

**PENINGKATAN PENGETAHUAN KESEHATAN GIGI DAN MULUT
PADA IBU HAMIL DI KELURAHAN TAMBAK WEDI KECAMATAN
KENJERAN SETELAH MENDAPAT MATERI PREDECARE**

***AN IMPROVEMENT OF DENTAL HEALTH KNOWLEDGE IN PREGNANT
WOMEN IN TAMBAK WEDI AREA AFTER GIVEN THE PREDECARE
COUNSELING METHOD***

ABSTRACT

Background. *The prevalence of caries among children in several areas in Indonesia is still high. A new approach has been developed to increase knowledge level of pregnant women because mothers have an important role in teaching their children, as they are one of the most influential and closest people to their child. PreDentCare is a unique modification of dental health education and is expected to increase dental health knowledge in pregnant women. An improvement of knowledge in mothers should then be transferred to their child so that their dental health status could also be improved.* **Purpose.** *This study was aimed to find out the improvement of knowledge about dental health knowledge by using PreDentCare, a unique modification of dental health education.* **Method.** *The method of this study was semi analytic experimental with pre test and post test control group design. Twenty four pregnant women in Tambak Wedi area, Kenjeran were used as the study sample. Twelve people were grouped into control group. This group was given a conventional method. The rest of twelve pregnant women were grouped into treatment group. This group was given the PreDentCare method. Each method is being repeated five times. The data collected was analyzed using Repeated Measure ANOVA for comparison of pretest and posttest of each group. The comparison between control group and treatment group were analyzed using Independent Samples T-Test based on 0,05 significant.* **Results.** *A PreDentCare method and conventional method were compared to each other and there was significant difference between these two methods. PreDentCare method was more effective in increasing pregnant womens' knowledge than conventional method.* **Conclusion.** *PreDentCare method was more effective than conventional method in increasing pregnant womens' knowledge.*

Key words: *Dental health education, PreDentCare, pregnant women, knowledge*