

**THE IMPACT OF BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (BLS) SIMULATION
ON THE KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF STUDENTS AT
SMKN 8 SURAKARTA**

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ABSTRACT

Background: In Indonesia, cardiovascular diseases cause approximately 651,481 deaths annually, with around 245,343 due to cardiac arrest. At Dr. Moewardi Regional Hospital Surakarta, 191 deaths from cardiac arrest were recorded, with the highest incidence in the 16–25 age group (89 cases). This highlights the importance of Basic Life Support (BLS) knowledge, especially among adolescents. As agents of change, youth can provide first aid and disseminate this knowledge to others. **Objective:** To determine the effect of Basic Life Support (BLS) simulation on the knowledge level of students at SMKN 8 Surakarta. **Method:** This study used a quasi-experimental design with a nonequivalent group without a control group. The sampling technique was purposive sampling, involving 20 students from a population of 472 eleventh-grade students. **Results:** Before the simulation (pretest), most students (73%) had a low level of knowledge. After the simulation (posttest), most students (64%) showed a good level of knowledge. The paired sample t-test showed a significant result ($p\text{-value} = 0.001 < 0.05$), indicating an increase in knowledge after the simulation. **Conclusion:** The BLS simulation significantly improved students' knowledge.

Keywords: BLS Simulation, Students, Knowledge Level.