ABSTRACT

Growth is the increase of size and count of cells and intracellular tissue, which mean the increase partial or complete physical measures and body structure. Indicators of growth are body weight, height, and head circumference. The aim of this study was to differentiate the growth of children with and without autism because the prevalence of children suffer from autism is increasing and occurs an allergic to casein and gluten that can affect growth rate.

This study was an cross sectional analitical study that used questionnaire to parents/guardian and direct measurement to respondents. Case group was taken from Cakra and Agca Autism School, whereas control group was taken from Anak Ceria, Dharmahusada, and Dipenogoro Kindergarten. Sampling method employed for case group was total sampling method, and for control group was random sampling method. Respondents enrolled for case group were 30 children, and control group were 60 children.

Statistical analysis using Mann-Whitney U test result showed $p = 0.987$ for weight in respect of age, $p=0.650$ for height in respect of age, and $p=1$ for head circumference in respect of age.

In conclusion, there was no difference between body weight, height, and head circumference in respect of age between children with and without autism.

Keywords: growth, body weight, height, head circumference, autism