

# Indoor Air Pollution (Carbon Dioxide and Total Volatile Organic Compound) and Pulmonary Disorders in Junior High School Students in Depok, West Java

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## Abstract

Good indoor air quality in the school environment is crucial for health and productivity of the students. Indoor air pollution needs to be taken into consideration, given that one can spend 90% of their time indoor. CO<sub>2</sub> and Total VOC is an indoor pollutant that causes pulmonary disorder. This research is to investigate the relationship between exposure of CO<sub>2</sub>, concentration, total VOC and pulmonary disorder in Junior High School students. This research used *cross-sectional* design conducted on March - May 2018. The samples were 139 students taken by using *simple random sampling*. CO<sub>2</sub> value was measured by Q-trak, Total VOC was measured by ppbRAE and the lung function value was spirometry. Indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in Junior High School of Depok is 478.70 ppm, the average total concentration VOC is  $6.4 \times 10^{-3}$  ppm, % KVP = 72.66, % VEP<sub>1</sub> = 74.52 and % VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP = 93.97 in average, and the proportion of students with pulmonary disorder is 3.6%. There is no relationship found between exposure of indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and total VOC with lung disorder VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP (CO<sub>2</sub>, p = 1.000 and total VOC p = 0.374) since the number of students with lung disorder is low in number while CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and the total VOC level is below the listed threshold. This study found no evidence that exposure was related to pulmonary disorder. A healthy and clean living behavior in school environment needs to be improved and further research on other indoor air pollutant parameters and respiratory disorders or degenerative disease should be conducted with different methods.

**Keywords:** carbon dioxide, total volatile organic compound, pulmonary function, school

## 1. Introduction

Good indoor air quality in the school environment is crucial for health and productivity of the students. Indoor air pollution needs to be taken into consideration, given that one can spend 90% of their time indoor (Hutter et al., 2010). Indoor air pollution is a major problem for public health globally (Bruce et al., 2000). EPA research indicates that indoor contamination is 2–5 times at risk even reaching 100 times higher than outdoor pollution. Indoor air quality is determined by the amount contamination of the pollutant from a wider spectrum, source of pollution with the specific in accordance with the place, climate, culture, local ambient air, characteristics of buildings and indoor activities (Madureira et al., 2015).

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is one of the air borne pollutants resulting from fossil fuels combustion (coal, natural gas, oil, solid waste, trees, wood products and particular chemical reaction (EPA, 2016). The rapid development of transportation sources is responsible for the increasing CO<sub>2</sub> emission in the air which becomes the biggest contributor to climate change and greenhouse effect (WHO, 2009). In Indonesia in 2004, the highest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions came from energy consumption (62%) then human respiration (10%) (Samiaji, 2010). Indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration level reflects the indoor air quality. The main source of indoor CO<sub>2</sub> comes from human respiratory process in that room (Mahyuddin & Awbi, 2012).

In addition, indoor air quality in schools is marked by the complexity of various pollutant materials such as *Volatile Organic Compounds* (VOCs), particulate matter, aldehydes, bacteria and fungi (Madureira et al., 2015). VOC is a large group of any organic compound (excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic cables

or carbonates) with high vapor pressure according to its usage condition (Cicolella, 2008; EPA, 2011). Research conducted in Texas shows that motor vehicle emissions provide optimal information to schools among traffic, followed by the use of cleaning agents, polish furniture, materials used in arts and crafts activities, use of hot air, and deodorizing cookies in the urinal pots are the sources for high indoor concentrations (Raysoni et al., 2017).

Research conducted in Hungary shows that there is a significant correlation between class characteristics and indoor pollution sources in the class facing the street as  $PM_{10}$  and increasing  $CO_2$  levels. The classroom wall painted with water-resistant paint correlate with the increasing level of  $PM_{10}$ , benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, total BTEX and formaldehyde. Classroom wall renewal less than one year correlates with the increasing level of ethylbenzene, xylene and total BTEX. Moreover, cleaning the classroom in the morning correlates with the increasing level of xylene, total BTEX and formaldehyde (Csobod, Rudnai, & Vaskovi, 2010).

Pollutants enter the human body through inhalation, ingestion and skin penetration (ATSDR, 2003). Pollutants enter the body through inhalation route is affected by physical component factors (gas, dust, pollutant size, solubility and hygroscopic values), chemical component (direct contact with tissue, acidity, and high alkalinity level can damage cilia and enzyme system) and the host factors (Budiyono, 2001). Children are especially sensitive to environmental exposure because they are developing their organ, meaning that exposure potentially causes discomfort or even poor health condition and lifetime burden of disease (Salthammer et al., 2016).

Research conducted by Panayostis in 2001 reports that students with high  $CO_2$  concentration tend to feel drowsy, lethargic, and complaining about stuffiness or stale air (Mahyuddin & Awbi, 2012). They have respiratory symptoms such as sneezing, *wheezing*, rhinitis and asthma (Ferreira & Cardoso, 2014) and a positive trend between  $CO_2$  in the room and asthma prevalence shows 4.7% (Martins et al., 2014). Research in Canada indicates that exposure to 10 types of indoor VOC is associated with reduced pulmonary function especially in the age group below 17 (Cakmak et al., 2014). The exposure of 1,4-DCB which is an element of VOC comes from the use of air fresheners, toilet deodorizers and moth balls leads to decreasing pulmonary function in the United States population (Elliott et al., 2006). Research conducted in Portugal and Malaysia proves that VOC exposure is associated with pulmonary disease in students (Supu & Jalaludin, 2017).

Depok is one of the big cities in West Java Province which is a buffer zones of the Special Capital Region of Jakarta with a high level of air pollution similar to other major cities in Indonesia. Pollution in Depok comes from the increasing number of motor vehicles owned by Depok residents or passing vehicle in Depok streets. It is reported that number of new vehicles reaches 8,000 for each month (Samsuudin et al., 2015). The increasing activities of transportation sector in Depok will absolutely affect the public health. The effect of air pollution resulting from vehicle emissions and indoor pollution is very important for measurement, especially measurements are taken during school hours because the school environment has an important role in the health and academic achievement of students. Research on relationship between  $CO_2$  exposure and total VOC with pulmonary disorder in junior high school students in Depok has never been conducted. This research aims to determine the relationship between exposure of  $CO_2$  concentration, total VOC and pulmonary disorder in students at school. The results of this study are able to increase knowledge and can be input for the school and the Depok regional government to improve health in the school environment.

## 2. Research Method

### 2.1 Sampling

The study used cross-sectional design and conducted in at Depok, West Java Province on March until May 2018. The population in this study was all students of grade VII and VIII Junior High School at Depok. The school criteria determined by the researcher were the school was located beside the road, near bus terminal and situated in settlements. The researcher selected three schools with two schools were taken from simple random sampling and one school determined by purposive sampling. The researcher took four classes randomly from each school, but one school was taken 2 (two) classes because there was only one class per grade.

The selection of respondents was based on the class chosen as the sample that fulfilled the inclusion criteria of students that was grade VII and VIII who were 13 to 15 years old, had healthy conditions, and offered to participate in research. While the exclusion criteria were students who have the history of respiratory disorders such as asthma and bronchitis. The sampling was conducted randomly. The total sample of this study were 139 respondents from State Junior High School A 64 respondents, State Junior High School B 59 respondents and State Junior High School C 16 respondents. Prior to the data collection, the researcher explained to the respondents and the teachers whether they were willing to participate in this research. They should sign the informed consent forms and acknowledged by their parents/guardian since the respondent came from the vulnerable age group, children. This

research has received Ethical approval and permission from the Ethics Committee at the Faculty of Public Health, University of Indonesia number; 214/UN2.F10/PPM.00.02/2018.

### *2.2 CO<sub>2</sub> and Total VOC Concentration Measurement*

The CO<sub>2</sub> and total VOC measurement was conducted indoor and outdoor. The number of air sample was one point in each class (indoors) and outdoors. The measuring instruments are placed in classrooms in the middle of classrooms and in front of classrooms with a height of 0.5 - 1 meters from the floor to simulate student breathing zones. The measurement of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was conducted for one hour started at 07.30 until 12.30 a.m.; the total VOC concentration measurement was conducted for 30 minutes. Indoor air quality monitoring tools used were calibrated direct reading portable gas monitors. To measure CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, TSI Q-Trak<sup>TM</sup> was used and to measure total VOC concentration, ppbRAE model PGM-7240 was used (Supu & Jalaludin, 2017).

### *2.3 Pulmonary Function Test*

Respondents pulmonary function test was conducted in the school using spirometry which was periodically calibrated. Spirometry was used to measure the volume of forced expiration in the first second/VEP<sub>1</sub> (Forced Expiratory Vital/FEV<sub>1</sub>) and lung vital capacity/KVC (Forced Vital Capacity/FVC). The measurement was begin with an anthropometry test to measure the height of the students using microtoise by placing microtoise on the flat wall, removing footwear, standing flat on the wall, both feet touching to the wall and looking straight ahead. Then, students' weight was measured using a digital weight scale with 0.1 kg accuracy. The scale was placed on a flat floor and made sure to point the zero number. Afterwards, the students were asked to stand on the scale barefoot. Furthermore, pulmonary function tests are carried out by first entering data on age, sex, height and weight on spirometry when they are standing and taking deep breaths and then immediately breathing out.

The spirometry results are processed manually using numerical data contained in the normal pulmonary value table according to age and height of Indonesia (Mangunnegoro et al., 1992), and then the calculation will be produce of VEP<sub>1</sub> and KVP presentation. Furthermore, the researcher categorized the results where the percentage of VEP<sub>1</sub> ≤ 80%, KVC ≤ 80%, VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVC ≤ 70% was included as pulmonary disorder.

### *2.4 Data Analysis*

The Data is processed and presented using descriptive analysis in the form of percentages, averages, medians, standard deviations, maximum, minimums and analysis tests conducted by Fisher Exact test to identify the relationship between dependent, independent, and covariate variables. The relationship was considered as significant if the p-value was <0.05.

## **3. Results**

Result of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration measurement in the classroom in Junior High Schools of Depok City is in the average of 478.70 ppm. The lowest CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is around 315 ppm, and the highest CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is about 766 ppm. The mean total of VOC in the classroom is 0.0054 ppm, with the lowest total of VOC concentration is 0.0001 ppm and the highest is 0.0029 ppm (table 1). Meanwhile, the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration outside the classroom produces approximately the same values that the lowest is about 251 ppm and the highest is about 269 ppm. The concentration of outdoor total VOC in Junior High School 3 is 0.0001 ppm (data not shown).

The mean value of junior high school students' lung function based on % KVP is 72.66%, VEP<sub>1</sub>% is 74.52 and ratio of VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP is 93.97 (Table 1). The variable of lung function under study based on the criteria of VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP then made into categorical form. Table 2 indicates that the proportion of pulmonary disorder in junior high school students in Depok is 3.6%. The students' characteristics in this study show that the proportion of male and female students is similar of 50.4%. The proportion of students with higher normal nutritional status is 69%. The smoking students are 11.5%; students with fewer physical activities are 53.2%, classroom with poor ventilation are 59.7%.

Table 1. Distribution of CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration and Total VOC in Classroom and Pulmonary Function Value in Junior High School Students in Depok

Variable	Mean	Deviation Standard	Value	
			Min	Max
CO <sub>2</sub> Concentration	478.70	127.71	315.00	766.00
VOC total concentration	0.0054	0.0103	0.0001	0.0290
KVP < 80%	72.66	16.15	28.69	106.30
VEP1 < 80%	74.52	19.94	21.75	114.42
VEP1/KVP < 70%	93.97	11.66	23.77	100.00

Table 2. Distribution of VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP Lung Function Value and Respondent Characteristics in Junior High School Depok 2018

Variable	Total (n = 139)	Percentage (%)
<b>VEP1/KVP Pulmonary Function</b>		
Disorder	5	3.6
Normal	134	96.4
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	69	49.6
Female	70	50.4
<b>Nutritional Status</b>		
Abnormal	43	30.9
Normal	96	69.1
<b>Smoking Habit</b>		
Yes	16	11.5
No	123	88.5
<b>Physical Activity</b>		
Poor	74	53.2
Fair	65	46.8
<b>Ventilation</b>		
Inadequate	83	59.7
Adequate	56	40.3

The results of bivariate data analysis showed that students exposed to CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations with > 448 ppm for 4.2% had pulmonary disorders while those exposed to CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations with < 448 ppm as much as 2.9% had pulmonary disorders with p-value = 1,000. Furthermore, students exposed to total VOC in the class were 1.6% and had pulmonary disorders while students exposed to the total VOC concentration < 0,0001 ppm were 5.3% and had lung disorders with p-value = 0.374. the statistically variable CO<sub>2</sub> and VOC did not have a significant relationship with pulmonary disorders (Table 3).

There is no significant relationship between the covariate variable under study pulmonary disorders in junior high school students. The sex variable obtains p-value of 1.000 with OR = 0.667 (95% CI: 0.108 - 4.119), then based on nutritional status variables, it is obtained p-value of 0.645. The OR value indicates that students with abnormal nutritional status will be 1.512 times higher (95% CI: 0.243 - 9.394) at risk of pulmonary disorders compared to those with normal nutritional status. Smoking habit obtains a p-value of 1.000 and OR = 1.042 (95% CI: 1.005 - 1.081), it means the students who are smoking have the same risk of pulmonary disorders with non-smoker

students. Physical activity variable obtains a p-value = 1.000. The OR score indicates that students with low physical activities have a risk of 1.331 (95% CI: 0.215 - 8.223) higher to suffer from pulmonary disorders than those with sufficient activities. In the ventilation variable, it is obtained p-value = 0.392 with OR value of 0.436 (95% CI: 0.285 - 24.062). This research also performed a multivariate analysis (data not shown).

Table 3. Analysis of Relationship between CO<sub>2</sub>, Total VOC, Covariate Variables and Pulmonary Disorder in Junior High School Students Depok

Variable	Pulmonary Function (FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC)				Total	P Value	OR	95% CI
	Disorder		Normal					
	N	%	N	P				
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration</b>								
> Median (448 ppm)	3	4.2	68	95.8	71	1.000	1.456	0.236 - 9.994
≤ Median (448 ppm)	2	2.9	66	97.1	68			
<b>VOC total concentration</b>								
> Median (0.0001)	1	1.6	63	98.4	64	0.374	0.282	0.031 - 2.555
≤ Median (0,0001)	4	5.3	71	94.7	75			
<b>Sex</b>								
Male	2	2.9	67	97.1	69	1.000	0.667	0.108 - 4.119
Female	3	4.3	67	95.7	70			
<b>Nutritional Status</b>								
Abnormal	2	4.7	41	95.3	43	0.645	1.512	0243 - 9.394
Normal	3	3.1	93	96.9	96			
<b>Smoking habit</b>								
Smoking	0	0.0	16	100	16	1.000	1.042	1.005 - 1.081
Not smoking	5	4.1	118	95.9	123			
<b>Physical activity</b>								
Poor	3	4.1	71	95.9	74	1,000	1.331	0.215 - 8.223
Fair	2	3.1	63	96.4	65			
<b>Ventilation</b>								
Inadequate	2	2.4	81	97.6	83	0.392	0436	0.285 - 24.062
Adequate	3	5.4	53	94.6	56			

#### 4. Discussion

Indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration often increases due to the fact that human breath out CO<sub>2</sub> (about 4%) beside the inadequate ventilation factors. Research in Scandinavia measuring CO<sub>2</sub> concentration for 3-5 days in the classroom, obtains CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 1086 ppm due to inadequate class ventilation and also associated with lower attendance of the students (Gaihre et al., 2014).

The result of measurement of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in State Junior High School A is 408.25 ppm, State Junior High School B is 588.25 ppm and State Junior High School C is 400.50 ppm. The results illustrate the average concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the classrooms that are located adjacent to the highway, namely Junior High School A and Junior High School C, which are lower than Junior High School B located in the residential area. The concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> is higher in 1 class compared to the other three classes due to lack of adequate ventilation which is only 4.49%. When class measurement takes place in the closed room with minimal ventilation, then the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration will be higher due to poor air exchange. While in Junior High School A there is a low CO<sub>2</sub> level about 315 ppm in 7.B classroom since during the measurement, some of the students have already left because the class is over. The concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the classroom depends on several factors, such as the number and

activity of the students, class density, duration of spending time in the class and the amount of fresh air entering the room. In addition, the size, number, opening position and types of the window affect the CO<sub>2</sub> contained in the classroom which has natural ventilation (Talarosha, 2016).

In this study, the average of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the classrooms in Depok Junior High School is around 478.70 ppm and above the threshold refers to the Minister of Health Regulation on Indoor Air Sanitation Number 1077 of 2010, where the maximum limit of CO<sub>2</sub> inside the room is 1.000 ppm. This study is in line with research conducted in elementary schools in Medan for three days that the average CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the class ranged from 596.5 ppm - 644.5 ppm below the registered ASHRAE threshold (Talarosha, 2016). The same research conducted in Malaysia in three schools indicates that the measurement of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the class is below the threshold of 502 ppm (Razali et al., 2015).

The observation in three schools indicates that out of the 10 classes, there is inadequate ventilation area, they are three classrooms in Junior High School A, two classrooms in Junior High School B and one classroom in Junior High School C. Referring to Regulation of Minister of Health of Republic of Indonesia Number 1429 of 2006 on School Environmental Health Requirements, the classroom ventilation area is 20%. Therefore, an environmental health program intervention should be conducted through the activity of healthy school program, where the environmental health officers in Community Health Center (*Puskesmas*) and Depok Health Office promote and conduct environmental health inspections. Result of school environmental health inspection can be utilized as a framework of integrated cross-sector planning materials involving Provincial Development Planning Agency (*BAPEDA*) and Education Office (*Dinas Pendidikan*).

Besides CO<sub>2</sub> pollutants, exposure to volatile organic compound has been a concern of Indoor Environment Quality (IEQ) in the schools and other buildings. VOC in the school environment shows lower level in a large room and good ventilation classroom with low occupancy ratio (Marzocca et al., 2017).

The total average of VOC concentration in Junior High School A is 0.0135 ppm, in Junior High School B is 0.0001 ppm while VOC values in Junior High School C is assumed to be the same as results in Junior High School B taking into account the characteristics and activities of students in school middle class. The difference in total VOC concentration in junior high school are activity of clean classroom by sweeping and mopping using a cleaning agent during measurement. The total concentration of VOC in Junior High School B is lower due to the low source of VOC in the classroom and the students are having the exam during the research. VOC sources in the classroom come from household products use including solvent, adhesive, paint, cleaning product, furniture and air freshener (Shook-Sa, Chen, & Zhou, 2017). This is similar to research conducted in Texas that VOC concentrations came from cleaning agents, furniture polish, materials used in arts and crafts activities, use of hot water, and deodorizing cakes used in urinal pots were the main sources for indoor concentration high (Greenwald et al., 2013; Raysoni et al., 2017).

The research conducted in five schools in Italy involving two schools are located in petrochemical industry area. The rest are located in controlled areas away from industrial sites, indicates that VOC concentration is higher in industrial areas ( $114.4 \pm 61.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) compared with the concentration of VOC in the controlled areas ( $80.7 \pm 33.4 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ ) and this difference indicates a significant relationship (P value = 0.004) (Cipolla et al., 2016). Research in United States shows that industrial areas have the highest concentration of VOC compared to suburbs and urban and the VOC concentration increases in winter (Jia, Batterman, & Godwin, 2008). Research in India indicates that BTEX has higher significant concentration during the winter than during the spring and summer (Gaur, Singh, & Shukla, 2016).

In this study, the average of indoor total VOC concentration in Depok Junior High School is 0.0054 ppm and still below the maximum value of 3 ppm in accordance with government's regulations. The low concentration of total VOC in Junior High School Depok is due to the low VOC sources in the classroom; based on the indoor observation there are only wooden chairs, wooden tables, *whiteboard* and markers, no arts and crafts activities. In addition, the research location is in urban areas. While in the previous studies, the total VOC source is higher in industrial than in urban and suburban areas. The factors affecting indoor pollutants are temperature in which during the measurement of total VOC, the classroom temperature is between 28.8 °C - 31.9 °C; it is in accordance with the VOC nature that is easy to evaporate.

One effect of indoor air pollution caused by exposure to CO<sub>2</sub> and total VOC is pulmonary disorder. In this research, the lung function disorders VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP experienced by junior high school students is 3.6%. This result is the same as the Primary Health Care Survey of 2013 that the prevalence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in Indonesia is 3.7%, for prevalence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in Depok is 3.5%. Similar results occurs in the research in Argentina, the prevalence of lung function impairment based on VEP<sub>1</sub>/ KVP

criteria in urban area is 3.8% (Wichmann et al., 2009).

There is no relationship found in this study between exposure of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and pulmonary disorders VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP in Junior High School students. The study was the same as Sexton's, which stated that CO<sub>2</sub> levels in rooms with a low concentration of 0.7% and 1.2% on four healthy individual could not be used to measure lung function, lung volume, gas mixing, and the difference is slightly changed in the function of the gas exchange unit but does not have a detrimental effect on health. Possible pathophysiological changing in lung function and structure with the concentration of 0.7% and 1.2% in a given period of time is considered low (Sexton, Mueller, Elliot, Gerjer, & Strohl, 1998). So it was found that there was no relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> and pulmonary disorders that the proportion of patients with pulmonary disorders was lacking in the amount and concentration of indoor CO<sub>2</sub> was below the standard quality value.

VOCs are compounds that have a high impact on respiratory disorders, one of which can cause allergies and asthma (Mögel et al., 2011). The relationship of VOC exposures include xylene, ethylbenzene and toluene are related to asthma and asthma symptom, while the pulmonary disorders are related to the exposure of environmental endotoxin and indoor air exposure including tobacco smoke and volatile organic compounds (Shook-Sa et al., 2017).

The research in Italy was finds that children living in petrochemical industry areas indicate a relationship between VOC exposure and increasing respiratory illness (Cipolla et al., 2016; Wichmann et al., 2009). Research in Sardinia reports was teenagers from 12 - 14 years old living in petrochemical's contaminated area have a decreasing lung function and inflammation (Rusconi et al., 2011). This research is contrast to the previous studies since the result indicates no significant relationship between VOC concentration in the classroom and pulmonary disorders in the students (p value = 0.374). It may be due to the proportion of pulmonary disorders at a low level and the total concentration of VOC is still below the listed threshold.

The covariate variables analyzed were gender which showed no association with pulmonary disorders, this is different from the results of a study conducted in China which found that lung disorders in girls were more susceptible to ambient air pollutants compared to boys (Liu & Zhang, 2009). However, it is in line with the study in Semarang which suggests that there is no relationship between sex and pulmonary disorders (Wulansari, 2016). The insignificant relationship might be caused by the approximate the same number of pulmonary disorders in each group.

There is no significant relationship between nutritional status and pulmonary disorders of VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP in students. This result is similar to a study conducted in Colombo which found that students aged 9 - 15 years, 20% were obese in nutritional status and the average value of KVP, VEP<sub>1</sub> and FEF was 25 - 75% lower in the abnormal weight group and there is no significant difference. Some mechanisms may be related to obesity to cause respiratory problems, such as asthma symptoms that correlate with mechanical effects and adipose tissue in the lungs, respiratory inflammation and hyper bronchial response (Liyana et al., 2016). There is no relationship found in this study due to mostly of children have normal nutritional status that is 69.1%.

A research in Spain states that the prevalence of respiratory symptoms is higher in smoker. VEP<sub>1</sub> damage and VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP ratios are directly related to the number of smoked cigarettes in the adults (Urrutia et al., 2005). Research in America on the children aged 10-18 years old urges that cigarette smoking is related to mild airway obstruction and slowing the development lung function in teenagers (Gold et al., 1996). However, this study found that there was no significant relationship between students' smoking habits and pulmonary disorders, this happened because there were only a few students who smoked and only one cigarette was consumed. The students who smoke are only curious about how it tastes. In this study, there were several students who smoked in the school environment, especially in the State Middle School, so there was a need for efforts from the school to supervise students through a smoking cessation campaign that could be held through school health activities.

Research in Brazil states that boys who engage in leisure time physical have higher VEP<sub>1</sub>/KVP and FEF than those who do not perform physical activity (da Silva et al., 2016). Whereas in China, girls who perform physical activities have higher lung function than children who are passive (Ji, Wang, Liu, & He, 2013). This study is different from Silva and Ji but this study is the same as the study found in children 11 - 15 in Pelosia Brazil that VEP<sub>1</sub> is not related to physical activity (Menezes et al., 2012). The number of students who have less physical activity is higher, so that students are expected to do more and secure physical activities. According to WHO states that physical activity can be carried out for 60 minutes every day with moderate to intensive sports such as walking, cycling, and other sports that are beneficial to health.

Student activity in the classroom results in higher concentration of pollutants. Therefore, ventilation is very

important to maintain indoor air quality (Csobod et al., 2010). A research in two schools in Paris indicates that indoor air quality is better in a mechanically ventilated class than in a window ventilated class. The concentrations range from 750 ppm - 1.500 ppm of CO<sub>2</sub> in a window-ventilated classroom. The total concentration of VOC in the class is higher by 200 - 620 µg / m<sup>3</sup> compared to the outdoor (Kelly, Maupetit, & Robine, 2002). The result of this study is in contrast to the result of previous research.

The limitations of this study is in the design, that is cross-sectional, so it can only describe the problem in general and the measurement that was conducted once described the condition of exposure for a moment only.

## 5. Conclusion

The conclusion in this study was no effect of exposure to CO<sub>2</sub> and VOC concentrations related to student lung disorders due to CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and total VOCs that were still below the threshold. however, efforts will be need to be made to improve clean and healthy behaviors in schools that must be carried out together with relevant agencies, improve class ventilation, and future research can be done to get deeper parameters in other indoor air pollutants with respiratory diseases or degenerative diseases.

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## Competing Interests Statement

The authors declare that there are no competing or potential conflicts of interest.

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