

ABSTRACT

Depression resulted by reducing the level of social interaction in elderly people. The activity group therapy is one of psychological therapy that can increase support from peers to reduce depression in elderly. This research aimed to know the influence of *Socialization Group Activities Therapy (TAKS)* improving social interaction and decreasing levels of depression in elderly residents of nursing. This research was carried out on the UPT Elderly Social Service in Lamongan and Elderly Social Service in Jombang. The research design was quasy experimental. Sample of group's treatment determined by purposive sampling and random sampling in control group. Each sample of the groups consist of 12 respondents. Both groups performed pretest and post test to determine levels of depression using the *Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)* and the level of social interaction. The group's treatment was done *TAKS*. The differences before and after the treatment was tested by *Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test* and *Wilcoxon Mann-Whitney*. The result of *Wilcoxon Signed Ranks test* in variable social interaction is $p\ value = 0,011$ and the result of *Wilcoxon Mann-Whitney Test* results is $p\ value = 0.023$. *Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test* on depression variable showed $p\ value = 0.005$ and *Wilcoxon Mann-Whitney Test* resulted $p\ value = 0.023$. It can be concluded that there are influence *TAKS* toward increasing social interaction and decreasing level of depression in elderly residents of nursing.

Keyword : *Socialization Group Activities Therapy (TAKS), social interaction, depression, elderly*