

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STRESS AND EAR-NOSE-THROAT DISORDER EXAM VALUES IN MEDICAL EDUCATION STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, SAM RATULANGI UNIVERSITY

Gabriela Naomi Waani<sup>1</sup>, Linda Maya Tompodung<sup>2</sup>, Heriyannis Homenta<sup>3</sup>

[gebrielawaani011@student.unsrat.ac.id](mailto:gebrielawaani011@student.unsrat.ac.id)<sup>1</sup>, [linda\\_tompodung@unsrat.ac.id](mailto:linda_tompodung@unsrat.ac.id)<sup>2</sup>,

[herihomenta@unsrat.ac.id](mailto:herihomenta@unsrat.ac.id)

Samratulangi University, Indonesia

---

### Keywords

Stress level, ENT exam score, perceived stress scale

### Abstract

Stress academic is one of significant challenges for student medicine, especially because burden dense and demanding curriculum high academic. Stress This can influence performance academic in a way direct and also No directly. Research This focus on relationships between level stress and results exam module Disturbance Ear Nose Throat (ENT-KL) in students medical class of 2022 at Sam Ratulangi University. Research This aiming For analyze connection between level stress experienced students and results mark exam module ENT-KL disorders, as well as give outlook related interventions that can done For support welfare students. Research use design observational analytic with cross-sectional approach. The sample consists of of the 204 students who met the requirements criteria inclusion. Stress level measured use Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10) instrument, while mark exam module obtained from notes academic official. Analysis done using the Spearman-rho correlation test to determine connection between level stress and results mark exam. Most of student be at the level stress moderate (71.1%) and successful to obtain A grade (92.6%) on the exam module. The Spearman-rho test shows No existence connection significant between level stress and value test ( $p = 0.756$ ;  $r = 0.022$ ). Findings This show that level stress No in a way direct influence achievement academic student in module this. Research results This indicates that although level stress currently often experienced by students, this is the No always become barrier for achievement academic. Support institutional, such as training management stress and counseling, can help student with level stress tall for reach balance between pressure academic and performance.

---

Corresponding Author : Gabriela Naomi Waani

E-mail: [herihomenta@unsrat.ac.id](mailto:herihomenta@unsrat.ac.id)



## INTRODUCTION

Stress has been one of the biggest psychological problems faced by individuals worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) states that stress is "an epidemic of the 21st century," with more than 350 million people worldwide experiencing it every year. In the context of education, high academic stress has been identified as a main reason for mental health disturbances, such as anxiety and depression, which result in a decrease in the quality of life for students. According to the American Psychological Association (APA), stress is an emotional and physical response to pressure or perceived demands. Student medical in a way special face far

pressure more big compared to student from field studies other Because dense curriculum, responsibility answer clinical, and expectations For reach performance high academic standing (APA, 2024;Abdulghani et al., 2011)

Worldwide, The prevalence stress in students medical reported to be very high. A research in Saudi Arabia shows that more from 70% of students medical experience level stress currently until heavy consequence pressure academic (Abdulghani et al., 2011). Something similar was also found in Indonesia, where research by Bakhtiar (2020) revealed that level stress in students medical can influence quality life and results academic they . Stress This No only influence mental health, but also has impact straight to ability student For understand material learning and completing task academic with Good (Joseph et al., 2021).

In context local in Indonesia, students medical often face unique challenges, including burden curriculum based on block, pressure exam clinical, and preparation For exam module that has weight big in evaluation end. Disturbance Module Ear Nose Throat (ENT) is one of the module important in education medical treatment that requires mastery material deep as well as ability high analysis. Research byAkbar et al. (2024) show that high stress in students medical can cause decline mark academic in a way significant. In addition, the factor culture in Indonesia, such as expectation family to success academic, can also increase pressure psychologically felt student (Alesha et al., 2024).

Stres academics who are not managed with Good can cause disturbance serious mental health, including risk kill increased self (Alesha et al., 2024). In context student medicine, impact stress This can influence the future professional they as doctor. Therefore that 's important For understand to what extent stress influence results academic students, especially in the module ENT Disorders. Research this also has relevance practical Because the result can used For to design purposeful intervention increase welfare students and results academic they.

Study previously has show mixed results related connection between stress and performance academic. For example, Abdulghani et al. (2011) found that level high stress in a way significant influence ability student medical for finish exam with good. On the other hand, research by (Harahap & Riza, 2024) show that stress at the level currently can functioning as a motivator, helping student reach more results Good. The theory of eustress and distress proposed by Bienertova-Vasku et al. (2020)is also relevant in explain How stress can impact positive or negative depends on the way individual manage it. Study byBaik et al. (2019) emphasize importance tool measuring valid stress, such as the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10), in understand perception stress student.

Study This offer Updates with focus on relationships between level stress and value exam module ENT disorders, which have not been Lots under review in a way specifically in Indonesia. In addition, research This use a comprehensive approach with merge tool measuring valid stress and reliable academic data. The results of the study this expected can give contribution new in field education medicine, in particular in context local.

Study This aiming For Analyze level stress experienced student Sam Ratulangi University Medical School in preparation face exam ENT Disorders. Identifying connection between level stress and results mark exam module ENT Disorders. Providing recommendation

strategic for reduce stress academic and improve welfare as well as performance academic student.

## RESEARCH METHODS

### Types of research

Study This is study observational purposeful analytics For analyze connection between level stress with mark exam module Disturbance Ear Nose Throat (ENT) in students medicine.

### Approach Study

Study This use cross-sectional approach, where data is collected at one time time certain For identify connection between variable level stress and value exam.

### Population and Sample

**Population :** Students batch 2022 Medical Education Study Program Faculty Faculty of Medicine, Sam Ratulangi University.

**Sample:** Research sample determined use total sampling technique, namely as many as 204 students who meet the requirements criteria inclusion.

### Data collection technique

#### Primary Data:

- Stress levels measured use Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10) questionnaire which has been validated.
- Questionnaire shared online via Google Forms.

**Secondary Data :** Exam scores module Acquired ENT disorders from notes academic Faculty Faculty of Medicine, Sam Ratulangi University.

### Data Analysis Techniques

**Analysis Univariate :** Describes distribution frequency level stress and value exam module .

#### Analysis Bivariate :

- Connection between level stress and value exam tested using the Spearman-Rho test, because the data is on an ordinal scale.
- Significance level set at  $p < 0.05$

### Analysis Tools

#### Stress Level Instrument :

- Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10) was used For measure perception stress .
- Stress score grouped become :
  - Low : 0-13
  - Medium: 14-26
  - Height: 27-40

#### Criteria Validity and Reliability :

- PSS-10 instrument has Cronbach's Alpha reliability of  $\alpha = 0.78$ , indicating level high internal consistency (Cohen et al., 1983).
- Validity tool measuring has tested on a population similar and shows adequate results.

### Analysis Tool Criteria

**Validity :** Measuring instrument considered valid if show significant relationship between the measured items with construction theoretically expected.

**Reliability** : Cronbach's Alpha is higher big from 0.70 is considered Enough For show reliability internal consistency.

**Interpretation Coefficient Correlation :**

- 0.00–0.19: Very weak relationship
- 0.20–0.39: Relationship weak
- 0.40–0.59: Relationship currently
- 0.60–0.79: Relationship strong
- 0.80–1.00: Very strong relationship

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Research result obtained from subject data research consisting of 204 students batch 2022 Medical Education Study Program Faculty Sam Ratulangi University of Medicine which has fulfil criteria inclusion and through total sampling technique of population affordable study.

**Characteristics Subject**

**Table 1. Characteristics Subject**

No	Characteristics	Category	n	%
1.	Age	18	1	0.5
		19	52	25.5
		20	110	53.9
		21	37	18.1
		22	3	1.5
		23	1	0.5
2.	Gender	Woman	131	64.2
		Man	73	35.8

Characteristics subject study consists of from **age** and **type gender**, which can give description profile student medical class of 2022 who became respondents.

**Age**

- Majority student aged **20 years** as many as 110 people ( **53.9%** ).
- Age 19 years occupy position second with 52 people ( **25.5%** ).
- Student with 21 years old is 37 people ( **18.1%** ), while only **4 people** aged over 21 years ( 22 and 23 years old respectively 1.5% and 0.5%).
- This data show majority student are at a normal age for level education this, indicates relevant curriculum with range age they.

**Gender**

- As many as **131 students women** ( **64.2%** ) dominate amount participants compared to with **73 students male** ( **35.8%** ).
- Composition This reflect trend common in education medicine, where participation Woman often more tall.

### Distribution Stress Level Frequency

**Table 2. Distribution of Stress Levels by Category**

Category	Mark	n	%
Light	0-13	40	19.6
Currently	14-26	145	71.1
Tall	27-40	19	9.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>204</b>	<b>100</b>

Measurement results stress use instrument **The PSS-10** (Perceived Stress Scale) provides description level pressure academic experience student.

- **Stres Mild** : Experienced by **40 students (19.6%)**. Group This show level good adaptation to pressure academic.
- **Moderate Stress** : Majority students (**145 people, 71.1%**) are in the category this. Condition This show existence pressure sufficient academic significant but Not yet reach dangerous level.
- **High Stress** : As many as **19 students ( 9.3% )** experienced stress high. Student in category This at risk experience impact negative on health physical and mental if No get adequate support.

### Distribution of Module Exam Scores

**Table 3. Distribution of Exam Scores by Category**

Category	Mark	n	%
A	80.00-100	189	92.6
B+	76.00-79.99	15	7.4
B	70.00-75.99	0	0
C+	65.00-69.99	0	0
C	60.00-64.99	0	0
D	50.00-59.99	0	0
E	<50	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>204</b>	<b>100</b>

**Disorders** Module Exam Score **-KL** show very good result in a way Overall :

- As many as **189 students (92.6% )** succeeded to obtain **A value** (80.00–100). This result show mastery very good material in parts big student.
- **15 students (7.4% )** received **B+ grade** (76.00–79.99). Although classified as good, group This need evaluation For identify possible obstacles influence performance academic they.
- n't any students who get grades below B+ ( category B to lower).

**Interpretation** : This result show that curriculum and methods learning applied in study programs this succeed support performance optimal academic.

## Analysis Bivariate

### Distribution Based on Category Stres

**Table 4. Overview of Stress Levels with Exam Scores**

PSS Category	Module Exam Score							Total
	A	B+	B	C+	C	D	E	
<b>Light</b>	n	38	2	0	0	0	0	40
	%	18.6	1	0	0	0	0	19.6
<b>Currently</b>	n	133	12	0	0	0	0	145
	%	65.2	5.9	0	0	0	0	71.1
<b>Tall</b>	n	18	1	0	0	0	0	19
	%	8.8	0.5	0	0	0	0	9.3
<b>Total</b>	n	189	15	0	0	0	0	100
	%	92.6	7.4	0	0	0	0	100

- **Stres Light :**
  - 38 students (18.6%) received A grade.
  - 2 students (1%) received B+ grade.
- **Moderate Stress :**
  - 133 students (65.2%) received A grade.
  - 12 students (5.9%) received B+ grade.
- **High Stress :**
  - 18 students (8.8%) received A grade.
  - 1 student (0.5%) received B+ grade.

### Interpretation :

- Student with stress light until currently dominate acquisition value A, shows that stress at the level certain No always detrimental, but can become booster motivation.
- Student with stress tall still capable to obtain mark good (category A and B+), which indicates possibility existence factor Supporter such as effective coping strategies or support social.

### Statistical Test Results

**Table 5. Spearman rho Correlation Test of Stress Level with Exam Scores**

Variables	n	r	p
Stress Level	204	0.022	0.756
Test scores	204		

Analysis bivariate done for know connection between level stress and value exam module using correlation test **Spearman-rho**.

### Statistical Test Results

- **P value :** 0.756 (  $p > 0.05$  ), indicating **No There is connection significant** in a way statistics between level stress and value exam module.
- **Coefficient correlation (r) :** 0.022, indicating very weak relationship with direction positive. This means, the increase level stress No impact real on the increase or decline mark exam.

## Discussion

Stress academic has become an issue in the world of education, especially among students in medicine that face a solid curriculum, pressure, competition, and high expectations. This research aims to evaluate the connection between stress levels and academic results, especially in ENT-KL disorders. Although many studies have identified the existence of a connection between stress and academic performance, inconsistent results bring up the need to explore more in the local context.

Research results show that the majority of students (71.1%) experienced moderate stress levels, and a large number (92.6%) succeeded in obtaining an A grade. Spearman-rho correlation test shows no significant connection between stress levels and exam module values ( $p = 0.756$ ;  $r = 0.022$ ). Findings support a number of previous studies which show that stress does not always influence academic results in a direct way.

## Analysis

### *Stress Level*

- Student with high stress levels currently dominates, consistent with another study where students in medicine often experience academic pressure due to learning demands. This supports the theory **Teaching and Learning Related Stressors (TLRS)** which states that pressure in education can become positive stress (**eustress**) if balanced with good coping mechanisms.
- However, some students (9.3%) with high stress levels show the need for special attention because prolonged stress can have a negative impact on mental and physical health.

### *Connection Stress and Achievement*

- The absence of a significant connection between stress levels and exam values can be explained by the existence of mediating factors like social support, intrinsic motivation, and effective learning methods. This is consistent with previous studies by Annas B who also showed similar results among medical students.
- On the other hand, some other studies, such as those conducted by Jessica T & Arlends C, found a significant connection between stress and academic performance. Differences can be caused by variations in stress measurement tools or different academic conditions in other institutions.

### *Distribution of Values*

A high score (92.6% of students) to obtain an A grade reflects the success of the curriculum implemented in the Faculty of Medicine at Sam Ratulangi University. This also shows that stress levels in the majority of students do not hinder them from reaching optimal academic results. This highlights that stress does not always become an inhibitor of academic performance. On the other hand, if balanced with good coping mechanisms, stress can become a motivating factor. However, special attention is needed for students with high stress levels to ensure their mental health remains stable, so that it does not have a negative impact on their academic success.

## CONCLUSION

Study This show that although majority student be at the level stress while, they still capable reach results good academics, as indicated by its height proportion A grade on the ENT Disorders Module -KL exam. The absence of connection significant between level stress and value exam indicates that factor others, such as learning strategies, support social, or ability adaptation, maybe more play a role in achievement academic students. Findings This highlight the need a more approach holistic in support welfare students, in particular in environment education medical.

## REFERENCE

- Abdulghani HM, AlKanhah AA, Mahmoud ES, Ponnampereuma GG, Alfaris EA. Stress and its effects on medical students: a cross-sectional study at a college of medicine in Saudi Arabia. *J Health Pop Nutr* . 2011 Oct;29(5):516–22. DOI:10.3329/jhpn.v29i5.8906
- Akbar TR, Fithriyah I, Dewanti L, Nyong Husain A. Relationship between Stress Level and Academic Grade in Medical Students of Airlangga University. Available from: <https://e-journal.unair.ac.id/jps> . <https://doi.org/10.20473/jps.v13i1.48630>
- Alesha Muslim M, Auliya Rahmawati N, Mu Z, Billah Tasimah , Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa U. Causal Factors Suicide in College Students . *Journal Jurisprudence [Internet]*. 2024;1(2):261–6. Available from: DOI: <https://doi.org/10.62017/syariah.v1i2.585>
- Al- Rouq F, Al-Otaibi A, AlSaikhan A, Al-Essa M, Al- Mazidi S. Assessing Physiological and Psychological Factors Contributing to Stress among Medical Students: Implications for Health. *Int J Environ Res Public Health [Internet]*. 2022 Dec 1;19(24). Available from: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192416822>
- WHAT. Stress Definition [Internet]. Available from: <https://www.apa.org/topics/stress>
- Fine SH, Fox RS, Mills SD, Roesch SC, Sadler GR, Klonoff EA, et al. Reliability and validity of the Perceived Stress Scale-10 in Hispanic Americans with English or Spanish language preference. *J Health Psychol*. 2019 Apr 1;24(5):628–39. DOI:10.1177/1359105316684938
- Bakhtiar A. Relationship between Stress Levels To Academic Achievement in College Students . Jakarta ; Nov 2020
- Bienertova-Vasku J, Lenart P, Scheringer M. Eustress and Distress: Neither Good Nor Bad, but Rather the Same? *BioEssays* . 2020 Jul 17;42(7). DOI:10.1002/bies.201900238
- Casogi Adryana N, Oktafany , Apriliana E, Oktaria D. Comparison of Stress Levels in First, Second and Third Year Students of the Faculty of University of Lampung Medicine. Vol. 9. Lampung; 2020 Dec.
- Chu B, Marwaha K, Sanvictores T, Awosika AO, Ayers D. Physiology, Stress Reaction. 2024.
- Cohen S, Kamarck T, Mermelstein R. A Global Measure of Perceived Stress. *J Health Soc Behav* . 1983 Dec;24:385 –96. DOI:10.2307/2136404
- Dani Feriyanto D, Sulistyani S, Ichsan B, Herawati E. The Relationship Between Stress Levels and To Index Performance Cumulative Student Faculty Medicine . Surakarta; 2021.
- Ebrahim OS, Sayed HA, Rabei S, Hegazy N. Perceived stress and anxiety among medical students at Helwan University: A cross-sectional study. *J Public Health Res [Internet]*. 2024 Jan 1;13(1). Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-024-05820-1>
- Elani HW, Allison PJ, Kumar RA, Mancini L, Lambrou A, Bedos C. A systematic review of stress in dental students. *J Dent Educ*. 2014 Feb;78(2):226–42. DOI:10.1002/j.0022-0337.2014.78.2.tb05673.x

- Fares J, Al Tabosh H, Saadeddin Z, El Mouhayyar C, Aridi H. Stress, burnout and coping strategies in preclinical medical students [Internet]. Vol. 8, North American Journal of Medical Sciences. North American Journal of Medical Sciences; 2016. p. 75–81. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.4103/1947-2714.177299>
- Folkman S. Stress: Appraisal and Coping. *Encyclopedia of Behavioral Medicine*. 2013;1913–5.
- Gibbons C. Measuring stress and eustress in nursing students [Internet]. 2008 June. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2648.2007.04497.x>
- Habashi K, Simanton E. Wellness Activities, Stress, and Academic Performance in Medical Students. *Cureus* [Internet]. 2024 Jun 19; Available from: <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.62704>
- Harahap N. Relationship Stress Student Year First with Study Skills Block Value in the Faculty Medicine, Muhammadiyah University of North Sumatra. Medan; 2017.
- Helmahani MA, Biromo AR. Stress Level Relationship with Learning Outcomes Student Faculty Tarumanagara University Medical School Class of 2017. *EBERS PAPHYRUS*. 2022;28(2):31–40.
- Hendikawati P. Analysis of Influencing Factors Index Performance Students . :27–35.
- Irawaty ES, Soebaryo RW, Felaza E. Overview of Stress Levels Student Faculty Tarumanagara University Medical School in Face Exam Skills Clinical .
- Joseph N, Nallapati A, Machado MX, Nair V, Matele S, Muthusamy N, et al. Assessment of academic stress and its coping mechanisms among undergraduate medical students in a large Midwestern university. *Current Psychology* [Internet]. 2021 Jun 1;40(6):2599–609. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-020-00963-2>
- Karnina R. The Comparison of the Cumulative Grade Point Average on Medical Student Living in Dormitory and Boarding House of a Medical School [Internet]. Vol. 8, Indonesian Journal of Medical Education -The Indonesian Journal of Medical Education Resiana Karnina . Jakarta; 2019 Mar. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.22146/jpki.35778>
- Karuppaiah G, Lee MH, Bhansali S, Manickam P. Electrochemical sensors for cortisol detection: Principles, designs, fabrication, and characterization. *Biosens Bioelectron* . 2023 Nov;239:115600.
- Karyotaki E, Cuijpers P, Albor Y, Alonso J, Auerbach RP, Bantjes J, et al. Sources of Stress and Their Associations With Mental Disorders Among College Students: Results of the World Health Organization World Mental Health Surveys International College Student Initiative. *Front Psychol* [Internet]. 2020 Jul 30;11. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.01759>
- Khatake P, Twinkle H, Salgar A. Stress among medical students and its impact on academic performance. *Biomedicine (India)* [Internet]. 2022 Jul 3;42(3):620–2. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.51248/v42i3.1212>
- Lahey BB. *Psychology: an introduction*. McGraw-Hill Higher Education; 2012.
- Maitri G, Dharma I, Yuliadi I, Setyowati R. Relationship between Adversity Quotient and Distress Psychology in Medical Students of Sebelas Maret University Surakarta [Internet]. Vol. 4, *Philanthropy Journal of Psychology*. Online; 2020. Available from: <http://journals.usm.ac.id/index.php/philanthropy>
- McLeod C, Guy-Evans O. The Yerkes-Dodson Law of Arousal and Performance Literature Review. 2023 Nov.