

**HUBUNGAN PENGETAHUAN ORANG TUA DAN STATUS GIZI ANAK
DENGAN KEJADIAN *EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES* PADA
ANAK PRASEKOLAH DI RA AL-HASANAH CIBEUTI
KECAMATAN KAWALU KOTA TASIKMALAYA**

ABSTRAK

Latar belakang: Survei Kesehatan Indonesia (SKI) 2023 mencatat 56,9% anak usia 3–5 tahun mengalami masalah gigi dan mulut, dengan tingkat tertinggi pada usia dini. *Early Childhood Caries (ECC)* adalah bentuk karies pada anak prasekolah yang dapat mengganggu tumbuh kembang, menyebabkan nyeri, dan kerusakan gigi parah. Faktor risiko *ECC* meliputi asupan gizi yang tidak seimbang, terutama konsumsi makanan manis dan lengket, serta rendahnya pengetahuan orang tua tentang kesehatan gigi anak. **Tujuan:** Mengetahui hubungan pengetahuan orang tua dan status gizi anak dengan kejadian *Early Childhood Caries* pada anak prasekolah di RA Al-Hasanah Cibeuti, Kecamatan Kawalu, Kota Tasikmalaya. **Metode:** Penelitian ini merupakan survei analitik dengan pendekatan *cros-ssectional*. Sampel berjumlah 31 pasang orang tua dan anak dari total populasi 112, dipilih menggunakan teknik *purposive sampling*. Data dikumpulkan melalui kuesioner pengetahuan orang tua, pengukuran status gizi anak (IMT/U), dan klasifikasi *ECC*. **Hasil:** Sebagian besar orang tua memiliki pengetahuan cukup dan kurang (38,7%), status gizi anak mayoritas baik (51,7%), dan *ECC* dominan pada kategori tipe II (48,4%). Uji Rank Spearman menunjukkan hubungan signifikan antara pengetahuan orang tua dan *ECC* ($p = 0,000$; $r = -0,606$), serta antara status gizi dan *ECC* ($p = 0,000$; $r = -0,678$). **Kesimpulan:** Terdapat hubungan signifikan antara pengetahuan orang tua dan status gizi anak dengan kejadian *Early Childhood Caries*. Semakin baik pengetahuan dan status gizi, semakin rendah tingkat *ECC* pada anak.

Kata Kunci: Pengetahuan orang tua, status gizi anak, *early childhood caries*, anak prasekolah

Daftar Pustaka: 47 (2013-2024)

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTAL KNOWLEDGE AND
NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN WITH THE INCIDENCE
OF EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES IN PRESCHOOL CHILDREN
AT RA AL-HASANAH CIBEUTI KAWALU DISTRICT
TASIKMALAYA CITY**

ABSTRACT

Background: The 2023 Indonesian Health Survey (SKI) reported that 56.9% of children aged 3–5 years experienced dental and oral health problems, with the highest prevalence among early childhood age groups. Early Childhood Caries (ECC) is a form of dental caries affecting preschool-aged children, which can impair growth and development, cause pain, and lead to severe tooth damage. Risk factors for ECC include unbalanced nutritional intake, especially frequent consumption of sweet and sticky foods, as well as low parental knowledge of children's oral health. **Objective:** To determine the relationship between parental knowledge and children's nutritional status with the incidence of Early Childhood Caries among preschool children at RA Al-Hasanah Cibeuti, Kawalu District, Tasikmalaya City. **Methods:** This study employed an analytical survey design with a cross-sectional approach. A sample of 31 parent-child pairs was selected from a total population of 112 using purposive sampling. Data were collected through parental knowledge questionnaires, nutritional status assessments using BMI-for-age (BMI/A), and ECC classification. **Results:** Most parents had moderate to low knowledge levels (38.7%), the majority of children had good nutritional status (51.7%), and ECC was most commonly found in type II category (48.4%). Spearman's rank test showed a significant relationship between parental knowledge and ECC ($p = 0.000$; $r = -0.606$), as well as between nutritional status and ECC ($p = 0.000$; $r = -0.678$). **Conclusion:** There is a significant relationship between parental knowledge and children's nutritional status with the incidence of ECC. Better knowledge and nutritional status are associated with lower levels of ECC in children.

Keywords: Parental knowledge, child nutritional status, early childhood caries, preschool children

References : 47 (2013 – 2024)