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Research Article

# Optimization of the Role of Posyandu (Integrated Post Service of Health and Family Planning) Cadre in Dental Health Promotion in Toddlers (Study at Posyandu Jagir Wonokromo Surabaya in 2018)

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#### **Abstract**

Background: The initial five-year period in the child's development stage is the golden age, the period in which the child is in a period of growth and development. In the process of growth and development, children always experience health problems in the body, one of which is dental and oral health problems. These oral health problems can affect the general development of children. Therefore, the mother's role becomes dominant in dental care. Posyandu (Pos Pelayanan Keluarga Berencana dan Kesehatan Terpadu, Integrated Post Service of Health and Family Planning, a place/community supervised by health workers to do health promotion, monitoring children's growth and development) is the spearhead for mothers and their toddlers to check toddlers growth and development. Posyandu implementers are cadres who are the main movers in Posyandu activities. Cadres also play a role in providing counseling to toddler mothers. Based on the survey results, it is known that 60% of mothers knowledge of toddlers in maintaining dental hygiene for toddlers is still in the category of lack. This situation may be caused by the role of cadres in providing counseling in the maintenance of dental health.

**Materials and Methods:** Analyzing the relationship of posyandu cadres role in counseling to knowledge of mothers of children under five in the maintenance of toddler dental health in Posyandu. The design in this study was cross sectional analytic. Research data collection methods was carried out using questionnaires. Data was analyzed using the Spearman test with  $\alpha = 0.05$ .

**Result:** Most (58.3%) cadres have a good role. Mother's knowledge about the maintenance of dental health of children under five mostly was in poor category (80%). There was no significant correlation between the role of cadres in dental health education with maternal knowledge in the maintenance of toddler dental health (0.214 > 0.05). The correlation value shows a very weak relationship - 0.163.

**Conclusion:** There was no significant correlation between the role of cadres in dental health education with maternal knowledge in the maintenance of toddler dental health.

Keywords: Role of Cadres; Knowledge of Mother; Maintenance of Children's Dental Health

#### Introduction

Dental and oral health maintenance is one of the efforts made in improving oral health. The maintenance of dental health in children under five is a very important effort to maintain the oral health of children under five. At this time the child will have a major effect on oral health in the process of further growth and development.

In the process of growth and development the child always experiences health problems in his body, one of which is dental and oral health problems. Dental and oral health problems that often occur in children under five are dental caries. Dental caries in children is often found in children under five years with the highest spread in children aged three years [1]. Riskesdas in 2017 showed data as much as 89% of children under the age of 12 had caries [2].

Posyandu is the spearhead for mothers and their toddlers to check the growth and development of their toddler children. Posyandu implementers are cadres facilitated by health workers. The role of cadres in the implementation of posyandu is very large because in addition to providing health information to the community, the cadre is also a community mobilizer to come to the posyandu and carry out clean and healthy behavior [3]. A preliminary study of knowledge on maintenance of dental hygiene for toddlers in three Posyandus in Jagir District found 60% knowledge of toddler mothers in maintaining dental hygiene for toddlers with less categories. This situation may occur due to the role of cadres in providing dental health education to mothers of children under five. Based on premises, this study was carried out to understand the relationship of optimizing the role of cadres in increasing the knowledge of mothers of children under five about maintaining dental hygiene.

#### **Materials and Methods**

The design in this study was cross sectional analytic. Research subjects were posyandu cadres and mothers of toddlers in Jagir Wonokromo Sub-District, Surabaya. The number of respondents involved in this study were 60 people from posyandu cadres and 60 people from mothers of children under five. The sampling technique is done by simple random sampling. Research data collection was carried out through questionnaires. Analysis of research data with the Spearman test with  $\alpha = 0.05\,$ 

# Result Subject characteristics

Characteristic	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
20 - 30	23	38,3
31 - 40	17	28,3
41 - 50	20	33,4
Total	60	100
Education		
Bachelor	7	11,7
High School	39	65
Junior High School	8	13,3
Elementary School	6	10
Total	60	100
Occupation		
Entreprenur	2	86,7
Employee	6	10
Housewife	52	3,3
Total	60	100

Table 1: Subject's characteristics.

Based on the above table, it is known that most of the age of respondent is in the age range of 20 - 30 years. The education of respondents is dominated by secondary education, namely high school/vocational school. Respondents were mostly housewives.

#### **Role of Cadre**

Role of Cadre	Frequency	Percentage	
Poor	25	41,7	
Good	35	58,3	
Total	60	100,0	

Table 2: Role of cadre.

Overall, the role of cadre was in "good" category with 58,3%. While the cadre who was in "poor" category was 41.7%.

#### Knowledge of the mother

Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	48	80,0
Moderate	7	11,7
Good	5	8,3
Total	60	100,0

Table 3: Knowledge of the mother.

Most subjects were in "poor" category with 48 subjects (48%) being on them. Only 5 subjects (8,3%) were in "good" category.

# Correlation analysis between knowledge of mother and role of cadres

Correlation test using Spearman's correlation  Knowledge of Mother				
	r	-0,163		
	n	60		

**Table 4:** Data analysis using Spearman's correlation.

Based on the results of the study it was found that there was no relationship between the role of cadres in dental health counseling with maternal knowledge in the maintenance of toddler dental health in the Jagir Wonokromo Posyandu (p value 0.214 > 0.05).

#### **Discussion**

Counseling is one of the roles of cadres in dental health education in the community. Based on the results of the study, it is known that the majority of posyandu cadres in the Jagir Wonokromo Surabaya sub-district played a good role in conducting counseling on

the maintenance of dental health of children under five. Cadres conduct dental health counseling for toddlers. They prepare counseling materials, media counseling before counseling is carried on. Based on the results of the study note that cadres also provide dental health consultation to mothers of children under five. Cadre teaches how to clean toddler's teeth, recommends cleaning teeth every day, telling them where to check their toddler's dental health. This is in line with the guidelines of the Posyandu Cadre of the Ministry of Health (2012) which states that the role of cadres in posyandu is to prepare for the implementation of posyandu, conduct counseling, motivate the community. Research by Sulaeman., *et al.* (2015) shows that cadres play a role in providing health education to improve public information access to health [3].

Mother's knowledge is one of the most important things in this globalization era. Mother's knowledge of toddlers about maintaining their children's dental health is a part that should not be left behind to make children who are healthy and can develop optimally. Based on the research results, it is known that the mother's knowledge about dental health care for children under five is more with poor categories than moderate and good categories. Most toddler mothers do not know how to clean their teeth. They assume it is enough to clean teeth pf the toddlers by water mouthwash. According to Erwana (2013), how to clean a toddler's teeth by rubbing the crown of a tooth using a toothbrush or a clean wet cloth so that the rest of the attached food can be removed [4]. The results of the study also showed that toddlers' mothers also did not know about the actions that would be taken if dental health problems occurred in toddlers. They do not know if a child with a toothache must immediately seek treatment. Mother of toddlers assume that cavities must be removed. This situation is different from the results of Darsini's research (2017) which states that dental care for children under five is done by teaching how to brush their teeth, reduce food containing sugar and conduct regular dental examinations every 6 months [5].

Based on the results of the study it was found that there was no relationship between the role of cadres in dental health counseling with maternal knowledge in the maintenance of toddler dental health in the Jagir Wonokromo Posyandu (p value 0.214 > 0.05). This result is different from research conducted by Rini and Sari (2018) which shows an increase in school student knowledge which has an impact on increasing the scope of health services after an effort to activate the involvement of health cadres [6].

Although the results of the study showed that the posyandu cadre performed their roles well, the mother's knowledge was still

lacking. There is no relationship between the role of cadres and the knowledge of mothers of children under five years old, possibly due to several factors, among others, it can be caused by factors of mothers under five, including exposure to mass media, social relations, social economy. The statement is in accordance with what was conveyed by Notoatmodjo (2012) that factors that can affect one's knowledge include age, education, exposure to information, social economy (income), social relations, and experience [7].

The existence of both electronic and printed mass media greatly affects the knowledge of mothers of children under five. The more often mothers of children under five are exposed to information media about the maintenance of children's dental health, the mother's knowledge will increase. Social relations factor is also one of the factors that is likely to affect the knowledge of mothers of children under five. The relationship between cadres and mother of children under five in communication is the relationship between communicator and communicant that must run well. If the relationship experiences obstacles, the information submitted by the cadre will not be well received by the mother of children under five. Whereas other factors that influence the knowledge of mothers of children under five in the Posyandu of Jagir Wonokromo, are social economic factors. Most of the under-five mothers are housewives who always play a role in managing their family life at home. Small income creates disruption to gain access to knowledge. In meeting primary and secondary family needs, a good economic status will be more easily fulfilled compared to people with low economic status, the higher the socioeconomic status of a person the easier it is to obtain knowledge, thus making life more quality [8].

The role of the posyandu cadre in dental health counseling in Posyandu in the Jagok Wonokromo sub-district is already good, however the knowledge of mothers under five is still lacking. A mother's lack of knowledge about the maintenance of her child's dental health will have an impact on mother's behavior. This statement is supported by the results of research [8] which shows the relationship between parents' knowledge and behaviors in maintaining dental health of children under the age of three years. In addition to having an impact on maternal behavior, toddler mother's knowledge will also affect the dental health of her child. Like the results of [9] which shows the relationship between mother's knowledge and child dental caries. The results of the study show evidence that the better the mother's knowledge about maintaining dental health of her child, the smaller the occurrence of caries or vice versa.

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### **Conclusion and Recommendation**

The role of posyandu cadres in dental health education in good categories. Knowledge of toddler mothers about maintenance of toddler dental health in the category is lacking. There is no relationship between the role of Posyandu cadres in dental health education to the knowledge of toddlers' mothers about maintaining toddler's dental health.

Authors hope that this study could be the base of the next similar studies and also could be used as data for policy makes.

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