

ABSTRACT

Oral health cannot be separated from general health, so it is very important to pay attention to. One of the oral health problems that often occurs in the community is dental caries. Dental caries can occur in various age groups including school-age children. The incidence of dental caries is often associated with several things such as knowledge, attitudes, and behavior. Knowledge related to oral health is important in shaping oral hygiene behavior in school-age children. This study aims to determine the relationship between oral health related knowledge and dental caries status in children aged 10-12 years.

This study was an observational study with a cross sectional design. The subjects were 176 students of Muhammadiyah Sangonan IV Elementary School aged 10-12 years. Oral health related knowledge was measured using a questionnaire, while dental caries status was seen from the DMFT score obtained from clinical examination. The data obtained were analyzed using the spearman correlation test.

The results showed that most subjects (70.45%) had knowledge related to oral health in the good category. The results of the Spearman correlation test showed that there was no relationship between knowledge related to oral health and dental caries status in children aged 10-12 years at Muhammadiyah Sangonan IV Elementary School ($p = 0.229$). The conclusion of this study is that there is no relationship between knowledge related to oral health and caries status.

Keywords: Knowledge, Dental Health, Childhood Caries