

THESIS

The Experience Of Nurses Working In Public Health Centres
In Implementing Dengue Prevention Strategies
In The Indonesian Community



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SIGNED STATEMENTS

I certify that This work contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in the text.

I give consent to this copy of my thesis, when deposited in the School of Nursing Library, being available for loan and photocopying.

Adelaide, 6 December 2015

Mira Utami Ningsih

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ABSTRACT

Dengue disease is a mosquito-borne disease that remains a major problem for public health in numerous subtropical and tropical countries including Indonesia. Dengue prevention in Indonesia has been undertaken since 1968 involving public health nurses and the community. However, prevention remains a huge challenge for nurses and other health professionals. This study explored and interpreted the experience of public health nurses in implementing dengue prevention strategies in the Indonesian community to inform practice.

This study employed the interpretive hermeneutic phenomenological approach based on the work of Heidegger. Data were collected through interviews with five nurses working in two public health centres (PHCs) who had been involved in a dengue prevention team in Mataram Regency, West Nusa Tenggara Province. Data were analysed using Colaizzi's (1978) strategy for phenomenological data analysis.

Five themes representing the nurses' lived experiences emerged from this study. 'Relentless work' represents the demanding nature of prevention work. 'Collaboration and collective work' represents the need of nurses to work in collaboration with all people in community. 'Cadres are the hands of the nurses' represents the cadres' role and the relationship between them and nurses. 'The flowers will die' reveals the community response and their attitude towards dengue prevention. 'Access' reveals the difficulties faced by nurses in accessing individuals or households in the community.

Findings contribute to knowledge of nurses' roles in dengue prevention and highlight the need for continuous effort and adoption of strategies to improve community knowledge, awareness and participation. It is clear that nurses need to be equipped with good communication and diplomacy skills and be prepared to deal with community resistance.