

## ABSTRACT

**Dadhinastitie, Kerent Thania. 2023, *The Effect of Empowering "Little Doctor" Cadres on UKGS Activities on Dental and Oral Hygiene Knowledge of School-Age Children. Thesis, Health Polytechnic Ministry of Health Malang, Health Promotion Applied Undergraduate Study Program. Main Advisor Dr. Siti Asiyah, S.Kep.Ns, M.Kes, Assistant Advisor Wandu, S.Kep.Ners, M.Pd***

*Dental and oral health problems in children in Indonesia are still a cause for concern. One of them is caries which occurred at SDN Polowijen 3 by 82.7%. One method of prevention is by empowering cadres of little doctors at UKGS activities. The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of empowering cadres of little doctors at UKGS activities on the dental and oral hygiene knowledge of school-age children. This study used a quantitative pre-experimental design with one group pretest and posttest. The population in this study were all students in grades 4 and 5 with a total population of 60 students. The sample in this study were all grades 4 and 5 who were not selected to become small doctor cadres with a total of 50 students. The results showed that for a total of 50 students, there was an increase in the average results of the knowledge questionnaire with the pretest which was originally 10.26, and then in the posttest, it became 17.26. Hypothesis testing using the Wilcoxon test which showed knowledge before and after being given  $p < 0.000 < p < 0.05$ , it can be concluded that empowering little doctor cadres at UKGS activities has proven effective in increasing dental and oral hygiene knowledge of school-age children or there is an effect of empowering little doctor cadres on UKGS activities on dental and oral hygiene knowledge of school-age children. The recommendation is to use the method of empowering small doctor cadres to increase knowledge about dental and oral hygiene in school-age children.*

**Keywords:** *School-age children, Dental and Oral Hygiene, Little Doctor Cadres*