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## Prevalence and causes of blindness in people age 50 years and above, the intervention category and action required to reduce blindness in West Java province Indonesia

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**Introduction & Objective:** Data prevalence and causes of blindness are needed in West Java province since it has highest population of Indonesia. The objective of this study is to assess current situation on blindness in West Java province.

**Methodology:** Population based survey was conducted on February to October 2014. Sample size 3000 peoples age  $\geq 50$  years was calculated using an automated program within the RAAB software package. Sixty clusters were selected by probability proportionate to size sampling. Households within clusters were selected through compact segment sampling. Participants underwent visual acuity (VA) screening with a tumbling E. Eyes examination and diagnosis done by ophthalmologists, and blindness and visual impairment (VI) were verified based on the WHO definition. A program has been developed in Visual FoxPro version 7.0© for RAAB.

**Results:** In this study total 2842 persons were examined (94.7%), 87 persons were absent, 48 refused to participate, and 23 were not able. Prevalence of bilateral blindness with available correction in people aged 50+ was 2.8% (95% CI 2.0-3.5), untreated cataract was the most common cause of bilateral blindness (71.7%), other posterior segment disease (10.9%), all other globe/CNS abnormalities (6.5%), non-trachomatous corneal scarring (4.3%), and glaucoma and uncorrected refractive error (2.2%). Of all bilateral blindness 82.6% is considered avoidable. 73.9% were considered treatable (cataract and URE).

**Conclusion:** Cataract was the main cause of blindness, considered treatable; priority should be given for cataract surgery followed by optical services.

### Biography

Syumarti has completed her Ophthalmology training from Padjadjaran University Bandung Indonesia on 2003 and MSc in Community Eye Health from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on 2004. She is the Head of Medical Service division of Indonesia National Center of Eye Health Cicendo Eye Hospital and Member of Indonesian Ophthalmologist Association. She has developed community based service of eye health since 2005 for West Java province then for Indonesia not only for cataract delivery service but also developed refractive error program, research in eye health, and has developed inclusive system for effective eye care.

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