

**HUBUNGAN TINGKAT KARIES DENGAN STATUS GIZI PADA BALITA
USIA 4-5 TAHUN DI KELURAHAN PERAK TIMUR SURABAYA**

**(CORRELATION BETWEEN CARIES AND NUTRITIONAL STATUS
AT PRESCHOOL CHILDREN AGED 4-5 YEARS IN PERAK TIMUR
SURABAYA)**

ABSTRACT

Background Caries and malnutrition in preschool children are public health problems with multifactorial etiology and mechanism. Teeth and oral cavity hold an important path of nutrition in to the body. Nutrition is an important factor that can determined the process of growth and development, an imbalance between intake and needs of nutrition cause malnutrition. Untreated caries is the disease that can caused pain and uncomfort feeling so that may affect weight, quality of life, and growth of the children. Untreated caries may decreased chewing ability which affect nutritional intake inadequate. **Purpose** The aim of this cross sectional study is to correlate between caries and nutritional status among preschool children aged 4-5 years in Perak Timur, Surabaya. **Method** 93 preschool children were selected from two PAUD. Caries was measured using def-indices, and nutritional status measured using antropometric. Measurement of nutritional status is based on weight / height Z-score **Results** There was an inverse linear relationship between caries and nutritional status of the children and significantly lower anthropometric outcomes for children at each consecutive group with higher levels of caries. The significancy of Spearman's test is $p=0,000$ ($p<0,05$) **Conclusion** Caries is associated with nutritional status.

Keyword : Caries, malnutrition, children