

HUBUNGAN PENGALAMAN KARIES GIGI DENGAN STATUS GIZI PADA ANAK TUNAGRAHITA DI SLB YAYASAN PENDIDIKAN PATRIOT KOTA TASIKMALAYA

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ABSTRAK

Pendahuluan: Anak tunagrahita lebih rentan terhadap karies gigi dan masalah gizi akibat keterbatasan kognitif dan kesulitan menjaga kebersihan diri. Karies yang tidak ditangani mengganggu proses mengunyah, menurunkan asupan makan, dan memperburuk status gizi, sedangkan gizi buruk melemahkan jaringan gigi dan meningkatkan risiko karies. **Tujuan:** Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis hubungan antara pengalaman karies gigi dengan status gizi pada anak tunagrahita di SLB Yayasan Pendidikan Patriot Kota Tasikmalaya. **Metode:** Penelitian ini menggunakan desain analitik observasional dengan rancangan *cross-sectional*. Sampel sebanyak 30 anak tunagrahita diperoleh dengan teknik *purposive sampling*. Data dikumpulkan melalui pemeriksaan pengalaman karies gigi menggunakan skor def-t dan DMF-T, serta pengukuran status gizi berdasarkan indeks antropometri (IMT/U). Analisis data menggunakan uji *Rank Spearman*. **Hasil:** Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat hubungan yang kuat dengan nilai koefisien $r = -0,698$. Korelasi negatif tersebut menunjukkan adanya hubungan berlawanan arah antara pengalaman karies gigi dan status gizi. Semakin tinggi pengalaman karies gigi, maka semakin buruk status gizinya. Anak dengan pengalaman karies gigi yang rendah memiliki status gizi yang lebih baik. **Kesimpulan:** Terdapat hubungan pengalaman karies gigi dengan status gizi pada anak tunagrahita di SLB Yayasan Pendidikan Patriot Kota Tasikmalaya.

Kata Kunci: Pengalaman karies gigi, status gizi, anak tunagrahita.

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**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DENTAL CARIES EXPERIENCE AND
NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF MENTALLY DISABLED
CHILDREN AT SLB YAYASAN PENDIDIKAN
PATRIOT CITY TASIKMALAYA**

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Children with mental disabilities are more susceptible to dental caries and nutritional problems due to cognitive limitations and difficulty in maintaining personal hygiene. Untreated caries interferes with the chewing process, reduces food intake, and worsens nutritional status, while malnutrition weakens dental tissue and increases the risk of caries. **Purpose:** This study aims to analyze the relationship between dental caries experience and the nutritional status of mentally disabled children at SLB Yayasan Pendidikan Patriot City Tasikmalaya. **Method:** This study used an observational analytical design with a cross-sectional design. A sample of 30 mentally retarded children was obtained using a purposive sampling technique. Data collection was carried out by examining dental caries experience using def-t and DMF-T scores, as well as measuring nutritional status based on the anthropometric index (BMI/A). Data analysis used the Spearman Rank test. **Results:** The results of the study showed that there was a strong relationship with a coefficient value of $r = -0.698$. The negative correlation indicates an inverse relationship between dental caries experience and nutritional status. The higher the dental caries experience, the worse the nutritional status. Children with low dental caries experience have better nutritional status. **Conclusion:** There is a relationship between dental caries experience and nutritional status in mentally retarded children at the Patriot Education Foundation Special Needs School in Tasikmalaya City.

Keywords: Experience of dental caries, nutritional status, mentally retarded children.

Bibliography: 51

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