ABSTRACT

Background. Anxiety is a barrier for adult patients and children during their visit to the dentist. The factors that cause dental anxiety can be divided into personal factors and non-personal factors. Personal factors are age, gender, situation, opinion, previous experience, and visiting patterns. Non-personal factors are family anxiety and the dentist’s attitude. Beside on initial survey, the amount of dental visits of children in Karangbong was still very low, that was caused by dental anxiety. Purpose. The purpose of this study was to describe the level of dental anxiety in elementary school in Karangbong village, Probolinggo. Method. The study was conducted by giving Dental Anxiety Scale’s questionnaires to determine the level of dental anxiety and questionnaires about personal and non-personal factors of elementary school students in Karangbong by interviewing. Result. The results of this study indicated that the majority of students 72.9% in the low anxiety and 27.1% of high anxiety. Conclusion. There are more severe dental anxiety in students aged 11-12 years old, female, having a planned situation, having negative point of view, having no negative experiences before, having unfavorable visiting pattern, having family’s anxiety, and getting negative manner from the dentists.

Keywords: dental anxiety, personal factors, nonpersonal factors