



**Perceived Triage Skill and Its Related Factors Among Emergency Nurses
in East Java Province, Indonesia**

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ABSTRACT

Triage skill is an essential competency required for emergency nurses. This study aimed to determine the level of triage skill perceived by emergency nurses, and to examine the relationships between triage knowledge, training experience, work experience, and their triage skill. The subjects included 266 emergency nurses working in two secondary and two tertiary government hospitals in East Java Province, Indonesia. The data were collected using a set of questionnaires including the Demographic Data Sheet, the Triage Skill Questionnaire (TSQ), and the Triage Knowledge Questionnaire (TKQ). The questionnaires were translated to the Indonesian version after being validated by three experts. Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the TSQ was .93, and the correlation coefficient for the TKQ was .99. The relationships between triage knowledge, work experience and triage skill were analyzed by Pearson product-moment correlation, except the training experience and triage skill which analyzed by Spearman Rho.

The results showed that the mean scores of triage skill and work experience were at a moderate level ($M = 75.12$, $SD = 11.23$, and $M = 59.48$,

SD = 33.81, respectively). However, the mean scores of triage knowledge and training experience were at a low level (M = 55.26, SD = 13.16, and M = 4.47, SD = 3.19, respectively). There were significant positive correlations between triage skill and triage knowledge ($r = .38, p < .01$), training experience ($r_s = .37, p < .01$), and work experience ($r = .27, p < .01$).

The findings suggested that continuing education and training courses related to triage should be proposed to improve and sustain their skill which, in turn will provide better quality of care and patient safety.

Key words: triage skill, triage knowledge, work experience, training experience, emergency nurse