DENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION USING COMICS TO IMPROVE DENTAL HEALTH KNOWLEDGE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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ABSTRACT

Dental health problems are often ignored and not considered a priority in health problems compared to other health problems. The high number of dental and oral diseases is influenced by the main factors, lack of knowledge, efforts to improve dental and oral health by conducting early dental health education. An effective way to promote dental and oral health education in elementary schools is through learning media. The success of dental health education in school children cannot be separated from the educational method and the important role of the media. An innovation in media development in the form of dental health comics which are alternative learning media that are packaged in an attractive way. Data collection in this study was carried out to measure the level of knowledge before and after dental and oral health education in children. Based on the results of research on dental health education using comics to improve elementary school children's dental health knowledge, it can be concluded that dental health comics are effective in improving children's dental health knowledge. This is evidenced by the results of the dental health knowledge effectiveness test showing that the p-value = 0.000.

Keywords: Dental health education, Comics, Knowledge

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INTRODUCTION

Health is a healthy physical, mental, and social state of a person who is not only free from disease that enables him to live productively. Health services are all types of activities provided directly to individuals or communities to maintain and improve public health in a promotive, preventive, curative, and rehabilitative manner. In accordance with Law Number 17 of 2023 (Kemenkes, 2023).

Dental health problems are often ignored and not considered a priority in health problems compared to other health problems. Based on the results of the Riskesdas (2018) study, it shows that 57.6% of the Indonesian population has dental and oral health problems. According to data from the DKI Jakarta Province, 59.1% of the population has dental and oral health problems, but only 16.4% receive treatment from dental medical personnel.

The high number of dental and oral diseases is influenced by the main factors, lack of knowledge about oral hygiene and poor diet (Fatmasari, et al., 2019). Dental caries in school children causes children to lose their chewing ability and disrupt digestion which inhibits their growth. Many parents often ignore dental disease because they believe that tooth decay is normal and will heal itself. (Rehena et al., 2020).

Efforts to improve dental and oral health by conducting early dental health education so that children have the knowledge to maintain health independently. One way to encourage this providing students is bv with an understanding of dental and oral health. (Mahirawatie et al., 2021).

An effective way to promote dental and oral health education in elementary schools is through learning media. According to Notoatmodjo 2012, media is a tool to convey health materials and information to help demonstrate something in the learning process. The appropriateness of media use needs to be adjusted to the target age criteria, so that it can have a positive impact on dental and oral health. (Belinda & Surya, 2021).

The success of dental health education in school children cannot be separated from the educational method and the important role of media because media can support learning and help children understand what is being taught. The message conveyed can be more interesting and easy to understand by using media. It is undeniable that media functions as a supporter in the educational process. Aids or media are very important when used for counseling, because aids are used by educators in delivering educational or teaching materials. including threedimensional media. (Sadimin & Sutomo, 2023).

An innovation in media development in the form of dental health comics which is an alternative learning media that is packaged in an attractive way, aims to attract children's interest and attention to learn about dental and oral health. Because basically children often have a nature that is easily bored so that to invite children to learn, teachers and parents usually tend to use various teaching aids to attract children's interest in learning. The advantage of dental comics is that they have components that can be used as dental health education that can be used as interesting media.

RESEARCH METHODE

The research method used is a quantitative method. This study is expected to provide data on the knowledge of dental

and oral health of elementary school children. The number of samples from this study was 62 elementary school children in grades 1A and 1B. This research sample is part of the number and characteristics of the population (Syapitri et al., 2021). The sample data collection technique in this study used the purposive sampling technique.

Data collection in this study was conducted to measure the level of knowledge before and after dental and oral health education in grade 1 children of Ragunan 01 Elementary School by completing a pre-test and post-test. The research data were analyzed to reduce errors in data collection and presented in the form of frequency distribution and percentage tables so that a picture of the variables studied was obtained.

FINDING AND DISCUSSIONS

The study was conducted with an intervention group and a control group in elementary school children in grade 1. The population of this study was 62 children, and the sample of this study used tottal sampling. Class 1A intervention group with dental health maintenance counseling treatment using comics with 31 respondents while the control group with dental health maintenance counseling treatment using power point totaled 31 children in class 1B. The purpose of this study was to analyze dental health education using comics to improve dental and oral health knowledge of elementary school children.

1. Data Normality Test

Table 1. Data normality test

Variables	p-val	p-value		
	Intervention	Contro		

(n=31)	(n=31)
0.021	0.022
0.006	0.029
	0.021

^{*}Shapiro-Wilk

The results of the normality test show that the p-value is >0.05, so it can be concluded that the data is not normally distributed, so a nonparametric test is continued.

2. Data Effectiveness Test

Table 2. Test of the effectiveness of dental health knowledge in the intervention group and control group

Kelompo	ok	n	Sum of rank	mean	p- value
Intervention	Pre	31	120.00	3,438+0,001	
	Post	31	120.00	3,438+0,001	0.000
Control	Pre	31	01.00	2.106 ± 0.001	0.000
	post	31	91.00	3,196+0,001	
*Wilcoxon					

The results of the data effectiveness test showed that the p-value of the intervention group and the control group was 0.000 (p<0.05), meaning that dental health education using comics was more effective in increasing children's dental health knowledge compared to dental health education using powerpoint.

Efforts to improve children's dental health knowledge in dental health maintenance practices require learning media that can involve children in implementing it, suitable media to realize this is dental health comics.

Dental health education learning interventions for elementary school children in grade 1 require certain strategies adjusted to their level of understanding. Dental health comics are implemented through cooperative learning methods, so that children are directly involved in using the media, and it is possible that many senses play a role. The more five senses used, the

easier it will be to absorb or understand the material. someone who has an understanding of a concept will find it easier to practice it. Based on the characteristics of elementary school children in grade 1, they can carry out independent activities to practice maintaining dental health but still require parental monitoring.

The results of the knowledge effectiveness test showed that the p-value was <0.05, meaning that dental health comics were effective in increasing children's knowledge of dental and oral health. The knowledge value in children increased because the process of implementing dental health comics was carried out in accordance with the provisions and children were given education with very interesting material according to the content of the dental health comic. During the implementation, the children's responses were enthusiastic, this was because the advantages of dental health comics in the learning process involved children directly. In line with Fath's research (2017), the more five senses are used to receive messages, the clearer the message received by the target.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research on dental health education using comics to improve elementary school children's dental health knowledge, it can be concluded that dental health comics are effective in improving children's dental health knowledge. This is evidenced by the results of the effectiveness test of dental health knowledge showing that the p-value = 0.000.

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