ABSTRACT

Background: Autism is one of children developmental disorders. Autistic child in maintaining oral hygiene, such as tooth brushing, need a special attention and rely on another person like a mother. A mother role in maintaining oral hygiene of her autistic child can be affected by some factors such as age of mother, socio-economic (education background, working status, family income), the number of children, birth order of autistic child, children’s experience of toothache. Purpose: the aim of this research is to describe mother’s role in maintain oral hygiene of autistic child through tooth brushing action in AGCA Center Surabaya. Method: To obtain data on this research used interview guidelines. Respondents in this research were amounted to 29 respondents which is a mother of autistic child at AGCA Center Surabaya. Calculation of data is presented in tabular form frequency (percentage) and followed by cross-tabulation. Result: The result of this research showed that 72.4% of respondents were have a good role in maintain oral hygiene of autistic child through tooth brushing action. Good role in this research was dominated by a mother that: 18-40 years old (61.9%), senior high school education (57.1%), a housewife (66.7%), family income over 5 million a month (66.7%), having two child (61.9%) and her autistic child who 8-12 years old (57.1%), as the youngest children (71.4%), and never has a toothache (71.4 %). Conclusion: The mother’s role in maintain oral hygiene of autistic child through tooth brushing action in AGCA Center Surabaya relatively good.

Keywords: mother’s role, autistic child, tooth brushing