ABSTRACT

**Background:** Indonesian children's behavior in maintaining oral health is still low due to lack of knowledge about the importance of oral and dental maintenance. Peer teaching (peer group) is a strategy that is often used to help students who have learning difficulties or difficulty in processing information and has been shown to increase the value of student learning outcomes. However, peer group learning strategy has not been implemented in schools to increase children's knowledge about oral health. **Purpose:** Knowing whether natural peer group can improve knowledge by looking at the difference of oral health knowledge in natural peer group before and after intervention in the peer group leader figures. **Method:** This study is a quasi-experimental study with before-after study design in the 4-5 grade students of SDN Pacar Kembang I Surabaya. Total respondents pretest and posttest 77 students were selected with a total sampling method. Provision of material intervention of oral health to 13 characters selected peer group leader based questionnaire sociometry. **Results:** The average value of pretest members of the peer group was 69.9 and the average value of posttest members of the peer group was 68.86. Analysis of statistical test T-test showed that p-value 0.570 means there is no significant difference to the oral health knowledge in natural peer group before and after intervention in the peer group leader figures. **Conclusion:** Natural peer group has not been able to improve the oral health knowledge effectively.

**Key words:** Level of knowledge, oral health, natural peer group