

ABSTRACT

Fardani, Fadloil Najla Wida. 2023. *the Influence of Empowering Hand Puppet Group Cadres on the Behavior and Skills of Handwashing with Soap (CTPS) Among Fourth Grade Students of MINU Polowijen in Malang City, Thesis, Poltekkes Kemenkes Malang, Bachelor of Applied Health Promotion Program. Advisor I: Dr. Siti Asiyah, S. Kep. Ns., M. Kes, Advisor II: Budi Suharno, S.KP., M.Kes.*

The habit of handwashing with soap should be cultivated from School age as children are vulnerable to diseases in their environment. However, the habit of handwashing with soap among elementary school children is still low. According to the results of Riskesdas 2018, the proportion of the population aged >10 years (school age) who properly wash their hands in East Java was recorded at 49.8%, while in the city of Malang, it was 62%. The aim of this study was to determine the influence of empowering Hand Puppet storytelling group cadres on the behavior and skills of handwashing with soap (HWWS) among fourth-grade students at MINU Polowijen in the city of Malang. This study used a quantitative pre-experimental design with a one-group pre-test post-test approach. The population and sample were fourth-grade students at MINU Polowijen in the city of Malang, consisting of 2 classes and a total of 60 students. The sample for this study was 50 students from the fourth-grade class at MINU Polowijen and 10 students who would become Hand Puppet storytelling group cadres. Data collection techniques in this study included interviews and measurement of HWWS behavior and skills. The results of this study showed an improvement between before and after empowerment through Hand Puppet storytelling group cadres. The data were tested using the Wilcoxon test, with the results showing a p-value of 0.000 for HWWS behavior $< \alpha$ (0.05) and a p-value of 0.000 for HWWS skills $< \alpha$ (0.05), indicating that there is an influence of empowerment through Hand Puppet storytelling group cadres. In conclusion, Hand Puppet storytelling group cadres can be a solution to improve handwashing behavior and skills with soap (HWWS)..

Keywords: *Handwashing with Soap, Hand Puppet, Cadres of Puppet Group*