Doni Widyandana, MD, Ph.D

Editor-in-chief of Journal of Community Empowerment of Health (JCOEMPH)

Universitas Gadjah Mada,

Yogyakarta- Indonesia

Dear Dr Widyandana,

We are submitting a manuscript entitled “**SCHOOL REOPENING: EVIDENCE BASED RECOMMENDATIONS DURING NEW NORMAL ERA OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN INDONESIA”** to be considered for publication as a “Review Article” in JCOEMPH special issue “Community-based Approach to Break the Chain of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) Transmission”.

Since the first Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) case was reported in Indonesia on March 2020, governments and policy-makers decided to shift the educational activities into online learning and institute school closure. Schools play a crucial role in preserving children's well-being thus closure ending plays certain pivotal role. School reopening is an important step toward loosening the lockdown. Indonesia is currently preparing toward school reopening. For schools to be reopened, there are several health measurements that need to be considered. A good collaboration between various authorities and stakeholders is essential in school reopening so that children’s safety and disease mitigation strategies remain stable.

On Early June 2020, Indonesian minister of Education and Culture had announced the major steps and policy toward school reopening. However, no details have been elucidated so far. This review presents details on insights and recommendations for every element involved in school safety including the government, schools, teachers, parents and students including what need to do to prepare in advance for the up-coming decision to reopen schools, on the basis of current elaborated evidences.

Our manuscript has not been and will not be submitted for publication elsewhere while under consideration by JCOEMPH. The manuscript has been checked under plagiarism software provided by FK-KMK UGM and showed only less than 10% similarities, suggesting originality. All authors have read the manuscript and agreed with the contents.

I hope you find our manuscript worthy of publication in JCOEMPH.

We are looking forward to hearing from you

Thank you

Yours sincerely,

Dian K Nurputra, MD (Paed), M.Sc, Ph,.D

Department of Child Health, Faculty of Medicine, Public Health and Nursing

Universitas Gadjah Mada

Jl, Farmako No. 1, Sekip Utara-Bulaksumur, Sleman-DI Yogyakarta

Mail: dian.k.nurputra@ugm.ac.id