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A Juridical Review of Modern Wound Care Education by Healthcare Professionals Through YouTube in the Perspective of Indonesian Law

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Abstract: This study investigates the legal status of health education, particularly modern wound care, disseminated through YouTube, as well as the legal protection against misinformation. The findings highlight two main issues. First, YouTube-based health education may be classified as health advocacy; however, under Indonesian law, health advocacy faces normative challenges. Although Law No. 17 of 2023 recognizes health advocacy, it does not clearly regulate the role of non-medical personnel in public health education, creating risks of misleading information in digital spaces. Second, legal protection against misinformation relies primarily on Law No. 1 of 2024 concerning false information, which serves as a *lex generalis* within health law. This regulation is not sufficiently responsive to health-related misinformation and may conflict with constitutional rights to freedom of expression under Article 28E of the 1945 Constitution. Therefore, a progressive legal paradigm is necessary, emphasizing not only repressive but also preventive measures, such as specific regulations or certification for health content creators. The study concludes that challenges in social media-based health education are not solely medical but also policy-related, requiring the state to balance freedom of expression with the right to health as a fundamental public interest.

Keywords: Health Advocacy, Social Media, Wound Care Education, Misinformation, Progressive Law

INTRODUCTION

Technological advancements have had a significant impact across various sectors, including healthcare. The development of digital technology enables the public to easily access health information through various online platforms, which can serve both as an opportunity and a threat. On the one hand, technology offers the potential to overcome barriers to access, allowing medical professionals to disseminate reliable information that contributes to public health improvement. On the other hand, ensuring the accuracy and appropriateness of information has become increasingly challenging (Alamsyah et al., 2024).

Within this communication crisis, there are concerns about the spread of information related to modern wound care. In the context of modern wound care, YouTube has the potential

to be a medium for healthcare professionals, especially nurses, to provide useful educational information to the public. The presence of this media can also support the government's efforts to ensure equitable access to health information, as mandated in Law Number 17 of 2023 concerning Health. This phenomenon is interesting to study, considering that on the one hand it contributes to improving health literacy, but on the other hand it raises questions about the legal aspects inherent in this practice (Osman et al., 2022).

Previous studies have shown that research on health education through social media generally focuses on the effectiveness of content and its impact on behavioral change in the community (Siahaan & Sawir, 2022). However, in practice, the public is still required to possess digital literacy skills to critically assess and select accurate health information. Meanwhile, research from a legal perspective—particularly concerning the authority of nurses to provide health education via YouTube—remains very limited. Therefore, addressing issues of communication crisis resolution constitutes the novelty of this study. The research aims to address the following key questions: (i) What is the legal standing of modern wound care education activities conducted by nurses through YouTube? (ii) What forms of legal protection can be provided to the public through legal mechanisms to prevent the risks of health misinformation? Accordingly, this study is expected to fill a gap in the existing literature while contributing to the development of health law in Indonesia in the digital era (Sulastrri et al., 2024).

Research on the influence of health education through social media has been conducted by several parties, although the scale of the research is still limited to the regional context. One study that is often used as a reference is the study by Putri Wahyu Wigati entitled *The Effect of Health Education Through Social Media on Postpartum Mothers' Knowledge of Breastfeeding Techniques during the COVID-19 Pandemic in the Working Area of the Puncu Community Health Center, Kediri Regency* (Wigati & Mualimah, 2021). Based on Putri Wahyu Wigati's research, it was found that breastfeeding mothers in the Puncu Community Health Center working area showed an improved ability to breastfeed after watching educational videos on social media such as YouTube. This finding indicates that social media plays a positive role in enhancing the community's social and health-related capabilities.

The next reference study is from Dian Prasetyo and Rina Anggraeni (Prasetyo & Anggraeni, 2023), who conducted research using social media content on adolescents to provide health education. Dian Prasetyo and Rina Anggraeni observed that young people are easily emotionally affected if social media content has a level of appeal and packaging that suits the character of young people. According to Prasetyo and Rina Anggraeni, youth health issues are easily conveyed through media that is familiar to young people. This makes it easier for the government, which does not always have to hold seminars or produce written texts, which are often costly and cause other technical problems, such as limited seminar participants and budget leaks due to an immature system.

This perspective is supported by similar research conducted by Asnidar in Bulukumba. In that study, Asnidar Muriyati and Asnidar Andi Suswani attempted to measure the effectiveness of anti-obesity education in children through three types of media, namely electronic, print, and social media. The results of the study showed strong indicators that social media is the most effective tool for making young people aware of the dangers of obesity. Through this approach, more massive use of social media is recommended (Suswani, 2022).

Although many studies have highlighted positive indicators regarding the use of social media in health education, several parties have also cautioned against the potential dangers of this method.

For instance, Tine Silviana Rachmawati and Agustine (Rachmawati & Agustine, 2021) argued that while official institutions may disseminate health information via social media, irresponsible actors simultaneously exploit these platforms to spread misleading health-related

information. Rachmawati emphasized that society must develop literacy skills to critically evaluate the information they consume on social media. However, strengthening digital literacy remains a major challenge, as there is no proven method that is both efficient and effective. Consequently, the risk of widespread literacy failure in this domain remains significant.

Meanwhile, Roida Pakpahan identified a comparable issue (Fitriani & Pakpahan, 2020). She proposed that one solution is for the government to assume greater responsibility in addressing these challenges. According to Pakpahan, the government holds the most authority to raise public awareness and understanding. Nonetheless, she noted that there is little evidence of government success in improving public literacy beyond basic literacy campaigns. The Indonesian public has proven to be easily influenced by hoaxes and to believe them on several occasions. This is a cause for concern.

From another perspective, Aryani and colleagues stressed the necessity of formulating methods and identifying best practices for online health education (Duarsa et al., 2021). Their research, summarized in Bunga Rampai, argued for the development of a specific method to prevent the spread of misleading information in health-related communication. In this way, the public could fully benefit from the dissemination of health information through social media.

Based on Indonesian positive law, the dissemination of health information through social media has not received special attention, but the perspective of the spread of hoaxes or false information has become an integral part of Indonesian law. Research by Marwanto states that the law can be enforced in the dissemination of hoaxes because, in general, hoaxes are a threat to national security (Marwanto & Midio, 2022). Marwanto believes that the existence of hoaxes can cause panic and, in turn, destabilize the country. Marwanto also believes that hoaxes, in any form, can weaken the community. For example, a latent danger is the use of certain chemicals that are dangerous and are considered to be able to cure chronic diseases. To address this issue, Marwanto recommended the implementation of specific legal measures.

Furthermore, from the perspective of Maria Ulfa Batoebara and Buyung Solihin Hasugian (Batoebara & Hasugian, 2023), the potential danger is clearly evident, so the best way to prevent chronic chaos is to enforce the law, especially regarding the spread of false information in critical sectors. These critical sectors certainly include health issues. Thus, this can reduce the risks that exist in the future.

METHOD

This study uses a normative legal approach through literature review and focuses on answering the following questions:

Based on the background, several questions can be formulated, namely: (1) What is the legal position of modern wound care education through YouTube in the perspective of Indonesian law? (2) How can the public be legally protected from potential health misinformation through YouTube?

This study has secondary data in the form of primary legal materials, secondary legal materials, and tertiary legal materials. The primary legal material for this study is Health Law, namely Law Number 17 of 2023 and the latest ITE law, namely the revised ITE Law Number 1 of 2024. Meanwhile, the secondary legal materials for this research are legal expert opinions and generally applicable legal norms. For tertiary legal materials, this research uses interdisciplinary studies on health information and the spread of false information through electronic media.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Legal Standing of Modern Wound Care Education on YouTube

The legal standing of health education concerning modern wound care delivered through YouTube can essentially be categorized as a form of health advocacy. This aligns with

the definition of health advocacy as stated by the Johns Hopkins School for Public Health (Johns Hopkins Lerner Center for Public Health Advocacy | Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, n.d.), which defines advocacy as a persuasive effort to influence public perceptions of health policies. Similarly, the World Health Organization (WHO, 2020) describes advocacy as a collective commitment by individuals or groups to foster both political and personal dedication in promoting positive health policies.

In Indonesian Health Law Number 17 of 2023, health education and advocacy are explicitly mentioned in Articles 418 and 419. Article 418 highlights the state's responsibility to provide health education to the public, including preventive measures against health problems. Article 419 elaborates on the necessity of such education, including the provision of health advocacy. Accordingly, it can be inferred that health advocacy does not necessarily have to be carried out by medical professionals, but it must remain under the direct responsibility of the central and regional governments.

In relation to the provision of health education that is not necessarily delivered by medical professionals, there is one issue that needs to be addressed. Law No. 17 of 2023 does not explain how non-medical personnel are involved in health education, particularly in terms of standardization. For example, Article 238 mentions training for reserve personnel in cases of force majeure, but does not explain how they are standardized. Likewise, Article 182 reaffirms the importance of the involvement of primary health agencies in training non-medical personnel, often referred to as cadres. However, it does not explain how non-medical personnel are standardized.

Meanwhile, on social media, there is no guarantee that those providing advocacy are certified medical personnel, which raises further questions about whether they can be criminally prosecuted or not. In their position as Indonesian citizens, their right to speak is protected by the 1945 Constitution, namely Article 28E paragraph 3, which gives people the freedom to express their opinions. Meanwhile, Law No. 1 of 2024 also explains in Article 28 that a person can only be punished if they are proven to have provided false information that harms consumers. However, at the same time, Article 27A states that a person can also be punished if they spread content that is considered defamatory. This, in legal terms, places the government as the only institution that can determine whether information can be considered false or not. This is because if another person reveals the existence of false information that harms consumers, they can be charged under Article 27A, which in this context is said to protect a person's honor without elaborating that a person's honor is also related to their own attitude.

In the discourse of legal protection and the function of law, it is argued philosophically that law should evolve in line with the progress of civilization (Yusuf & Siregar, 2023). This idea was introduced by Satjipto Rahardjo through the doctrine of progressive law, further elaborated in Siregar's discussion (Siregar (2024). The emergence of social media represents a new condition often referred to as the "new normal," which has been analyzed by several legal and sociological scholars (Arisanty & Wiradharma, 2020; Aulia & Abednego, 2023; Weismueller et al., 2020). In this context, social media platforms such as YouTube serve as a bridge for interaction, including the delivery of advocacy. When YouTube enables advocacy through its marketing tools and algorithms, this is precisely where the law should regulate to prevent the spread of false or misleading information. As a commercial institution, YouTube has already attempted to address this through its policies on misinformation (Kebijakan YouTube Terkait Misinformasi - Panduan Cara Kerja YouTube, n.d.). However, these measures do not fully resolve the problem, because the assessment of whether content has a serious impact remains ultimately determined by the government. The government still holds full authority to decide whether certain content is harmful or not.

This debate extends to the level of implementation. The government's approach is often not through direct censorship, but by providing counter-information, which is sometimes

carried out by so-called “buzzers”(Miqdad, 2024). Such methods, however, tend to amplify noise and conflict on social media. At times, the government has taken strict action against those spreading hoaxes, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, these actions often contained socio-political dimensions, rather than being purely health-related. Furthermore, there is ongoing controversy and inconsistency in the reporting of programs such as Free Nutritious Meals (*Makan Bergizi Gratis*), which some commentators argue has been downplayed in official communications (*Catatan Kritis Terhadap Program Makan Bergizi Gratis*, n.d.; MBG, *Terobosan Atau Pemborosan?* - Padek Jawapos - Halaman 2, n.d.; Opini Kemenkeu, n.d.). This indicates that in Indonesia, serious issues of this nature are still perceived more as political concerns than as matters of public health, which raises questions about the role of progressive law.

Therefore, a brief conclusion can be drawn that the issue of the Modern Wound Care video on YouTube will be viewed as a political and security issue rather than a health issue, when in fact the validity and weight of the truth in this video lies in the hands of the government, while the government itself does not have a clear mechanism for verifying truth claims in practice.

Protection of the Public Against Potential Disinformation

By examining the legal position of wound care education on YouTube, an initial finding emerges: there is no adequate mechanism in place to protect the public. Counter-opinions or counter-narrative strategies often fail, as they represent a formal response that does not fully address the problem. Counter-narratives may not necessarily be accepted by the public either. On the other hand, a new perspective has emerged that the state may protect human rights, even if this may appear to infringe upon certain other rights. This is particularly relevant in the field of health. However, for those who argue that human rights can be limited for specific purposes, labeling such measures as violations of human rights would be misleading.

The foundation of this perspective is the principle that protecting citizens should be the state's primary policy priority (Banjarnahor et al., 2021). In practice, the Human Rights Charter has served as a general standard for the protection of human rights (Hak Asasi Manusia, Kedaulatan Negara, Dan Hukum Internasional: Wawancara Richard Falk | Jurnal Kebijakan Global, n.d.). However, debates often arise over whether the state is therefore required to provide full access in accordance with the Human Rights Charter. The Human Rights Charter is not a resolution but a declaration under international law. This means that each country is not obliged to ratify the entire contents of the Human Rights Charter. States have the right to prevent harm and protect the interests of their citizens. For example, the Human Rights Charter states that individuals have autonomy over their bodies. Nevertheless, such bodily autonomy cannot simply be interpreted as unrestricted freedom to consume or subject their bodies to any procedure, particularly given that citizens may lack adequate knowledge of the consequences of their choices. The state may, therefore, prohibit its citizens from consuming certain substances or undergoing specific procedures. Such measures should not be viewed as violations of human rights, since human rights also encompass the right to a good quality of life. The state is obliged to help guide its citizens toward achieving a good quality of life, even if this may involve restricting or, in some cases, nullifying certain individual rights (Giorgetta, 2002).

Based on Indonesia's positive law, the consequences of spreading false information are only regulated under Law No. 1 of 2024, but not included in Law No. 17 of 2023, even though the impact can be highly dangerous. One issue frequently highlighted is the danger of mercury-based cosmetics or recommendations to substitute infant formula for breast milk. Both are cases that have long-term impacts, but to date, there are no penalties that satisfy the public's sense of

justice, as stated in several studies (Helfer et al., 2021; Hidayana et al., 2023; Makalam & Khairunnisa, 2024; Sapsuha & Gultom, 2025).

In several discussions, it has been suggested that certification should be required for content creators in Indonesia, especially in critical sectors such as health and law. This is to ensure that the public receives accurate and reliable information. However, there are concerns that this could have an impact on freedom under Article 28E. Nevertheless, it is also true that the limits of our freedom are the freedoms of others, or equality before the law. Before expressing an opinion, a person must realize that they have an obligation to say only the truth. Good intentions cannot be accepted as justification for a criminal act. Therefore, firmness is needed so that the public's right to a healthy life is not neglected.

Ian Willmore, a public health advocate, illustrated this point with the example of smoking bans in public spaces. Initially perceived as a violation of human rights, such restrictions were later proven to reduce the communal risk of heart attacks (Dai et al., 2022). A supporting legal perspective is also offered by Nugroho and colleagues (Nugroho & Najicha, 2023). According to Nugroho, the right to a healthy life is often overlooked because social norms tend to prioritize harmony and conflict avoidance over health as a primary concern. However, Nugroho's research found that a healthy environment and a community with good health can have a domino effect not only on the individual but also on their family, the economy, and even contribute to their country. This further reinforces the importance of protecting the community to create a healthy environment that does not overlook the fact that the community should also be protected from invalid information, where the state must also play an active role, including preventing the spread of invalid and even dangerous health information before it spreads widely and endangers not only individuals but also the future of a society.

CONCLUSION

Health education on modern wound care through social media platforms such as YouTube can essentially be regarded as a form of health advocacy. However, within the Indonesian legal framework, the position of health advocacy still faces several challenges. Based on Law No. 17 of 2023, health advocacy is recognized, yet the standards and mechanisms governing the involvement of non-medical actors in health promotion remain unclear. This creates legal and practical issues, as social media enables anyone—both medical and non-medical professionals—to disseminate health information without guaranteed validity. Such conditions may negatively affect the public, particularly those with limited awareness of the importance of reliable health information, and in the long term may pose risks to society.

Legal protection for society against the risks of disinformation is primarily regulated under Law No. 1 of 2024, particularly concerning the dissemination of false information. However, this remains part of the *lex generalis* within the context of health law and does not allow space for a preventive paradigm in health regulation. Some scholars have suggested that the government should implement stricter measures, such as verification mechanisms for content creators. Nevertheless, preliminary observations indicate that the verification process still depends heavily on the government, thereby creating the risk of politicization and legal uncertainty. This condition highlights a legal gap between the right to freedom of expression (Article 28E of the 1945 Constitution) and the right to a healthy life, both of which should be equally protected. Concerns over potential restrictions on freedom of speech are often at odds with the urgent need to safeguard public health. Philosophically, law should be progressive and adaptive to civilizational change, including the emergence of social media as a new medium for health advocacy. The state is therefore obligated not only to guarantee freedom of expression but also to protect its citizens from inaccurate or misleading health information. Consequently, concrete steps are needed in the form of regulation or certification for health-related content

creators, particularly in critical sectors, to ensure that the public receives valid and accountable information, even though technical details still require further development.

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