

The Of Law Number 17 of 2023 in Improving the Quality of Service to Avoid Caries in Children's Teeth In 2025

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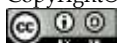
Abstract

This study aims to analyze the role of Law Number 17 of 2023 in improving the quality of children's dental health services in Indonesia, particularly in efforts to prevent dental caries. This law was introduced as part of healthcare policy reform to enhance children's dental health services by emphasizing the importance of early prevention of dental diseases. The main focus of this study is to identify how the implementation of this policy can strengthen the dental healthcare service system in Indonesia in 2025. This research employs a qualitative approach by analyzing the policies stipulated in Law Number 17 of 2023 and examining their effectiveness in practical implementation. Improvements in the quality of children's dental health services, especially in preventing dental caries, are expected to be achieved through enhanced healthcare facilities and infrastructure, public education, and training for healthcare personnel. With the enactment of this law, the government expects improvements in the management of dental healthcare services to become more effective and efficient. The study focuses on evaluating whether the policy can have a direct impact on reducing the prevalence of dental caries among children in 2025, as well as examining the role of healthcare workers in its implementation across various regions. The results of this study are expected to provide a clear overview of the effectiveness of Law Number 17 of 2023 in achieving the goal of preventing dental caries in children. This research is also expected to serve as a reference for policymakers in formulating more comprehensive and targeted follow-up policies to address children's dental health issues in Indonesia in 2025.

Keywords: Law Number 17 of 2023, Quality of Children's Dental Health Services, Dental Caries Prevention

Abstrak

Studi ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran UU Nomor 17 Tahun 2023 dalam meningkatkan kualitas pelayanan kesehatan gigi anak di Indonesia, khususnya dalam upaya pencegahan karies gigi. UU ini diperkenalkan sebagai bagian dari reformasi kebijakan kesehatan untuk meningkatkan pelayanan kesehatan gigi anak dengan menekankan pentingnya pencegahan dini penyakit gigi. Fokus utama studi ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi bagaimana implementasi kebijakan ini dapat memperkuat sistem pelayanan kesehatan gigi di Indonesia pada tahun 2025. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan menganalisis kebijakan yang diatur dalam UU Nomor 17 Tahun 2023 dan menguji efektivitasnya dalam implementasi praktis. Peningkatan kualitas pelayanan kesehatan gigi anak, khususnya dalam pencegahan karies gigi,



diharapkan dapat dicapai melalui peningkatan fasilitas dan infrastruktur kesehatan, pendidikan masyarakat, dan pelatihan bagi tenaga kesehatan. Dengan diberlakukannya UU ini, pemerintah mengharapkan peningkatan dalam pengelolaan pelayanan kesehatan gigi menjadi lebih efektif dan efisien. Penelitian ini berfokus pada evaluasi apakah kebijakan tersebut dapat berdampak langsung pada pengurangan prevalensi karies gigi pada anak-anak pada tahun 2025, serta meneliti peran tenaga kesehatan dalam implementasinya di berbagai daerah. Hasil penelitian ini diharapkan dapat memberikan gambaran yang jelas tentang efektivitas UU Nomor 17 Tahun 2023 dalam mencapai tujuan pencegahan karies gigi pada anak. Penelitian ini juga diharapkan dapat menjadi referensi bagi para pembuat kebijakan dalam merumuskan kebijakan tindak lanjut yang lebih komprehensif dan terarah untuk mengatasi masalah kesehatan gigi anak di Indonesia pada tahun 2025.

Kata kunci: UU Nomor 17 Tahun 2023, Kualitas Pelayanan Kesehatan Gigi Anak, Pencegahan Karies Gigi

Introduction

Children's dental caries is damage to the teeth caused by bacteria that convert food scraps, especially those containing sugar, into acid. This acid will damage the protective layer of teeth called enamel, which can lead to cavities or cavities in the teeth. Dental caries in children are very common and often start in the first growing baby teeth. The process of forming dental caries usually begins with the formation of dental plaque, which is a thin layer formed from bacteria, food debris, and saliva that sticks to the teeth. If this plaque is not cleaned properly, bacteria will break down the sugars in the food into acids that over time damage the tooth enamel and penetrate deeper layers, causing further damage to the teeth. If not treated immediately, caries can develop into an infection or cause severe pain, eventually requiring tooth extraction. The prevalence of dental caries in children in Indonesia is still a significant health problem. According to data from Riskesdas 2023, around 82.8% of the Indonesian population has experienced dental and oral problems in the past year, with the prevalence of caries in children aged 5–9 years reaching 84.8%. This figure shows that almost most children in Indonesia face dental caries problems.

The main factors that contribute to the high prevalence of dental caries in children are the habit of consuming sugary foods and low awareness about the importance of maintaining dental hygiene. Sweet foods, especially sticky ones, are difficult to clean and are a major source of dental plaque formation. If food residues are not cleaned properly, bacteria in the oral cavity will turn them into acids that damage tooth enamel, causing caries. Efforts to prevent dental caries in children must begin early, by involving the participation of parents and caregivers in guiding children to maintain dental and oral hygiene. Education about the importance of brushing your teeth twice a day, avoiding excessive consumption of sugary foods, and regular dental checkups can help reduce the incidence of caries. In addition, health policies that support equitable access to dental health services are also needed to effectively address this problem.

The need to evaluate the role of Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1) concerning Health in improving the quality of health services, especially in the prevention of dental caries in children, is very important. Dental caries in children is a significant public health problem in Indonesia. According to data from the 2018 Basic Health Research (Riskesdas), the



prevalence of active caries in children aged 6–12 years reached 43.4%, with 67.2% of people having experience with caries. This Health Law emphasizes the importance of dental and oral health services as an integral part of promotive and preventive efforts. Article 70 paragraph (1) of the Health Law Number 17 of 2023 states that dental and oral health services are carried out to maintain and improve the degree of public health, including the prevention of dental diseases.

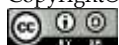
However, the implementation of this policy requires evaluation to ensure its effectiveness in reducing the incidence of caries in children. Evaluation of the role of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 in article 70 paragraph (1) in the prevention of dental caries in children can be carried out through various approaches. One of them is to assess the implementation of the National Guidelines for Clinical Services for the Management of Dental Caries that have been prepared by the Ministry of Health. This guideline aims to help reduce the incidence of dental caries in Indonesia by providing a reference for medical personnel and health care facilities in dealing with dental caries. In addition, the evaluation can also include an assessment of the School Dental Health Business (UKGS) program that has been implemented in various elementary schools. This program aims to instill a good attitude towards dental and oral health through counseling and health education activities that are carried out in a structured and continuous manner. Through a thorough evaluation, it is hoped that effective strategies can be found in improving the quality of dental and oral health services, as well as reducing the prevalence of caries in children in Indonesia.

Evaluation of the role of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1) in the prevention of dental caries in children is urgently needed. This evaluation is not only to assess the extent to which the policy is being implemented, but also to identify the factors that affect its success or failure. The results of this evaluation are expected to be the basis for improving policies and strategies in preventing dental caries in children in the future. What is the role of Law Number 17 of 2023 concerning Health in article 70 paragraph (1) concerning Dental and Oral Health paragraph (1) in improving the quality of health services for the prevention of dental caries in children? What are the policies regulated in Health Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1) that contribute to the prevention of dental caries in children?

Methods Research

The methodology of this study uses an analytical descriptive approach with a qualitative approach to analyze the role of Law Number 17 of 2023 Article 70 paragraph (1) concerning Health in the prevention of dental caries in children. The source of data for this research is in the form of secondary data consisting of Health Law documents, reports on related health programs, and relevant literature. The data collection technique used is a literature study, where data will be collected from various written references that can provide insight into health policies. For data analysis, a content analysis technique was used which aimed to assess the implementation of policies in Health Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1) and evaluate the extent to which the policy was effective in supporting the prevention of dental caries in children in Indonesia.

Results and Discussion



The Role of Law Number 17 of 2023 concerning Health Article 70 Paragraph (1) in improving the quality of health services for the prevention of dental caries in children.

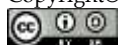
Law Number 17 of 2023 concerning Health is present as a very important legal basis in improving the quality of health services in Indonesia. One of the articles that is very relevant to children's dental health is Article 70 Paragraph (1), which emphasizes the importance of disease prevention efforts from an early age, including the prevention of dental caries in children. In this article, the government is required to provide health services that are affordable, easily accessible, and focus on prevention efforts, especially at the primary service level. These efforts serve as the basis for the prevention of pediatric dental caries, which is one of the main focuses of public health policy in Indonesia.

Prevention of dental caries in children is important considering the prevalence of this problem is still high, although many efforts have been made by various parties. Dental caries in children is a health problem that is often overlooked, even though it can affect the quality of life and overall development of children. Therefore, with Law Number 17 of 2023, it is hoped that there will be an increase in dental health services that are more structured and directed, both through health education, routine check-ups, and access to better and affordable dental care. With this approach, government policies are expected to reduce the prevalence of dental caries in Indonesian children. In addition, Article 70 Paragraph (1) also pays special attention to community involvement in disease prevention efforts. This policy emphasizes the importance of the role of health workers and the community in supporting the prevention of dental caries in children. Educational programs about good dental care habits, such as brushing their teeth regularly, avoiding excessive consumption of sugary foods, and conducting regular dental checkups, must be carried out from an early age. With this policy, it is hoped that the government can optimize the role of medical personnel and other health workers, as well as increase awareness among parents and the public about the importance of children's dental care.

Apart from these policies, effective implementation on the ground is a challenge in itself. According to the book *Pediatric Dental Health in Indonesia*, despite many supportive policies, infrastructure problems and a lack of trained medical personnel in remote areas are still major obstacles to achieving these goals. Therefore, in addition to strengthening policies in terms of regulation, it is also necessary to increase the capacity of health workers, distribute resources evenly, and raise awareness from the public about the importance of preventing dental caries in children. Thus, Law Number 17 of 2023 can have a significant positive impact on improving children's dental health in Indonesia.

Policies and programs in Health Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1) that support the prevention of dental caries in children.

Health Law Number 17 of 2023, especially in Article 70 Paragraph (1), contains policies that emphasize the importance of prevention efforts against various diseases, including dental caries in children. This article underlines that the government is obliged to provide access to health services that involve disease prevention at various levels, both at the primary and secondary service levels. One of the implementations of this policy is to increase public awareness about the importance of maintaining dental health from an early age, as well as providing easier and more affordable access to children's dental examinations and treatments. This policy is



expected to reduce the prevalence of dental caries which is still a major problem of children's health in Indonesia. In addition, the prevention programs regulated in this Law also include the implementation of massive health education to the community, especially parents and children. Educational programs about the importance of regular brushing habits and avoiding excessive consumption of sugary foods are one of the important steps in preventing dental caries in children. The government, through this policy, seeks to introduce socialization programs involving various elements of society, including health workers and educational institutions, to provide information about good and correct dental care. This aims to make the public more aware of the importance of preventing dental disease from an early age.

At a practical level, Health Law Number 17 of 2023 also provides a foundation for the provision of more adequate health facilities. Article 70 Paragraph (1) encourages the government to improve the quality and number of dental health facilities throughout Indonesia, especially in areas with limited access., one of the steps taken is to increase the number of pediatric dental clinics that provide dental caries prevention services, such as routine checkups, fluoride, and education on proper dental hygiene. The government also conducts special training for medical personnel in order to provide more effective education to the public about the importance of maintaining children's dental health.

The importance of the sustainability of this program is also reflected in the government's policy to monitor and evaluate the implementation of dental caries prevention programs at the regional level. This evaluation aims to ensure that the policies and programs implemented can run according to expectations, as well as have a positive impact on children's dental health. With this policy, it is hoped that there will be significant improvements in the prevention of dental caries in Indonesian children in the coming years. Strategic measures such as strengthening the capacity of human resources and providing adequate medical equipment will be key to the success of this program.

Implementation of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1) in the Prevention of Dental Caries in Children

Health Law Number 17 of 2023 Article 70 Paragraph (1) provides an important legal basis for carrying out the prevention of diseases, including dental caries in children, by focusing on improving health services and public health education. One of the important aspects regulated in this law is the implementation of dental health education and promotion programs in schools and communities. This program aims to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining dental health from an early age, considering the many cases of dental caries in children that can be prevented with good habits. The implementation of educational programs that involve children in schools through counseling, workshops, and routine activities on how to brush their teeth correctly, as well as the adverse effects of sugar consumption, have a significant impact on reducing the prevalence of dental caries in children.

In addition, Health Law Number 17 of 2023 also supports the provision of affordable and quality dental health services for all levels of society, especially children. This service includes routine dental check-ups, caries prevention through fluoride, and caries treatment in children that have already occurred. The provision of easily accessible dental health services at nearby health facilities is very important, especially in areas that still lack medical personnel or health



facilities. One of the steps taken by the government is the allocation of funds to improve dental health facilities, as well as providing subsidies for dental care costs for underprivileged families. This aims to ensure that children in all regions can get adequate dental health services, without being constrained by cost problems.

The role of health workers, especially dentists, is vital in the prevention of dental caries in children. As part of the implementation of this Act, health workers have a responsibility not only to provide dental care, but also to provide education to children and the elderly about the importance of good and correct dental care. Education on how to brush your teeth correctly, healthy food choices, and regular dental check-ups should be part of every health service provided. The role of health workers in socializing a healthy lifestyle related to dental health has been proven to reduce the prevalence of dental caries in children. Therefore, the training and capacity building of health workers, including dentists, is essential in supporting the objectives of this Act.

The implementation of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 requires collaboration between the government, health workers, and the community to achieve the goal of preventing dental caries in children. In addition to education programs in schools and quality health services, coordination between government agencies and the community is also key to the success of this policy. Regular monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of educational programs and the quality of dental health services in the community will ensure that this policy really has a positive impact.

Evaluation of the Impact of the Implementation of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 article 70 paragraph (1)

The implementation of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 Article 70 Paragraph (1) which focuses on the prevention of dental caries in children has a positive impact on increasing the knowledge and awareness of parents and children about the importance of dental health. Education programs that are integrated with the education system in schools and health campaigns in the community have helped increase public understanding of the importance of dental care habits from an early age. Parents' awareness of the importance of regular dental check-ups and proper toothbrushing habits, which was previously underappreciated. This shows that the government's efforts in socializing dental health through this policy have succeeded in increasing public knowledge, especially among parents and children.

In addition, the highly anticipated impact of this policy is to reduce the prevalence of dental caries in children. In some areas that have implemented intensive prevention programs, there has been a significant decrease in the number of dental caries in children. Fluoride administration, regular check-ups, and healthy diet education have been shown to be effective in reducing the incidence of dental caries. The program also enhances collaboration between health facilities and schools, so that children gain a better understanding of maintaining dental health. With a more equitable implementation throughout Indonesia, it is hoped that a reduction in the prevalence of dental caries can be achieved in a shorter period of time.

However, challenges in the implementation of this policy remain, especially related to limited resources, both in terms of health facilities and trained medical personnel. In some remote areas, there are still many parents and children who have not had adequate access to dental health



services. Infrastructure problems and the lack of evenly distributed dental health workers are the main obstacles in the implementation of this policy. In addition, even though educational programs have been carried out, there is still an uneven level of awareness among the community, especially in areas with low education levels. Therefore, to maximize the impact of this policy, more efforts are needed to increase access to dental health services and involve more parties in the supervision and implementation of health programs.

Conclusion

From the evaluation of the implementation of Health Law Number 17 of 2023 Article 70 Paragraph (1), it can be concluded that this policy has a positive impact on increasing the knowledge and awareness of parents and children regarding the importance of dental health. Educational programs carried out in schools and communities have succeeded in increasing understanding of the importance of proper dental care, as well as the habit of maintaining dental hygiene from an early age. This increase in awareness shows that community-based education strategies and formal education are key in improving a healthy lifestyle related to dental health. In addition, the implementation of this policy has also succeeded in reducing the prevalence of dental caries in children, which is reflected in the decrease in the incidence of caries in several areas that have implemented prevention programs well. Fluoride administration, regular check-ups, and educational programs on a healthy diet have been proven to be effective in reducing the prevalence of dental problems in children. Collaboration between schools, health facilities, and the community plays an important role in creating an environment that supports efforts to prevent dental caries in children.

Challenges in the implementation of this policy still exist, especially related to unequal access to dental health services and the limited number of trained medical personnel in some areas. Inadequate infrastructure in remote areas is the main obstacle that needs to be considered in the further development of this program. Therefore, to ensure that this policy has maximum impact, further efforts are needed to expand access, increase the distribution of health workers, and strengthen public awareness of the importance of better dental care throughout Indonesia.

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