

# OVERVIEW OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT DENTAL CARIES AND ITS RELATION TO PERMANENT FIRST MOLAR CARIES IN CHILDREN AGED 7-8 YEARS

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Children aged 6–8 years are highly susceptible to caries in their first permanent molars. This vulnerability is primarily due to mothers' lack of knowledge regarding the eruption of permanent teeth at this age, particularly the fact that the first permanent molars are not replaceable once damaged. Mothers play a crucial role in shaping their children's oral health habits, which is strongly influenced by their level of knowledge. Data show that approximately 70% of children experience caries in their first permanent molars.

**Objective:** To describe the level of mothers' knowledge regarding the incidence of caries in the first permanent molars of children aged 6–8 years at SD N Tamansari 1 Yogyakarta.

**Methods:** This descriptive study involved 38 mother-child pairs. Data were collected using purposive sampling. A questionnaire was administered to mothers, and dental examinations were conducted on the children. Data were analyzed using frequency distribution and cross-tabulation.

**Results:** The results of the study showed that 78.6% of mothers with a moderate level of knowledge had children with moderate category dental caries.

**Conclusion:** Mother's level of knowledge about dental caries was moderate, children having a moderate number of caries on their first permanent molars.

**Keywords:** Knowledge, mother, caries, molar.

# **GAMBARAN PENGETAHUAN IBU TENTANG KARIES GIGI TERHADAP KARIES MOLAR 1 ANAK USIA 7-8 TAHUN**

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## **ABSTRAK**

**Latar Belakang:** Anak usia 7–8 tahun sangat rentan mengalami karies pada gigi molar 1 permanen. Kerentanan ini disebabkan oleh kurangnya pengetahuan ibu mengenai proses pergantian gigi pada usia tersebut, khususnya bahwa gigi molar 1 permanen sudah bersifat tetap dan tidak dapat tumbuh kembali jika mengalami kerusakan. Peran ibu sangat penting dalam membentuk kebiasaan menjaga kesehatan gigi anak melalui pengetahuan yang dimilikinya. Data menunjukkan bahwa sekitar 70% anak mengalami karies pada gigi molar 1 permanen.

**Tujuan:** Diketahui gambaran tingkat pengetahuan ibu terhadap kejadian karies pada gigi molar pertama permanen anak usia 7–8 tahun di SDN Tamansari 1 Yogyakarta.

**Metode:** Penelitian ini bersifat deskriptif dengan jumlah responden sebanyak 38 pasang anak dan ibu. Cara pengambilan data menggunakan teknik *purposive sampling* dengan kuisioner kepada wali murid dan pemeriksaan gigi terhadap siswa. Pengolahan data dengan distribusi frekuensi dan tabulasi silang.

**Hasil:** Hasil penelitian menunjukkan 78,6% ibu dengan pengetahuan sedang memiliki anak dengan karies kategori sedang.

**Kesimpulan:** Pengetahuan ibu tentang karies sedang dengan jumlah karies molar 1 permanen anak kriteria sedang.

**Kata kunci:** Pengetahuan,ibu, karies, molar.