ABSTRACT


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*Helminthiasis* is the second greatest Indonesian society health problem after malnutrition. The contamination of worm eggs in the dirt under the nails might be a factor of the risk of *helminthiasis*. The purpose of this research is to figure out the relationship between the aspect of personal hygiene and the aspect of risky behaviour and the contamination of worm eggs in the dirt under the nails.

Cross sectional method with proportional random sampling, n = 79 samples. The aspect of personal hygiene and the aspect of risky behaviour were identified by interview; and the nail examination was done by using sedimentation method. The analysis testing was done by chi square test ($\alpha=0.05$) and to assess the closeness of
the inter-variables relationship, the contingency coefficient test was used. The aspects of personal hygiene which are discussed in this research are the habit of washing hands by using soap and the habit of clipping the nails. Meanwhile, the aspects of risky behaviour being discussed are the habit of playing on the ground and scratching anus.

The result of this research shows that 17 respondents (21.5%) are contaminated by worm eggs. The most contaminating species is *Ascaris lumbricoides*. There is a significant relationship between the habit of washing hands by using soap (p-value=0.001) (C=0.455) and the habit of playing on the ground (p-value = 0.001) (C=0.373) with the contamination of worm eggs. There is no significant relationship between the habit of clipping the nails (p-value =0.375) (C=0.099) and the habit of scratching anus (p-value=0.161) (C=0.156) with the contamination of worm eggs.

Keywords: nail contamination, *helminthiasis*, personal hygiene, risky behaviour