Abstract

*Pathogenic Bacteria On Health Care Worker’s Mobile Phone in Dr. Soetomo General Hospital Surabaya*

Intan Nadia Putri, 011211132018. Medical Faculty of Airlangga University, Surabaya, Indonesia.

**Introduction:** This research aims to find out if mobile phones of health care workers in Dr. Soetomo General Hospital Surabaya could be the source of pathogenic bacteria contamination in hospital setting by identifying bacteria found on health care’s mobile phone’s surface.

**Method:** The method used in this study was descriptive. The sample was health care worker’s mobile phone that works in Intensive Care Unit in Dr. Soetomo General Hospital Surabaya. Mobile phones was steriley swabbed and brought immediately to Microbiology Laboratory in Medicine Faculty of Airlangga University for further identification.

**Result:** A total of 30 mobile phones have been the subject of this research, and 96% (29 out of 30) were contaminated. *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* were predominantly found on the mobile phones; respectively 80.0% and 43.3% of all mobile phones.

**Conclusion:** The prevalence of mobile phone contamination is high; hence mobile phone could be a source of contamination inside a hospital setting. While most of the isolated bacteria can be considered as non-pathogenic, but many recent studies described their potential harm particularly for immune compromised patients and/or patients admitted in intensive care units. *Staphylococcus aureus* and Gram-negative bacteria on mobile phones is a major concern and therefore needs an effort to consider a guideline for mobile phone disinfection.

**Keywords:** mobile phone, contamination, health care worker, hygiene, bacteria