The aim of this study is to examine the correlation between subjective sound sensitivity and irritability toward elevated sound emissions resulting from a sharp increase in human activity following the BPJS Kesehatan program in Jakarta, particularly among nursing staff who constantly experience intense work-related stress. Data was collected from one South Jakarta hospital with BPJS Kesehatan affiliations. Nurses (n=101) assigned in inpatient wards completed the Khalfa Hyperacusis Questionnaire and Brief Affective Reactivity Scale as measurements. Results showed that there is a significant correlation between sensitivity to noise and affective reactivity (irritability) (p<0.05), as well as correlations to a specific dimension of sound sensitivity and several demographic characteristics. It was indicated that exposure to noise may increase affective reactivity (irritability) or that being in an irritable mood worsens the perception of sound. Other mediating factors might also exist to report individual differences relating to either variable, such as personality traits, threshold differences, appraisal processes, and perception of crowd dynamics.

Keywords: noise, affective reactivity, sound sensitivity, Jakarta, irritability, mood, nurses, BPJS Kesehatan, hospital

References: 73 (1957 – 2015)