

Original Article

Relationship between Predisposing Factors and Compliance with the Use of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) among Workers at Steel Industry of PT X

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ABSTRACT

Predisposing factors in this paper refer to factors that facilitate compliance behavior in the use of PPE in the workplace. This study aims to determine the relationship between predisposing factors of age, years of service, attitudes and knowledge with the compliance with the use of PPE at PT X. This study applied a cross-sectional approach. The sample size was 60 workshop workers. This study was conducted from November 2022 to February 2023. The instruments were questionnaire and observation sheet. The chi-square test results showed that age ($p=0.517$) and years of service ($p=0.530$) showed no relationship with the use of PPE. Furthermore, there was a relationship between compliance with the use of PPE among workers with knowledge ($p=0.016$) and attitude ($p=0.006$). The result of multivariate analysis test showed that knowledge ($p=0.035$) and attitude ($p=0.013$) significantly affected compliance with the use of PPE. In addition, it was found that there was a relationship between knowledge and attitudes with compliance with the use of PPE. Companies need to improve the leadership style of supervisors through influencing and motivating workers. Several practices involve providing a sense of comfort, supporting workers while working or using PPE, so that workers can positively influence other workers in carrying out the company's vision and mission and using PPE to reduce accident rates.

Keywords: *Predisposing factors, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Compliance, Steel industry*

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INTRODUCTION

The steel industry is a sector that has a strategic role in efforts to establish national economic independence. Such sector has an effect on increasing the absorption of natural resources and the use of industrial tools and materials used from input, process to output of goods and services¹. The industry's complexity of processes creates physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards that can cause accidents². Therefore, the application of occupational safety and health is a major requirement to protect and prevent accidents in the workplace. The International Labor Organization (ILO) in 2018 noted that around 2.78 million workers died due to work accidents and work-related diseases³. According to data derived from BPJS Employment in Indonesia in

2019, there were 77,295 cases of work accidents⁴. Meanwhile, there were 1,468 work accidents in 2017 and 2,329 accident cases in Central Java in 2018⁵.

The high rate of accidents emphasizes that risk control must be carried out in certain ways, such as elimination, substitution, technical control, administrative control and the use of personal protective equipment⁶. As with the use of PPE, even though the company has provided PPE, workers are still found to be not comply with the use of PPE. According to Lagata (2015), the workplace compliance level was still poor⁷. 35.6% of workers in the production department of manufacturing industry had a low level of compliance regarding the use of PPE⁸.

Occupational safety health and administration defines PPE as equipment used

to minimize exposure to hazards in the workplace ⁹. It is in accordance with PERMENAKERTRANS 2010 concerning PPE that PPE consists of safety helmets, safety goggles, safety shoes, face shields, ear plugs/ear muffs, safety gloves, masks, and aprons (overall).

PT X is a hydromechanical company that uses steel in its production. Based on accident data at the company in 2020, there were seven accident cases, including one medical treatment case and six first aids acts. During the production process, workers are in direct contact with marking, grinding, cutting, assembling, sandblasting and painting activities and are at risk of experiencing work accidents. The equipment used includes welding machines, grinding machines, turning machines, cutting machines, plasma cutting, sandblasting machines, overhead cranes. Certain production processes can potentially cause hazards and risks of work accidents ¹⁰.

In its study, the National Safety Council stated that unsafe actions caused 87% of workplace accidents and mechanics, and the environment 11 caused 78%. According to Notoatmodjo (2014), behavior regarding compliance with the use of PPE is motivated by 3 main factors, one of which is predisposing factors, namely personal considerations of an individual or group that influence the occurrence of a behavior which includes the level of knowledge, education, attitude, age, behavior and years of service ^{12,13}.

Knowledge is often become one of the predisposing factors used in studies on individual behavior, such as behavior regarding the use of PPE. Higher education levels tend to lead to better knowledge. Many workers were found to have negative attitudes related to low levels of behavior regarding the use of PPE ¹⁴.

The International Labor Organization (1989) states that age and length of service are key factors that cause accidents, but it must also be remembered that age cannot be directly equated with the years of service. In addition, a study conducted in America proved that lack of work experience was the most important factor in causing workplace accidents ¹⁵. According to Geller's (2001) safety triad theory, compliance is one of the factors in the behavioral component which is influenced by the interaction of personal factors and environment components ^{16,17}. According to Sari (2012) 26.3% of workers who did not use PPE were at

risk of having an accident while working. This indicated that there was a relationship between compliance behavior regarding the use of PPE and accidents experienced by workers ^{18,19}. A similar study was conducted in 2017 regarding the relationship between predisposing factors and the behavior of using PPE among workers. It's just that several factors such as place, time, respondent characteristics, sample size and several variables were found to have no relationship.

This study was conducted to determine the relationship between predisposing factors (knowledge, attitude, age and years of service) and compliance with the use of PPE among workers at PT X.

METHOD

This study was conducted at PT X in November 2022-February 2203. This was a quantitative observational study with cross sectional design. The population involved workers in the production department of PT X as many as 113 workers. The inclusion criterion was workers in workshop. The number of samples was determined using the Slovin formula namely 10% of population, and obtained a minimum sample of 55 which was then made 60 workers. The samples were selected using simple random sampling. The dependent variable studied was compliance with the use of PPE, while the independent variables were level of knowledge, attitude, age and years of service. Ordinal scale measurement was applied for knowledge assessment (true=1 wrong=0), attitude assessment (agree=1 and disagree=0) and for compliance (complied with= 1 and did not comply with=0).

The data collection method was in the from of primary data obtained by direct interviews with workshop workers using a questionnaire instrument. Validity test was initially performed. Data obtained were further analyzed univariately and bivariately. Univariate results were displayed in the form of a frequency distribution and narrative presentation. Furthermore, bivariate analysis results were displayed in the form of a cross tabulation. Using the chi-square test based on continuity correction, bivariate analysis was applied to determine the relationship between dependent and independent variables. The contingency table is 2x2 and the expected count

is less than 5. Multivariate analysis applied logistic regression to determine the most influential relationship between variable. The variables used in this test were obtained based on the bivariate analysis test results for the p-value of $\leq \alpha$ (0.025), which were then used for the multivariate analysis test.

RESULTS

From the questionnaire distributed to the respondents, the characteristics of respondents regarding age, education and years of service among workers at PT X were obtained.

Table 1. Frequency Distribution by Age and Years of Service at PT X

Faktor Predisposing	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age		
Young (≤ 36 years)	34	56.7%
Old (> 36 years)	26	43.3%
Years of Service		
Not Long (5 years)	27	45.0 %
Long (> 5 years)	33	55.0 %

Based on Table 1, it was shown that most of the respondents were aged ≤ 36 years with a total of 35 respondents (56.7%), and 26 respondents (43.3%) were aged > 36 years. Meanwhile, the distribution of years of service

revealed that 33 respondents (55.0%) had been working for > 5 years and 27 respondents (45.0%) had been working for 5 years.

Table 2. Frequency Distribution of Knowledge, Attitude, and Compliance with PPE among Workers at PT X

Variable		F	Percentage (%)
Knowledge	Poor	39	65.0%
	Good	21	35.0%
Attitude	Negative	27	45.0%
	Positive	33	55.0%
Compliance	Did not	34	56.7%
	Comply with		
	Complied with	26	43.3%

Based on Table 2, it was shown that 21 respondents (35%) had good level of knowledge and 39 respondents (65%) had poor level of knowledge. Regarding attitude towards compliance with the use of PPE among production workers at PT X, 33 respondents (55.0%) had positive attitudes, while 27 respondents (45.0%) had negative attitude. The frequency distribution on the level of compliance with the use of PPE among production workers at PT X showed that 26 respondents (43.3%) complied with the use of PPE and 34 respondents (56.7%) did not complied with the use of PPE.

Table 3. Relationship Between Knowledge, Attitude, Age, and Years of Service with Compliance with PPE Use

Variable	Compliance with PPE Use							p-value	Prevalence Ratio
	Did not Comply with		Complied with		Total				
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%			
Knowledge	Poor	27	69.2%	12	30.8%	39	100%	0.016*	2.333
	Good	7	33.3%	14	66.7%	21	100%		
Attitude	Negative	21	77.8%	6	22.2%	27	100%	0.006*	2.729
	Positive	13	39.4%	20	60.6%	33	100%		
Age	Young	21	61.8%	13	38.2%	34	100%	0.517	0.764
	Old	13	50.0%	13	50.0%	26	100%		
Years of Service	Not Long	17	63.0%	10	37.0%	27	100%	0.530	0.764
	Long	17	51.5%	16	48.5%	33	100%		

* ρ -value = < 0.05

Table 3. Multivariate Analysis of Logistic Regression on the Relationship Between Knowledge, Attitude, Age, and Years of Service with Compliance with PPE Use.

Variable	B	Sig	Exp(B)	CI 95%	
				Min	Max
Knowledge	1.553	.035*	4.725	1.360	16.418
Attitude	1.552	.013*	4.720	1.407	15.831
Constant	-4.504	.001	.011		

DISCUSSION

Relationship between Knowledge and Compliance with the Use of PPE

The Chi-Square test results show a relationship between knowledge and compliance with the use of PPE with a Prevalence Ratio of 2.333. Statistically, it can be concluded that good knowledge had a 2.333 times greater chance of complying with the use of PPE properly compared to respondents with poor knowledge. Although knowledge is not always associated with behavior change, many studies showed that there was a positive relationship between knowledge and compliance behavior. Such finding is also similar to a previous study conducted by Iriani, (2019) which stated that there was a relationship between knowledge and compliance with the use of PPE²⁰. A good level of knowledge will create good attitudes and behavior so that workers can comply with the use of PPE. Another study by Kurusi (2020) also found a relationship between knowledge and compliance with the use of PPE²¹. Furthermore, a study conducted by F. Ayu (2018) also revealed that there was a relationship between knowledge and compliance with the use of PPE^{22,23}. In addition, a study conducted by Maharja (2018) also found that knowledge influenced attitudes and compliance in implementing OSH culture in the workplace²⁴. Thus, knowledge is an important factor for the formation of one's actions or attitudes. Knowledge of PPE among workers aims to find out all events that may occur if they do not use PPE. Good knowledge will always have a good impact and vice versa, if workers do not understand the use of PPE, it will certainly have a negative impact²³.

Relationship between Attitude and Compliance with the Use of PPE

The Chi-Square test results show a significant relationship between attitude and

compliance with the use of PPE with a Prevalence Ratio of 2.729. Statistically, it can be concluded that a positive attitude had a 2.729 greater chance of complying with the use of PPE compared to respondents who had a negative attitude. Attitude is a person's tendency or predisposition to accept or reject an object according to the value that is claimed to be good or bad. The better a person's attitude is formed, the better they will comply with the use of personal protective equipment. If workers' attitudes are good, they should comply more with the use of personal protective equipment²⁵. A study conducted by Devila (2022) found that there was a relationship between attitude and compliance with the use of PPE²⁶. A study conducted by Akbar & H, (2020) similarly found that there was a relationship between attitude and compliance with the use of PPE²⁷. A study conducted by Rahmatilah (2020) further revealed that there was a relationship between attitude and compliance with the use of PPE²⁸. In theory, workers may understand attitudes related to the use of PPE, but in practice they do not always apply such compliance attitude. They may feel uncomfortable or do not move freely when carrying out their activities and think that PPE slows down their time for work, so workers often remove them if there is no supervisor at work.

Relationship between Age and Compliance with the Use of PPE

The Chi-Square test results show no relationship between age and compliance with the use of PPE with a Prevalence Ratio of 0.764. Such finding is confirmed with a study conducted by Azizah (2021) which found that there was no relationship between age and compliance with the use of PPE among workers²⁹. A study conducted by Ayu (2018) further revealed that there was no relationship between age and compliance with the use of PPE³⁰. Someone who is of mature age and has

worked for a long time does not guarantee that he or she can comply with the use of PPE³¹. Workers compliance in using personal protective equipment (PPE) is not parallel to the age level, either in the younger or the older age group, because over time, individuals' physical and mental development will change, depending on the type of work³². This is proven by similar percentage between young people and old people regarding compliance with the use of PPE. Thus, age did not have a significant relationship with compliance with the use of PPE.

Relationship between Years of Service and Compliance with the Use of PPE

After conducting an analysis using Chi-Square test, it was found that there was no relationship between years of service and compliance with the use of PPE with a Prevalence Ratio of 0.764. According to Notoatmodjo (2012), years of service is a characteristic factor that shapes behavior³³. The longer years of service in the workplace will make workers more aware of environmental conditions and hazards in the workplace so that they will comply with the use of PPE³⁴. This was confirmed by a study conducted by Andriyanto (2017) which found no relationship between years of service and compliance with the use of PPE. As workers work longer, not all of them comply with the use of PPE³⁵. According a study conducted by Astuti (2019), it was found that there was no relationship between years of service and compliance with the use of PPE³⁶. A similar finding was also revealed in a study conducted by Putri (2018) that there was no relationship between work experience and compliance with the use of PPE³⁴. This was evidenced by the fact that new and old employees had the same percentage of compliance in complying with existing policies in the company.

Effect of Knowledge on Compliance with the use of PPE at PT X of Tegal City

Knowledge is important for every individual, especially in developing actions and behavior among workers. Good knowledge can increase compliance of workers in using PPE³⁷. The study finding is in line with a study conducted by Cahyani (2020) which found that there was a relationship between knowledge and compliance with the use of PPE³⁸. Similarly, a study conducted by Devianti,

(2022) found that there was an effect of the level of knowledge on compliance with the use of PPE³⁹. A study conducted by Gunawan & Mudayana (2016) further stated that there was a relationship between knowledge and compliance with the use of PPE⁴⁰.

Effect of Attitude on Compliance with the use of PPE at PT X of Tegal City

Attitude refers to a person's willingness to take an action. Workers' attitudes had an effect on compliance with the use of PPE in the workplace. It was indicated that the better a person's attitude, the better the actions to comply with PPE⁴¹. The study finding is in line with a study conducted by Annisa (2020) which revealed that there was a relationship between attitudes and compliance with the use of PPE⁴². Another study conducted by Gunawan & Mudayana, (2016) similarly found a relationship between attitude and compliance with the use of PPE ($p=0.031$)⁴⁰. Another study conducted by Marchamah & Woro (2017) further revealed that there was a relationship between attitudes and compliance with the use of PPE⁴³. A similar finding was also revealed in a study conducted by Rahmatilah (2020) which found that there was a relationship between attitudes and compliance with the use of PPE²⁸.

CONCLUSIONS

The study finding showed that there was a significant relationship between knowledge and attitude factors with compliance with the use of PPE at PT X. Companies need to improve the leadership style of supervisors through influencing and motivating workers. Several practices involve providing a sense of comfort, supporting workers while working or using PPE, so that workers can positively influence other workers in carrying out the company's vision and mission and using PPE to reduce accident rates.

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