

ABSTRACT

Work Partnership (Networking) Effort to Decrease Cataract Patient Backlog in Surabaya City

The blindness prevalence rate of East Java province is 1.2% and 52% is caused by cataract. The increased prevalence of cataract blindness in Surabaya from 2002 to 2003 was 5,06 % in-line with population growth. A network is an effort to involve components of government and non-governmental organization to work together in harmony achieving common goal based on consent of each capacity, role and principles. The objective of this research was to formulate a networking as an effort to decrease cataract backlog in the city of Surabaya.

This was an observational explorative research conducted in May and June 2005. Data was collected by indepth-interviews from 82 respondents, constituted of 16 people from the stakeholders i.e. the Surabaya Municipal Health Office (SMHO), Community Eye Health Clinic (CEHC), East Java - Indonesian Eye Specialist's Association (IESA), Christoffel Blinden Mission (CBM) and Public Health Center (PHC). 10 people were PHC eye program personnel and 56 patients of free public cataract operation. Data was analyzed descriptively and an alternative model was formulated. This alternative model was then presented to all stakeholders to obtain a partnership draft.

From the result of the research, strategic issues were acquired. These were issues to be seriously handled in order to formulate the work partnership (networking), among others were: the necessity of common vision, and mission of the institution, the incompatibilities of organization objective with agreed norms, the undocumented authority and responsibility of each organization, the overlapping of main duties/function, and of responsibilities and authorities, the limited resources of PHC health personnel and PHC/CEHC eye health tool and means.

The recommendations were: 1) the need to re-manage and re-adjust organization capability and capacity; 2) the SMHO held a position of the leading sector; 3) East Java CEHC functioned as the consultant, surgery team and referral center; 4) PHC as the front-liner; 5) IESA and CBM as the supporting elements for eye health activities; 6) a follow up research to study the benefit of this work partnership.

Key words: partnership, decrease, cataract backlog,