

ABSTRACT

Factors Analysis of Dental Caries Severity Level among Preschool Age Children at Jeruk Public Health Center in Surabaya

Early childhood caries is a dental public health problem with prevalence rates as high as 90% and the caries severity is enough high in many areas. The research aimed to analyze the risk factors related to the severity of early childhood caries. This was expected to develop oral hygiene programs at public health centers in Surabaya. This was an analytic research conducted with *cross-sectional* design study in June-August 2012. Dental examinations, oral hygiene and caries index assessment forms, and also questionnaires were used to collect the data. Population of the research was taken by screening the children with caries from early childhood education and kindergarten class A. Among 509 children whose teeth were examined, 460 children were affected by deciduous teeth caries. From the sampling process, 104 children with caries were obtained as a sample. The dependent variable of the research was the caries severity level, while the independent variables were include the mother's education level, the caregiver's knowledge level, the frequency of cariogenic foods consumption, brushing teeth, oral hygiene, the habit of drinking milk from bottle, and the frequency of control to the dentist. The results showed that risk factors related to the severity of early childhood caries were the mother's education level, the caregiver's knowledge level, the frequency of cariogenic foods consumption, brushing teeth, oral hygiene, the habit of drinking milk from bottle, and the frequency of control to the dentist. The conclusion of this research that the determinant factors the severity of early childhood caries are include the mother's education level, the caregiver's knowledge level, and the frequency of cariogenic foods consumption, while the most dominant factor is the frequency of cariogenic foods consumption.

Keywords : dental caries severity, early childhood, determinant factor.