ABSTRACT

Background. People in Indonesia often consume food containing sucrose. If the sucrose is consumed in a large amount, it will decrease pH saliva and soon teeth destruction will be happen. To avoid it, it is necessary to change the habit of sucrose consumption into another kind of sugar, namely xylitol. Xylitol is preferred to use, because it is cheaper and easier to get. Xylitol a media not good media for bacteria to grow and xylitol is difficult to be fermented by Streptococcus mutans so it will not decreases pH saliva. Purpose. to know the changes of pH saliva after chewing xylitol gum and toothbrushing using xylitol toothpaste in children. Methode. This research was done in children, between ages 8-12 years old. the children was chewing of xylitol gum and toothbrushes with xylitol toothpaste after ate be. Then, children’s pH saliva measured with pH meter and compared. Results. There were no significant differences in pH saliva after chewing xylitol gum and toothbrushing using xylitol toothpaste in children. Conclusion. There were increasing in children’s pH saliva after chewing xylitol gum and toothbrushing using xylitol toothpaste.

Key words: xylitol, pH saliva, chewing gum, toothpaste.