ABSTRACT

Background. Musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) are disorders of the skeletal muscles that often occurs as a result of work. Health practitioners, one of whom is a dentist which susceptible to MSD related-work. Working position of dentist are often less ergonomic, awkward, static and repetitive movement that causing MSD risk of the neck, shoulders, arms, hands, and back. Various kind of studies have shown the prevalence of MSD in dentists is high in other countries but there has been no research in Surabaya. The study was conducted to dentists in public health service because, according to the literature, they have more symptoms of MSD than dentists in private practice. Purpose. The aim of this study was to determine the overview of MSD among dentists of public health service in Surabaya. Method. Cross sectional study using a questionnaire that includes musculoskeletal discomfort questionnaire. The questionnaire record socio demographic and ergonomic factors when the dentist treating patients. Musculoskeletal discomfort questionnaire record the prevalence of MSD experienced during the previous 12 months. Results. The majority of respondents (94.2%) had experienced MSD. MSD most frequently occur in the neck 63.3%. Followed by right shoulder 55%, right upper arm 58.3%, right wrist 45%, upper back 50%, and lower back 51.7%. All of respondents who not implement the four handed dentistry has experienced MSD 57.5% of respondents experienced that MSD has led them to work distressed. Conclusions. Dentists of public health service in Surabaya most likely had experienced MSD. This experience related to the socio-demographic and less ergonomic position.

Keywords: Musculoskeletal disorders, dentist, ergonomics.