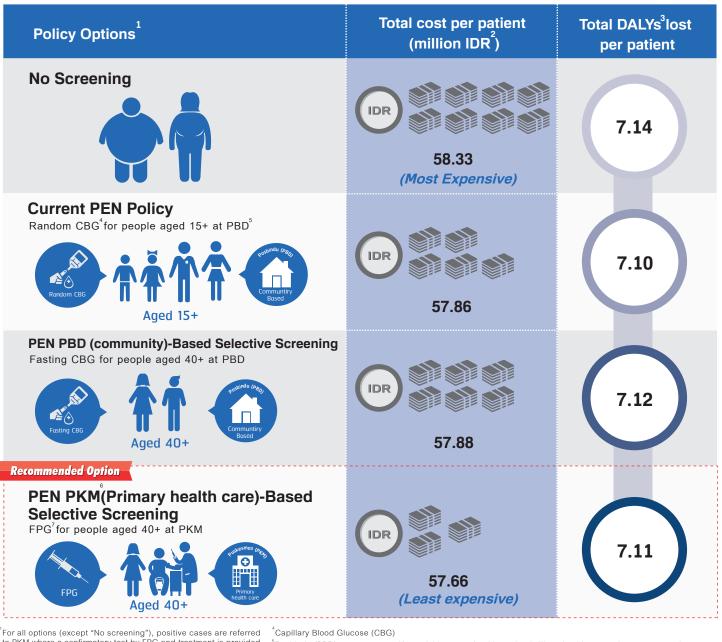
POLICY BRIEF

Economic Evaluation of the Implementation of the WHO Package of Essential Non-Communicable Disease (PEN) Interventions in Indonesia

October 2016

A collaborative study was conducted by representatives from the Ministry of Health's Directorate of Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Control and the National Institute of Health Research and Development (NIHRD), the WHO Indonesia office, the WHO Southeast Asia Regional Office, and the Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP) to assess the value for money and budget impact of the current PEN interventions compared to "no screening" and other policy options. This economic evaluation assessed the integration of screening and treatment for diabetes and hypertension, which are part of NCD interventions in the WHO Package of Essential Non-Communicable Disease (PEN) program, into primary health care in Indonesia and found that it yields cost savings to the government and society. The findings are expected to be used as a tool to assist the government in making resource allocations in this area.



¹For all options (except "No screening"), positive cases are referred to PKM where a confirmatory test by FPG and treatment is provided. ²Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) ³DALYs (Disability Adjusted Life Years)

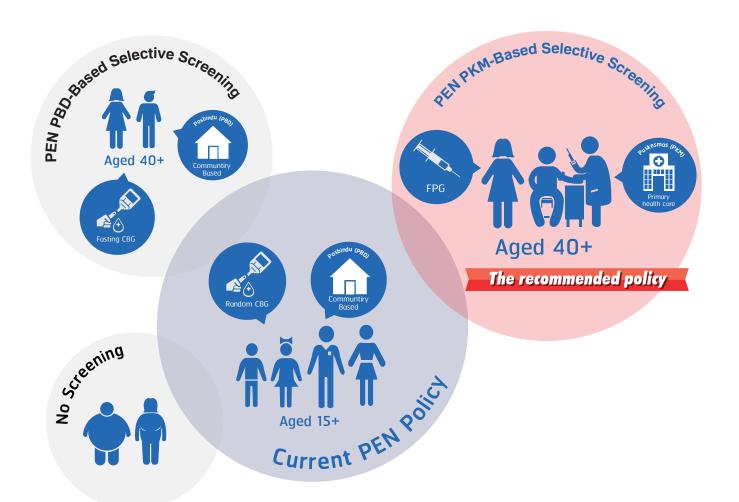
⁵Posbindu (PBD) are centers and/or activities organized by trained village health care volunteers to conduct community-based engagement and programs for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.
⁶Puskesmas (PKM) refers to primary health care facilities.
⁷Fasting Plasma Glucose (FPG)

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) – A National Burden

Indonesia's trend of aging population and unhealthy lifestyles spell increasing health – and economic – impact from NCDs. In 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 71% of total deaths in Indonesia were due to NCDs, of which 61% were due to diabetes and cardiovascular diseases (CVDs). In an attempt to counter the rising threat of NCDs, the delivery of screening and treatment for diabetes and hypertension, which are part of NCD interventions in the WHO's recommended Package of Essential Non-communicable disease (PEN) interventions, have been integrated into primary health care in Indonesia in 2011. Indonesia implements the PEN program nationally through Posbindu (PBD) and Puskesmas (PKM). PBD is where trained village health care volunteers conduct activities for a community engagement and community-based awareness including screening for hypertension and diabetes using Random Capillary Blood Glucose (RCBG) for the Indonesian aged 15 years and older. Following this, positive cases are referred to PKM (primary health care facilities) where a confirmatory test by fasting plasma glucose (FPG) and treatment is provided.

Evaluation of Policy Options for PEN program in Indonesia

The study assessed the value for money and budget impact of the current PEN interventions compared to three policy options, particularly focusing on the main disease-burdens diabetes and hypertension. Alternative policies include, "No screening," "PEN PBD-Based Selective Screening" and "PEN PKM-Based Selective Screening". An economic model was developed using local, regional, and global information to quantify the potential lifetime costs and outcomes of each policy option in terms of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs).





Value for money

The study found that the **Current PEN Policy** of screening for diabetes and hypertension in Indonesia is **cost-saving compared to no screening**. This entails that the cost of investing in screening and early treatment interventions is less than the cost of late-stage treatment interventions. While these results are encouraging, the current policy **coverage is low** and needs improvement. Additionally, the study also finds that a policy of PEN PBD-Based Selective Screening is cost-ineffective compared to the Current PEN Policy. Alternatively, a **PEN PKM-Based Selective Screening was found to be cost-saving with only a small loss in health benefit** relative to the Current PEN Policy (due to not screening the younger generation which has a low disease prevalence). With reference to a PEN PKM-Based Selective Screening, the Current PEN Policy costs 52.14 million IDR more for every DALY averted.

However, to consider whether or not Indonesia should switch to a PEN PKM-Based Screening instead of the Current PEN Policy, the willingness to pay of Indonesia policy decision maker to avert one unit of DALY should be identified explicitly.

Budget Impact

Analysis on budget impact shows that under the "Current PEN Policy" only 28% of the population is covered. When compared to "PEN PKM-Based Selective Screening," there is potential for using the same budget amount to increase coverage to 63% of the targeted population and/or reallocate budget savings to other programs without significantly compromising health outcomes.

Comparing Two Scenarios

If implementing PEN PKM-Based Selective Screening:

- Target high-risk age groups for screening of diabetes and hypertension.
- Reallocate costs from savings through targeted screenings to cover treatment for a higher percentage of the population and/or improve screening options:
 - o Improve financial access to early treatment. o Cover PKM screening costs for the confirmation test.
- Consider further use of PBD (which are already mobilized) to implement public awareness and health-promoting campaigns, and if necessary to conduct screening in areas with limited access to PKM.

If maintaining current PEN Interventions (Current Policy):

- Cover outreach populations through innovative public awareness and advocacy programs.
- Use PBD screening and diagnosis in areas where access to PKM is difficult.

• Puskesmas (PKM) refers to primary health care facilities.

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[•] Posbindu (PBD) are centers and/or activities organized by trained village health care volunteers to conduct community-based engagement and programs for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

Policy Recommendations

- Continue implementing the PEN as it has been shown to be cost-saving so far in Indonesia;
- Implement primary prevention strategy in conjunction with PEN diagnosis and treatment programs;
- Improve **coverage** of the program, regardless of the policy option, especially for under-represented, poor, and vulnerable groups.

Acknowledgement

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Authors

- Waranya Rattanavipapong¹
- Suthasinee Kumluang¹
- Alia Cynthia Gonzales Luz¹
- Dr. Yot Teerawattanon¹

Corresponding Author

Waranya Rattanavipapong¹
 Email waranya.r@hitap.net

Investigators and Co-Investigators:

- Devika Singh²
- Dr. Dewi Indriani³
- Priska Apsari Primastuti³
- Dr. Lily Banonah Rivai⁴
- Dr. Sri Idiani⁴
- Ully Adhie⁵
- Dr. Cicih Opitasari⁵
- Dr. Thunyarat Anothaisintawee¹
- Sarocha Chootipongchaivat¹
- Kanlaya Teerawattananon¹
- Purvi Paliwal⁶
- Dr. Nunik Kusumawardani⁵

Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP), Thailand

- World Health Organization (WHO) Country Office for Indonesia
- Directorate of NCD Control of the Ministry of Health (MoH), Indonesia
- [°]National Institute of Health Research Development (NIHRD), MoH, Indonesia
- $^\circ$ World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for South-East Asia(SEARO)

For more information on this study, please go to www.globalhitap.net/projects/pen_ee

Contact:

Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP) International Unit (HIU) Email: hiu@hitap.net



GLOBALHITAP.NET HITAP_THAI HITAPTHAILAND HITAP THAI

International Decision Support Initiative (iDSI) Email: info@idsihealth.org



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