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## **Social Cost of Hypertension on Elderly: Evidence from Indonesia**

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**Objectives:** Hypertension is globally recognized as a silent killer due to its lethal consequences that growing silently. Despite the myriad clinical studies had identified the effects of hypertension on health aspects, little was focused to widen the analysis into social aspects. In fact, weaker physical capacity yields multiple effects on human life. The elderly as the most vulnerable age group might get worse conditions when they suffered from hypertension. This study aims to investigate the effect of hypertension on social wellbeing among Indonesian elderly.

**Methods:** Logistic regression analysis was conducted using data from the Indonesian Family Life Survey 2014. Of 2,858 respondents aged 60 and older, 774 (27%) had high blood pressure. Social wellbeing was measured using the social exclusion variable that was constructed from financial deprivation, social isolation, and civic participation. Control variables were involved such as smoking status, obesity, and age.

**Results:** The result shows that the elderly with hypertension were more likely to be excluded socially (Odds ratio [OR], 1.2; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.00-1.40). It means that the elderly with hypertension were vulnerable not only physically but also socially. While obese and smoker status was insignificant, age was positively significant in influencing the social exclusion (OR, 1.03; 95% CI, 1.01-1.04).

**Conclusions:** Social aspects among the elderly with hypertension should be paid more attention. Besides managing medical treatment and maintaining a healthy lifestyle, encouraging social inclusion among the elderly should not be neglected particularly from the family and community.