ABSTRACT

THE CORRELATION BETWEEN KNOWLEDGE AND BREAST SELF-EXAMINATION (BSE) BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS

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Background: Breast cancer is one of the leading causes of death among women in Indonesia. Breast Self-Examination (BSE) is an effective, simple, and low-cost method for early detection. The practice of performing BSE among adolescent girls is influenced by their level of knowledge regarding reproductive health and early breast cancer detection. **Objective:** To determine the relationship between the level of knowledge about Breast Self-Examination (BSE) and BSE practice among female students at SMK Negeri 3 Teknologi dan Rekayasa Merauke. **Methods:** This quantitative study employed a correlational design with a cross-sectional approach. A total of 104 respondents were selected using probability sampling. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire distributed via Google Forms and analyzed using the Chi-Square test with Continuity Correction (Yates' Correction) and the Phi Coefficient test. **Results:** A total of 60 respondents (57.7%) had a low level of knowledge, while 56 respondents (53.8%) demonstrated good BSE practice. The analysis showed a Chi-Square value of 62.192 with a p-value < 0.001 ($\alpha < 0.05$). The Phi Coefficient was 0.793. **Conclusion:** There was a significant relationship between the level of knowledge and the practice of Breast Self-Examination among female students at SMK Negeri 3 Teknologi dan Rekayasa Merauke. The relationship was very strong and positive.

Keywords: Knowledge, Behavior, Breast Self-Examination (BSE), Adolescent Girls.