

ABSTRACT

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MATERNAL *PERSONAL HYGIENE* AND THE INCIDENCE OF DIARRHEA IN TODDLERS AT PAJANG HEALTH CENTER SURAKARTA CITY

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Background: In toddlers, diarrhea is the leading cause of death. Diarrhea cases in Surakarta increased by 17.0% from 2021-2022. The highest number of toddlers diarrhea cases in Pajang Health Center from 2022-2023 was 63.7%. The mother's level of *personal hygiene* is one of the contributing factors. Proper *personal hygiene* is an important part of maintaining good health. **Objective:** To analyze the relationship between maternal *personal hygiene* and the incidence of diarrhea in toddlers in Pajang Health Center. **Methods:** A quantitative design with a cross-sectional approach is utilized in this research. Results: 52,9% of mothers had good *personal hygiene* and 32,4% had diarrhea in toddlers. Based on the results of the Spearman Rank statistical analysis $\rho = 0.000 < 0.05$, the direction of the coefficient is -0.734, indicating that the relationship between the two variables is in the opposite direction. Diarrhea rates decrease when mothers practice better *personal hygiene*. **Conclusion:** There is a correlation between maternal *personal hygiene* and the prevalence of diarrhea in toddlers.

Keywords: *Diarrhea, mother, personal hygiene*