

The Role of Case Titles and Reconstruction in Strengthening Investigators' Confidence in Crime Evidence

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Abstract

The law enforcement process for suspected criminal acts begins with an investigation process by the police. An investigation is carried out with the aim of searching for and finding an incident that is suspected of being a criminal act so that the next stage, namely investigation, can be carried out. This research uses a normative juridical research type with a qualitative approach. Based on secondary data and primary data. The results of this research show that: (1) The role of case title and reconstruction in the Indonesian criminal justice system is as a guide in the criminal investigation process. (2) Case title and reconstruction play a role in assisting investigators in collecting evidence and strengthening investigators' confidence in collecting evidence to uncover a criminal act. The conclusion from this research is that the case title plays a role in helping investigators collect evidence, while the reconstruction acts as a guiding evidence that strengthens investigators' confidence in uncovering criminal acts.

KEYWORDS: Case Title, Reconstruction, Investigators, Evidence



Introduction

The government forms law enforcement officers, which in criminal law are divided into two parts, namely formal criminal law and material criminal law. Formal criminal law regulates procedures for punishing individuals who violate criminal regulations, as an implementation of material criminal law. On the other hand, material criminal law formulates crimes and violations as well as the requirements for imposing sentences. The aim of criminal procedural law is to discover material truth, although this process can only be initiated if there is an allegation that a criminal offense has occurred.¹

The law enforcement process for suspected criminal acts begins with an investigation by the police. The investigation aims to search for and identify incidents that are suspected to be criminal acts, so that they can proceed to the investigation stage. There are several ways for a case to reach the police, namely through a report or complaint, direct knowledge by investigators, or direct arrest (caught red-handed).²

After an investigation is carried out and it is proven that there is a suspected criminal act, the next process is an investigation. Investigators are tasked with searching for and collecting evidence related to the crime. Proof is a crucial aspect in criminal law because valid evidence according to law is needed to ensure that someone who is suspected of being guilty can be held accountable for their actions. All information collected during the investigation will be recorded in the minutes included in the case file. The initial stage of the investigation begins with the title of the case, which involves various related parties such as the reporter, reported party, experts, witnesses and evidence. The aim is to obtain more detailed information,

¹Hamaminata, Gani. "Development of the Justice System in Indonesia". *Journal of Law, Politics and Social Sciences (JHPIS)*, Vol. 2, no. 4. (2023) : 52. <https://doi.org/10.55606/jhpis.v2i4.2334>

²Wulandari, Cahya. "SETTLEMENT OF CRIMINAL CASES THROUGH PENAL MEDIATION: ACCESS TO JUSTICE AT THE POLICE LEVEL". *HUMANI (Law and Civil Society)*. Vol. 8 No. 1. (2018): 101. <https://doi.org/10.26623/humani.v8i1.916>

verify existing data, and provide a clear picture of the case. Case titles are divided into two types, namely ordinary case titles which include three stages: beginning, middle and end of the investigation process, and special case titles which are carried out in cases that require special attention from the public, state officials or investigators.³

A case title is the first step in the criminal prosecution process which helps ensure that the investigation is appropriate to the conditions of the crime scene (TKP) and reduces the possibility of a pre-trial incident. Case titles also play an important role in strengthening investigators' confidence in the evidence that will be used in court.⁴

The professionalism of police officers as part of law enforcement is very important, especially in efforts to uncover the truth. The process of uncovering substantial truth begins by looking for evidence of criminal incidents in the field. If information about a case is not yet available, criminal law permits the use of reconstruction techniques. Reconstruction is a method used by investigators to search for substantial truth. As the initial stage of the investigation, reconstruction is carried out by investigators to gain a better understanding of the actual chronology of a crime.

Reconstruction is the process of repeating scenes from a crime that actually occurred. The aim is to make it easier for investigators to carry out investigations into the cases they are handling, and the results will be documented in the investigation report. When carrying out the reconstruction, the investigator asked the defendant to re-enact the scenes of the incident from beginning to end, including the methods and tools used

³Panjaitan, A, C, D., & Effendi, T. "The Validity of Basuki Tjhaja Purnama's Open Case Title in Indonesian Criminal Procedure Law". Indonesian Law Symposium. Vol. 1 No. 1. (2019) : 141. <https://journal.trunojoyo.ac.id/shi/article/view/6325/3996>

⁴Sudariyanto, F., Helvis, and Susetio, W. "Analysis of Case Titles in the Criminal Investigation Process in the Police". Journal of Syntax Transformation, Vol. 2 No. 11. (2021) : 1576. <https://doi.org/10.46799/jst.v2i11.451>

by the defendant to commit the crime. Through this process, investigators attempt to find and reveal the material truth of the case being investigated.⁵

One example of a criminal case that occurred in 2022, the Indonesian Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (INAFIS) team carried out reconstruction regarding the murder case of a woman and her child whose bodies were dumped under the Semarang-Bawen Km 425 toll bridge. The perpetrator killed the victim because he always asked where he was. The victim entrusted her child to the perpetrator at the end of 2021, but it turned out that the perpetrator had killed the victim's child first, which made the perpetrator kill the victim at that time.

This reconstruction was carried out to fulfill the completeness of the files in the legal process at the Court. This activity is to clarify the Investigation Report (BAP), evidence, witness statements and the perpetrator. The results of the reconstruction are used as evidence to be strengthened in court. The reconstruction was witnessed directly by the prosecutor and the suspect's lawyer, and the suspect underwent 30 murder scenes starting from contacting the victim, picking up the victim, then killing him, to throwing the body under the Semarang-Bawen Toll Bridge.

In practice, in the process of implementing case titles and reconstruction, there are problems that become obstacles to the process of implementing case titles and reconstruction. The number of investigators is inadequate and the number of public reports regarding criminal acts makes it difficult for investigators to process a case. Apart from that, what becomes an obstacle for investigators in carrying out their duties is collecting material evidence and formal evidence. The difficulties faced by investigators in collecting material evidence were due to obstruction by witnesses who were aware of the legal incident, some witnesses were difficult to present for various reasons, witnesses were afraid to give information to the investigator, as well as discrepancies in the statements of

⁵Fadhilah, Nisa. "RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS IN EFFORTS TO EXPOSE CRIMINAL ACTS (Study of North Lampung Police)". *Legal Journal, Legalita*. Vol 4 No. 2. (2020) : 226. <https://doi.org/10.47637/legalita.v4i2.668>

one witness with other witnesses or with the defendant. Difficulties with formal proof faced by investigators include the loss of evidence used by the defendant in committing the crime, the defendant throwing away the evidence far from the scene of the incident, and the defendant trying to destroy the evidence. This is intended so that investigators do not find evidence that the defendant used when committing a crime.⁶

According to article 184 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code, it is stated that valid evidence is: witness statements, expert statements, letters, instructions and statements from the defendant. Holding a case can strengthen evidence, because in its implementation, the investigator obtains information from witnesses, experts, defendants, as well as physical evidence such as documents. This information helps investigators in uncovering criminal acts, including in the reconstruction process as a guide for investigators. Evidence is important in proving evidence if other evidence such as statements from witnesses, defendants, experts and letters is not sufficient to prove the defendant's guilt in the judge's view. It is important to ensure that legal events are in accordance with actual facts, so that the legal process only leads to substantial truth. The evidence contained in article 184 paragraph (1) works together and plays an important role in strengthening the evidence in the case title and reconstruction process.

Case investigation and reconstruction are interconnected in understanding, testing and strengthening investigators' confidence in searching for evidence related to a criminal act. Both have an important role in ensuring that the investigation process runs fairly and in accordance with legal principles. By understanding the context and importance of the role of case law and reconstruction, the legal system can continue to develop towards greater sustainability and justice.

⁶Helmi, HJ, & Ihya', R. The Role of Reconstruction in the Investigation Process in Efforts to Reveal Crimes. IMTIYAZ: Journal of Islamic Sciences, Vol. 7, no. 2. (2023) : 39.<https://doi.org/10.46773/imtiyaz.v7i2.773>

Method

In this research, the researcher chose a qualitative approach method. This approach is a research procedure that produces descriptive data through the use of written or spoken words to observe the behavior being studied. Qualitative research methods emphasize direct observation of phenomena and efforts to uncover the substantial meaning of these phenomena.⁷By using a type of normative juridical research where law is conceptualized by examining theories, concepts, and what is written in statutory regulations. Normative juridical research is also based on legal systematics, in this case the main aim is to identify the meanings or basics contained in the law. The normative juridical research method is library legal research based on secondary legal materials and primary legal materials.⁸This description is presented to discuss presenting data by reading, understanding, studying, and explaining the role of case title and reconstruction in strengthening investigators' confidence in the evidence that reveals criminal acts.

The qualitative research method is an approach that places greater emphasis on the use of methods, steps and procedures that enable the collection of data and information through respondents as subjects who convey their personal opinions and experiences. This aims to obtain a holistic overview of the research subject.⁹This research describes data using primary legal sources in the form of secondary data, utilizing three secondary legal materials, as well as primary data as additional information.

⁷Singarimbun, M., & Effendi, S. "SURVEY RESEARCH METHODS". Jakarta: LP3ES. (1989): 10.

⁸Soekanto, Soerjono. "EFFECTIVENESS OF LAW AND THE ROLE OF SANCTIONS". Publisher: Remadja Karya CV. Bandung. (2019): 20.

⁹Bugin, Burhan. "QUALITATIVE RESEARCH". Jakarta: Fajar Interpretama Offset. (2007): 63.

Results and Discussion

The results of research and analysis are prepared as part of the researcher's responsibilities in the data collection process. After explaining the research background, the theories applied, and the research methods used, the researcher then presents the results and analysis of the data that has been collected. The results of the research and discussion will be explained through literature study and the results of interviews conducted.

1. The Role of Case Titles and Reconstruction in Current Criminal Justice

The Central Java Regional Police have an important role in the police organizational structure. One important part is the Ditreskrim, which is part of the Indonesian National Police (POLRI). Ditreskrim has special responsibilities in handling various criminal cases, especially those related to general crimes. The General Criminal Investigation Directorate is generally tasked with carrying out investigations, collecting evidence, and handling various types of crimes such as murder, theft, robbery, fraud, and other criminal cases that do not fall into special categories.

In carrying out investigations and investigations properly, several stages are needed to determine whether an incident can be categorized as a criminal act and determine who should be made a suspect in the case, so as to avoid errors in the determination. Before starting an inquiry and investigation, investigators usually conduct a case study on the case they will be handling. Holding cases is a step in the Indonesian criminal justice system to identify cases that will enter the judicial process. This process is carried out to reduce the risk of errors in determining the alleged action, so that investigators can make appropriate decisions without experiencing missteps in determining the next steps or decisions.

Normatively based on data examined from literature studies, case title is an important process in the criminal justice system in Indonesia, which plays a role in strengthening investigators' confidence in a case. The

holding of cases as part of the Indonesian criminal justice system is regulated in articles 31, 32 and 33 of the National Police Chief Regulation Number 6 of 2019 concerning Criminal Investigation. Case titles in the Indonesian criminal justice system are carried out in 2 (two) ways, namely ordinary case titles and special case titles.

Article 32 paragraph (1) Perkap 6/2019 states that case titles are usually carried out for the following matters:

- a. Determining whether a crime is a crime or not;
- b. Determining the Suspect;
- c. Termination of investigation;
- d. Delegation of cases; And
- e. Solving investigative obstacles

Meanwhile, special case titles are carried out for the following matters as stipulated in Article 33 paragraph (1) Perkap 6/2019:

- a. Responding to public complaints from litigants and/or their legal advisors after an order from the superior investigator;
- b. Reopening the investigation based on the pretrial decision;
And
- c. Follow up on matters of public concern.

Based on the provisions of article 31 of Perkapolri 6/2019, the case title mechanism is carried out by means of ordinary case titles and special case titles. The case title process begins with the receipt of a report by the investigator, followed by the preparation of a case title draft by the investigator, then the draft is submitted to the investigator's supervisory function. Next, a case title schedule is prepared, followed by coordination by investigators before carrying out the case title. During the implementation of the case title, the investigator will obtain a conclusion from the case title. The results of the case title are then followed up by the investigating supervisor before being submitted to the Leadership for the next step. The case title process usually consists of initial, middle and final stages in the investigation process.

Statement from the results of the researcher's interview on May 14 2024 with Mr. Inspector Wazir Arwani Malik, MHS., SH, as Committee for Sub-Directorate 1 Unit I:

"Case title is a small judicial mechanism process in the police regarding the determination starting from the status of the investigation to the investigation process to the fulfillment of at least 2 (two) pieces of evidence. There are 2 (two) implementation of case title, namely the ordinary case title and the special case title stated in in National Police Chief Regulation No. 6 of 2019 concerning Criminal Investigation."

There are 5 (five) valid pieces of evidence in accordance with Article 184 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code, namely witness statements, expert statements, letters, instructions and defendant's statements. The statement from Mr. Inspector Wazir Arwani Malik can be strengthened by the theory of proof based on Article 183 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which means to prove a criminal act at least 2 (two) pieces of evidence. In this case, investigators to find or collect evidence begin by carrying out the stages of case title, case title based on the provisions of article 31 of the National Police Chief Regulation No. 6 of 2019 concerning Criminal Investigation, there are 2 (two), namely ordinary case titles and special case titles, each of which has a role in the implementation stages.

Case titles in the Indonesian criminal justice system act as a mechanism for evaluating and assessing whether a case is worthy of proceeding to the investigation, prosecution or trial stage. Through case titles, investigators can help find solutions to the cases being handled and discuss with other parties to ensure clarity of the case. Case titles allow investigators to make more informed decisions regarding the status of the case, such as naming someone as a suspect or stopping the investigation if the available evidence is insufficient. Discussion and evaluation in case proceedings can also identify weaknesses in evidence or investigative procedures, allowing investigators to correct them earlier in the investigation process. Thus, case titles can increase the overall efficiency of investigations and speed up case resolution.

Normatively, the use of reconstruction as evidence is not specifically regulated in the Criminal Procedure Code. However, this is implied in article 75 paragraph (1) letter lc of the KUHAP which permits the implementation

of other actions in accordance with the provisions of the KUHAP. The implementation of these other actions is further regulated in Chapter III number 8.3.d of the National Police Chief's Decree No. Pol: Skep 1205/1X/2000 concerning Revision of the Set of Technical Guidelines and Technical Guidelines for the Investigation Process of Criminal Offenses, which includes methods of examining suspects using certain techniques:

- (1) Interviews;
- (2) Interrogation;
- (3) Confrontation; And
- (4) Reconstruction.

Reconstruction basically refers to the provisions in Article 184 of the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP), which regulates evidence. This article does not regulate the implementation of reconstruction in detail. Reconstruction is used as indicative evidence that is not required in the investigation process, but is used to check conformity with the information that has been recorded from the suspect and witnesses in the investigation report.

Article 188 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code defines clues as events, happenings, or conditions that show a relationship either with each other or with the criminal act itself, which shows that a criminal act has occurred and who the perpetrator is. These instructions are not direct evidence, but are conclusions obtained from other evidence in accordance with Article 188 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Procedure Code, such as witness statements and defendant's statements. Juridically, reconstruction is carried out in the case examination process by National Police investigators, has a close relationship with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Chapter III Number 8.3.d in the National Police Chief's Decree No. Pol: Skep 1205/1X/2000 provides a legal basis and clear guidelines regarding Criminal Investigation Bujuklak, with the aim of improving the quality and effectiveness of investigations in carrying out the reconstruction process, further in accordance with Chapter III number

8.3.d jo. In order to persuade criminal investigations, the results of reconstruction examinations are stated in the Investigation Report (BAP).

Reconstruction in the criminal justice system functions as a basis for investigators to investigate a case and collect evidence to ensure fairness in the legal process by revealing the true incident of a criminal act. The results of this reconstruction are archived in the Investigation Report (BAP). Reconstruction must be carried out carefully to strengthen the validity of evidence in criminal cases. However, in practice, reconstruction is usually only applied to certain cases, especially murder cases.

2. The Role of Case Titles in Strengthening Investigators' Confidence in Criminal Evidence

Investigation was first used as a legal term in Law Number 13 of 1961 concerning Basic Provisions for the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. In this context, police investigators are given the authority to carry out investigations into a criminal incident with the aim of uncovering relevant facts and evidence and finding suspected perpetrators of criminal acts.

Valid evidence is evidence that has a direct relationship to a criminal act, which can be used as a basis for proving the truth of the criminal act committed by the defendant. The main focus in investigative activities is efforts to collect evidence that can reveal clearly the criminal act that occurred.

To strengthen their confidence in the evidence, investigators will identify relevant evidence in the case being investigated, involving analysis of information, testimony and physical evidence related to the incident being handled. Apart from that, investigators also carry out examinations at the crime scene (TKP) to look for evidence such as physical traces, evidence, or potential additional witnesses who can support the case. The inspection process must be carried out carefully to ensure that the authenticity of the evidence found can be verified. After collecting evidence, the investigator

must then document all the information obtained and prepare a complete investigation report to be submitted to the Detective Officer.

If the evidence collected by the investigator is still not sufficient to prove a criminal act, the investigator will decide to expand the investigation to look for additional evidence or more complete information. In this case, it may involve conducting additional interviews with witnesses, conducting a more in-depth analysis of existing evidence, or re-examining the scene of the incident by conducting a case study to evaluate the problems faced by investigators and add information during the investigation.

Normatively, based on data reviewed from literature studies, Article 184 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code has stipulated in detail the types of evidence that are considered valid according to the law. Evidence outside these provisions cannot be used to prove the defendant's guilt. Regarding the implementation of case titles, although it is not specifically regulated in the KUHAP, the investigator's authority to take other actions in accordance with applicable law can be found in Article 7 paragraph (1) letter j of the KUHAP.

Details regarding the implementation of case titles are further regulated in Articles 31, 32 and 33 of National Police Chief Regulation No. 6 of 2019 concerning Criminal Investigation. When conducting a case investigation, investigators can collect evidence based on information from the reported party, the complainant, as well as physical evidence such as official documents or other relevant documents used during the case investigation to uncover criminal acts.

Case investigation activities are carried out by police investigators to determine the next steps in the investigation process and to determine whether someone can be named a suspect. Case titles have an important role in structuring the investigation process carried out by investigators to handle certain criminal cases before the case is handed over to the Public Prosecutor. Statement of the results of the researcher's interview on May 14

2024 with Mrs. Ipda Indah Wahyuni, SH, MH, as Committee 3 Bagwassidik :

"Participants in a case title have the right to express their opinion or argue in accordance with the object of the title that needs to be conveyed and must be agreed upon which has been mutually determined."

Case participants must also understand that the right to argue must also be carried out in accordance with procedures that have been determined and mutually agreed upon. As stated by Mrs. Indah Wahyuni, researchers also agree that participants in a case can use their arguments to strengthen or doubt the evidence provided by other parties. They may present arguments regarding the authenticity of the evidence, the credibility of the witness, or the proper interpretation of the evidence. The arguments put forward must be based on existing facts and applicable legal principles. They need to avoid speculation or assumptions that are not supported by concrete evidence. Arguments supported by strong evidence will be more convincing for investigators to continue handling the case.

Implementation of the reconstruction as regulated in Chapter III number 8.3.d of the National Police Chief's Decree No. Pol: Skep 1205/1X/2000 concerning Revision of the Set of Operational Guidelines and Technical Guidelines. The process of investigating criminal acts is a form of development of indicative evidence. This is because reconstruction does not have specific regulations governing it, so its implementation is optional. The results of the reconstruction allow investigators to make conclusions, compare them with the evidentiary theory that has been prepared before carrying out the reconstruction, and then determine whether the evidentiary theory requires adjustment, strengthening, or needs to be abandoned.

Statement of the results of the researcher's interview on May 14 2024 with Mr. Police Commissioner Djohan Andika, SE, SIK, SH as Head of Sub-Directorate 3 Unit IV:

"Reconstruction is regulated in the National Police Chief's Decree No. Pol: Skep 1205/1X/2000 concerning Revision of the Set of Operational Guidelines and Technical Guidelines for the Process of Investigating Criminal Offenses, which is one method of investigative examination by carrying out reconstruction, but reconstruction is also contained in the National Police Chief Regulation No. 6 of 2019 concerning Criminal Investigation."

Police Commissioner Djohan Andika's statement said reconstruction was one of the examination methods in the investigation process. This is based on the National Police Chief's Decree No. Pol: Skep 1205/1X/2000 concerning Revision of the Set of Operational Procedures and Technical Guidelines for the Criminal Investigation Process, which was issued to provide more detailed technical guidance and instructions regarding the implementation of the criminal investigation process. The aim is to ensure the truth of the information given by the suspect or witness by rehearsing the crime incident in accordance with the information.

Reconstruction is one of the techniques used by investigators to verify the truth of the information given by the suspect. Sometimes, when a suspect is questioned by more than one investigator, the suspect may try to give different information to each investigator. This difference can result in different perceptions among investigators regarding the actions committed by the suspect.

To be able to confirm whether the suspect actually committed a crime and how big his role was, investigators need to have a strong belief in the suspect's involvement. This belief must be based on the evidence gathered, including testimony from witnesses, experts and the defendant.

The purpose of investigator confidence is to reduce the risk of errors in identifying suspects. To strengthen this belief in initial findings regarding suspects and evidence, reconstruction is often carried out to match the information obtained from witnesses and suspects with existing findings.

In carrying out reconstruction to strengthen the investigator's confidence, the suspect will be asked to repeat scenes that have been

compiled by the investigator based on the suspect's examination report and the witness' examination report. Every scene acted out by the suspect will be documented by investigators through photos or recordings as evidence that reconstruction has been carried out in the case being handled.

After the reconstruction process is complete, the investigator will prepare a Minutes of Reconstruction, which will be used as a tool to strengthen the investigator's confidence in the evidence, in accordance with the provisions of Article 75 paragraph (1) letter k of the Criminal Procedure Code which regulates procedures for making minutes by investigators, including the preparation of Minutes Reconstruction or other actions.

In collecting evidence, investigators play an important role in ensuring that the evidence collected is admissible in court and is strong enough to support the charges against the suspect. Evidence theory provides guidance on how evidence should be collected, analyzed, and presented. Investigators in carrying out their duties are in accordance with the provisions of the theory of evidence, starting from identifying evidence, collecting evidence, analyzing evidence, processing and storing evidence, and preparing reports. General reconstruction needs to be carried out so that the action has stronger confidence that the crime was actually committed by the suspect.

Case title and reconstruction play a role in helping investigators strengthen their confidence in collecting evidence to uncover a criminal act. Technically, the case title and reconstruction process will complete the investigator's Investigation Report (BAP) so that it can be accounted for during the trial. Investigators have also carried out investigations according to guidelines on how evidence should be collected, analyzed and presented.

By using case identification and reconstruction effectively, investigators can increase their confidence in the evidence uncovering criminal acts and strengthen the cases they build for further prosecution. In this case, investigators have processed many cases or uncovered criminal

acts up to trial until the defendant was found guilty, even though the process and obstacles are often faced, investigators remain professional in collecting evidence to strengthen their confidence in the evidence. Even though reconstruction is only an additional piece of evidence which is part of the guiding evidence, in practice reconstruction really helps investigators in maintaining their confidence in the evidence in uncovering a criminal case and the results of this reconstruction can also support other pieces of evidence.

Conclusion

The legal basis for the implementation of case titles in the criminal justice process in Indonesia can be found in several regulations, including Article 7 paragraph (1) letter j of the Criminal Procedure Code and Articles 31, 32 and 33 of the National Police Chief Regulation No. 6 of 2019 concerning Criminal Investigation. Meanwhile, the legal basis for carrying out reconstruction to strengthen investigators' confidence in evidence is contained in Article 75 paragraph (1) letter k of the Criminal Procedure Code which regulates the implementation of other actions by investigators, and is further explained in Chapter III number 8.3.d of the National Police Chief's Decree No. Pol. Skep/1205/IX/2000 concerning Revision of the Set of Technical Guidelines and Technical Guidelines for the Criminal Investigation Process.

Case title plays a role in the criminal justice process which helps investigators in collecting evidence to determine the next action in making a decision regarding the case being handled, while reconstruction plays a role in strengthening the investigator's confidence in evidence in providing a clear picture to investigators to reveal a criminal act.

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS

The authors state that there is no conflict of interest in the publication of this article.

FUNDING INFORMATION

None

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

None

HISTORY OF ARTICLE

Submitted : November 25, 2023
Revised : January 20, 2024
Accepted : February 15, 2024
Published : February 26, 2024