Status in Menur Mental Hospital 2023 (n=319).

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Not married	217	68.0	1.42	.726
Married	82	25.7		
Divorce	12	3.8		
Widower	5	1.6		
Widow	3	0.9		
Total	319	100		

Table 5 shows that the average marriage status is not marriage, with a mean value (1.42). Most of them were not married, namely, 217 respondents (68.0%), and a small proportion were widows, 3 respondents (0.9%), which can be interpreted as most schizophrenia sufferers do not have a partner.

DISCUSSION

Characteristics of schizophrenic patients

The characteristics of schizophrenia patients in this study were found to be on average adult age, male, with low education, self-employed/farmer work, and not married. The results of the research on the age characteristics of respondents were an average of 25-44 years old in

the adult age category. Several research results indicate that schizophrenia occurs in adolescents to the elderly, but those who visit mental hospitals are mostly adults (Aimola, et al., 2019). The results of this study are in line with research by Marie, et al., (2020) which explains that schizophrenia is a chronic mental illness that occurs mostly in adults.

Even though the first symptoms of schizophrenia appear at a young age, most patients who go to mental hospitals for treatment are adults, because schizophrenia is a chronic disease, with a long recovery period (Province, 2020). Most schizophrenic patients are adults, although when the symptoms of the disease appear some are teenagers, but this disease is a chronic disease, so until adulthood, the recovery period is still not complete. Adulthood is a productive age, and this greatly influences the family's economy, so the burden borne by the family becomes greater.

Gender Characteristics

The gender of schizophrenia patients was found to be mostly male. The results of this study are by information that schizophrenia patients who come for treatment to hospitals are mostly men (Bademli & Lok, 2020). These results are in line with Inogbo et al., (2017) who stated that more men suffer from schizophrenia than women, so the burden on caregivers who care for them is greater because the sick are the family's economic support. Several previous studies have informed that schizophrenia is more common in men than women, because women have the hormone estrogen which can protect women from several types of diseases, including schizophrenia (Desai & Nayak, 2019).

Schizophrenia affects more men than women because physiologically, the presence of the hormone estrogen helps women from schizophrenia attacks. If we look at the economic burden on the family, the role of men in meeting economic needs is lost, because schizophrenic patients are very unproductive.

Educational characteristics

The education of schizophrenia patients in the study was mostly high school. These results are by research by Hafner, (2019), which states that schizophrenia patients are more likely to suffer from someone with a high school education level. This is also in line with previous research that shows that individuals with schizophrenia are more likely to be male than female (Manhas et al., 2019)

Several previous researchers reported that many people with schizophrenia suffer from high school education. They are no longer able to go to further school because most of them come from lower middle-class economic backgrounds (Fitryasari, et al., 2018). The education of schizophrenic patients who are in high school is caused by various factors, namely, firstly, economic incompetence, where most schizophrenic patients are from poor

socioeconomic backgrounds, secondly, patients have difficulty concentrating so that it is difficult to focus their thoughts, and thirdly, the repeated relapses experienced by patients cause difficult to continue to a higher level of education. In addition to factors from the characteristics of schizophrenic families, low/poor quality of life of schizophrenic families can also occur due to lack of support in dealing with or caring for schizophrenic patients. By providing support to family members, able to help families in dealing with problems, provide motivation and confidence, to improve the quality of life of families with schizophrenia.

Job Characteristics

Occupation in schizophrenic patients on average patients does not work with a mean value (of 1.37). The results of this study are appropriate with research by Manhas et al., (2019), that schizophrenia patients are dominated by someone who is unemployed or does not work. This was also confirmed by Hafner, (2019), who stated that Schizophrenia patients are dominated by people who do not work because society's stigma against schizophrenia patients makes it difficult to get work. Apart from that, patients experience decreased motivation, where the patient is lazy about doing work, so it becomes a burden on the family (Rindayati, et al., 2021). Schizophrenia patients do not work due to various factors, namely stigma and discrimination by society which makes it difficult for patients to get work. Decreased motivation in patients results in laziness so patients are unproductive. However, there are still patients who can work, with light-level work or working under supervision.

Characteristics of marital status

The marital status of schizophrenia patients is on average unmarried with a mean value of (1.42). The results of this study follow the research of Desai & Nayak, (2019), which informs that those who are not married have a greater proportion than those who are married. Similar research also informs that most patients with schizophrenia are not married, but some are married, but their partner asks for a divorce (Kretchy et al., 2018). The public stigma that people with schizophrenia are a cursed disease makes it difficult for patients to find a mate. Marriages that have the aim of continuing their offspring can make someone think twice about marrying a family member to someone who is schizophrenic.

CONCLUSIONS

The characteristics of patients with schizophrenia are: mostly adults; the most common gender is male; average high school

education level; work is almost entirely unemployed; average marital status is not married. It is very important to explore in more detail the characteristics of schizophrenia patients at the age of onset of the disease.

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